

# Recommended Changes to Rule Series 2000, Education Quality Standards

Presentation to State Board of Education

March 20, 2024

# Changes as a result of Act 1 (2019)

Act 1, “An act relating to ethnic and social equity studies standards for public schools”

1. Increase cultural competency of students in grades PK-12;
2. Increase attention to the history, contribution, and perspectives of ethnic and social groups;
3. Promote critical thinking regarding the history, contributions, and perspectives of ethnic and social groups;
4. Commit schools to eradicating racial bias in their curricula;
5. Provide, across their curricula, content and methods that enable students to safely explore questions of identity, race equality, and racism; and
6. Ensure that the basic curriculum and extracurricular programs are welcoming to all students and account for parental concerns about religion or culture (Act 1 of 2019, Section 1(g) – Duties of the Working Group).

# Process since SBE last review/approval

- **May 2023:** SBE voted unanimously to adopt the Rule 2000
- **June/July 2023:** ICAR presentation and formal filing
- **September/October 2023:** 3 Public Hearing - 180 attendees
  - 100 written comments
  - Public Comment Period Closed October 25, 2023
- **Nov 2023 - Mar 2024:** 12 EQS Committee Meetings
  - included 2 joint EQS/2200 meetings (Special SBE Meetings)
  - legal review
  - LCAR extension approved to June 5, 2024

# Public Comment - General Categories

- Statement of Purpose
- Definitions
- Applicability to Independent Schools
- Curriculum/Learning Content
- Tiered Systems of Support

# EQS Modifications since close of public comment:

1. Statement of Purpose modified to retain intention
2. Definitions:
  1. removed those that no longer appear in the document
  2. modified definition of discrimination
  3. removed those that are substantively defined in statute
  4. moved descriptive language into the body of the document where applicable
  5. included definitions for Agency and State Board
3. reorganize to move definitions up in the document, consolidate staffing requirements, bring tiered systems of support within instructional practices
4. clarify SU/SD and level of governance throughout the document
5. Effective date: July 1, 2025 and AOE support for implementation
6. legal/technical considerations and other clarifications

# Next steps:

1. Board review of EQS Committee recommendation
2. SBE Questions to Kim & Tammy, by Tuesday, March 26
3. EQS Committee meets, Monday, April 1
4. SBE Special Meeting (if necessary)
5. SBE approves EQS for LCAR filing *no later than April 17* SBE meeting
6. Filing materials prepared and submitted to LCAR *no later than April 19*
7. Presentation to LCAR for final approval by the *end of May (June 5 deadline)*

Walk-through & Questions?