

**Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting**

**Call In:** 1-802-552-8456

**Conference ID:** #697 217 60#

**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**Present:** Tara Cariano, Harwood Unified Union School District; Sandra Cameron, Vermont School Boards Association; Katy Culp, Castleton University; Jess DeCarolis, Vermont Agency of Education; Lissa Knauss, Montpelier Roxbury School District; Stephanie Currier, North Country Supervisory Union

**AOE:** Suzanne Sprague

**Members of the public:** Kate Davie (VSLA) and Stephanie Sherman (VSLA)

Meeting called to order at 2:45 pm

DeCarolis to take minutes.

Cameron moved to approve the meeting minutes from February 9th. Knauss seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**Public comment:**

Kate Davis – VSLA

- Discussed ways that school library collections can support the health and wellness of diverse learners
- Discussed ways that the school library can be an important place where students can develop a sense of community and access hard-to-access materials including on health and wellness information.
- Shared that school libraries are being challenged in content selection that is inclusive and sustaining for historically marginalized groups
- Asked the Council to consider how the LWP could support school libraries in carrying a diverse selection of library materials to support all learners and their health and wellness.
- As an example, shared that anecdotal evidence suggests that the support that gender non-conforming students access in school libraries support personal development and well-being

Stephanie Sherman – VSLA

- VSLA has been working with the VSBA on a new library selection policy for school libraries
- School libraries play an important role in ensuring equitable access to materials that reflect the experiences and identities of all students
- School libraries support freedom of access to library materials and non-discrimination; feel this supports health, mental health and wellness
- Wonders if there a rulemaking process or a mechanism to protect access to inclusive library materials of if there is connection with the Local Wellness Policy work.

*End public comment 3:05 PM*

Council discussion on how to integrate public comment into work and the parameters of the work in front of the Council as delineated in Act 66. [Transcript available for full discussion]

Council reviewed extract of model policy language from LWP Model organized by Cameron and VSBA (google doc). The Council reviewed, discussed, modified and approved the following:

*Adoption notes: Local education agencies may choose to use the following model policy as written or revise it to meet local needs and reflect community priorities. When developing wellness policies, school districts will need to consider their community's unique circumstances, challenges, and opportunities. For references to legal and regulatory requirements, resources for evidence-based strategies and other topics, and sample policy language, please refer to the Vermont School Wellness Policy Guidelines.*

*New Model Policy Recommendations*

***Purpose***

*It is the intent of the \_\_\_\_\_ School District to comply with all applicable federal and state requirements. In accord with those requirements, this policy has been developed in consultation with parents, students, school food service program/school food authority personnel, physical education and health education teachers, school board members, school administration, members of the public, and school health professionals, which may include school nurses, school counselors, school-based clinicians, school social workers or behavioral health professionals.*

***Policy Statement***

*It is the policy of the \_\_\_\_\_ School District to establish goals that are developed to promote student wellness and comprehensive health, and include:*

- 1. Nutrition education*
- 2. Nutrition promotion*
- 3. Guidelines for ALL foods available on school campus, i.e. competitive foods and beverages*
- 4. Physical education*
- 5. Physical activity*

6. *Comprehensive Health Education*

7. *OPTIONAL: Other school-based activities to promote student wellness.*

NOTE: “evidence-based strategies” is noted under implementation

**NEW: Definitions**

*For the purpose of this policy, the term “standard(s)” applies to all age and/or grade applicable learning standards.*

NOTE: additional definitions can be added here

1. *Goals for Nutrition Promotion and Education.*

A. *The school district shall provide nutrition promotion and education programs as required by state law and regulations of the State Board of Education. In particular, the district shall provide a nutrition component in its Comprehensive Health Education program and shall develop curricular programs intended to accomplish applicable goals enumerated in the Vermont Education Quality Standards.*

B. *Nutrition education and promotion programs shall be conducted by appropriately licensed staff members.*

C. *To the extent practicable, nutrition education and promotion shall be integrated into core curricula in areas such as science and family and consumer science courses.*

D. *The district will limit food and beverage marketing to the promotion of only those foods and beverages that meet the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards on school campus.*

NEW:

E. *The superintendent or designee is responsible for ensuring that schools identify, near or at the beginning of serving lines, what foods constitute unit priced reimbursable meals.*

2. ***Goals for Physical Education and Physical Activity.***

A. *The superintendent or designee is responsible for ensuring that the district complies with applicable state law and regulations governing physical education in 16 V.S.A. § 906 and Education Quality Standard Rules (Series 2000). NOTE: Pertains to PE*

B. *The district shall offer opportunities for students in grades K-12 to participate in at least 30 minutes of physical activity within or outside of the school day. Physical activity may include recess and movement built into the curriculum but does not replace physical education classes. NOTE: Pertains to PA*

NEW:

C. *The district shall ensure that physical education is designed to enable all students, including those who may need adapted physical education, to engage annually in rigorous, relevant, and comprehensive learning opportunities that allow them to demonstrate proficiency in Physical education.*

*D. The district shall ensure that teacher licensure, professional development, and staff and program evaluation complies with state laws and regulations.*

### **3. Goals for Nutrition Services**

*A. The district shall ensure that guidelines for reimbursable school meals are not less restrictive than regulations and guidance issued by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to sections (a) and (b) of section 9A(a) and (b) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act as those regulations and guidance apply to schools.*

*B. The district shall provide adequate space for eating and serving school meals.*

*C. The district shall provide a clean and safe meal environment for students.*

*D. The district shall establish meal periods that provide adequate time to eat and are scheduled at appropriate hours.*

*E. Food shall not be used in district schools as a reward or punishment.*

*F. The district shall provide training opportunities as appropriate for food service and other staff members in areas of nutrition and wellness.*

*G. Schools participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast programs shall make free potable water available to children in the meal service areas.*

**NEW:**

*H. To the extent that is practicable the district shall ensure that nutrition services will reference USDA geographic preference rules and seasonal and local agricultural information when planning school meal menus.*

### **4. Nutrition Guidelines.**

*A. The National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs will meet the requirements provided in 7 CFR 210 and 7 CFR 220 (National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Guidelines.)*

*B. All foods and beverages outside the reimbursable school meal programs that are sold to students on the school campus during the school day will meet the USDA Smart Snacks nutrition standards.*

*C. School district fundraisers that occur during the school day will meet the USDA Smart Snack nutrition standards.*

*D. The district is required to establish nutrition guidelines for all other foods provided, but not sold to students during the school day. Foods provided but not sold may include food that is part of a classroom celebration or provided by parents or community organizations free of charge. [Districts should choose either 1 or 2 below or write their own guidelines.]*

(1) It is the policy of the district that, when feasible, food provided but not sold should be limited to those foods that improve the diet and health of students, help mitigate childhood obesity, and model healthy choices.

(2) Food provided but not sold will, at minimum, comply with the Smart Snacks Standards.

Other School Based Activities

~~The district will implement other wellness based school activities from time to time at the discretion of the superintendent or his or her designee. These activities will be in accordance with evidence based strategies such as those provided in the Vermont School Wellness Policy Guidelines.~~

NOTE: The above is removed and now listed as optional #7 in list of goal areas; evidenced-based strategies remain in implementation section

**Action steps for next meeting:**

1. Start with Comprehensive Health Education section (entire section)
  - a. *Prompting question:* Consider inclusion of section 131 language defining CHE?
2. Jess will transfer sections 1-4 from VSBA document into Model LWP V.6
3. Council members send notes/comments to Jess for incorporation into V.6 as soon as possible in order to have in advance of next Council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.