**RHINEBECK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT/POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of Meeting of July 23, 2013**

Present: Diane Lyons, Mark Fleischhauer, Lisa Rosenthal, Joe Phelan

The Committee discussed the following topics: (a) issues regarding Policy No. 5280 (“Interscholastic Athletics”); (b) proposed revisions to Policy No. 5300 (“District Code of Conduct”); and (c) potential review of all district policies.

**A. Policy No. 5280**: The Committee considered several minor changes to the proposed revisions that Mr. Phelan had circulated and then approved the revised policy to be presented at the Board’s meeting in August 2013 for first reading.

**B. Policy No. 5300**: The Committee considered three changes: (1) adding e-cigarettes to the substances prohibited under the policy; (2) changing the policy on skirt and short length from the existing standard to a length that is “not materially disruptive,” to allow teachers and administrators to use their discretion more effectively; and (3) adjusting the consequences for gambling to provide for graduated penalties reflecting the seriousness of the infraction. After a thorough discussion, the Committee approved the revised policy and directed that it be placed on the Board’s agenda for the August 2013 meeting for first reading.

**C. Review of District’s Policies**: The Committee discussed the fact that, during the recent internal audit, the auditors had identified certain policies that they believed were missing or outdated, and suggested that the District review its policies regularly. The Committee discussed the feasibility of spending time this school year reviewing all the District’s policies and updating them as necessary, a process that has not taken place in more than ten years. The Committee decided to continue this discussion at its next meeting.

**Proposed Agenda for Next Regular Meeting (October 3, 2013)**:

Revisions to draft of plain-English guide for the public seeking to raise concerns

Review of district policies

Dated: September 20, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Rosenthal