

State Board of Education

Virtual via Microsoft Teams
Call in Number: 1-802-828-7667
Conference ID: 726 542 768#

State Board of Education Rule Series 2000 - Education Quality Standards Public Hearing

Date: September 28, 2023

Present:

State Board Members (SBE): Kimberly Gleason, Tammy Kolbe, Jennifer Samuelson
Agency of Education (AOE): Ian Burfoot-Rochford, Suzanne Sprague, Maureen Gaidys
Others: Sarah Buxton, Nick Allen, Maya Sobel, Matthew Vogel, Rabbi David Edleson, Rabbi Zalman Wilhelm, Eliza Doucet, Emma Doucet, Rabbi Ilene Haigh, Mark Clough, Elaine Collins, Jessika Oski, Amanda Garces, James Pasch, Representative Tesha Buss, Rabbi Tobie Weisman, Michelle Irish, Representative Elizabeth Burrows, Ryan Wiese, Ted Molnar, and Wilmer Chavarria.

Item A: Call to Order

Kolbe called the public hearing to order at 11:31 a.m. and welcomed members of the public and gave an overview of the Education Quality Standards (EQS) Committee's process. In April 2022, the State Board of Education received recommendations for changes to the EQS from the Act 1 Working Group. In May, 2022, the EQS Rule Update Committee began work on aligning the rules with the values of Act 1. In May 2023, the State Board approved a draft of these rules to be filed with the Interagency Committee on Administrative Rules (ICAR) and established three public hearings were scheduled. This is the second of three hearings. The next and final hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, October 3, 2023, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. The deadline for public comment is October 15, 2023. She invited and encouraged written public comment be provided to the State Board of Education at SBE.PublicComment@vermont.gov.

Kolbe explained the technical and logistical details of the public hearing process and advised that comments should be respectful, will be limited to three minutes per person and should be related to the proposed changes to the 2000 Rule Series. Comments will be considered as potential revisions to the final rule.

Item C: Public to be Heard

The following members of the public addressed the State Board of Education - Education Quality Standards (EQS) Rule Update Committee:

Nick Allen, Music Educator, President of Vermont Music Educators Association (VMEA), and Band Director at Vermont State University – Johnson

Maya Sobel, student, University of Vermont (UVM)

Matthew Vogel, parent of two public school students, Executive Director, Hillel, UVM

Rabbi David Edleson, Temple Sinai VT

Rabbi Zalman Wilhelm, Director, UVM Chabad Jewish Student Center

Eliza Doucet, Bristol, VT

Emma Doucet, Activist, Bristol, VT

Rabbi Ilene Haigh, Woodstock, Shir ShalomVT

Mark Clough, Chair of Peacham School Board, Vice Chair of Caledonia Central Supervisory Union (CCSU), Vermont School Boards Association (VSBA) Board of Directors – comments are given as an individual, not representing any of these entities.

Gleason thanked members for offering their comments and reminded the group that the next public hearing is Tuesday, October 3, 2023 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and the deadline for formal public comment period is October 15, 2023. She added that written public comment could be submitted to SBE.PublicComment@vermont.gov.

Adjourn

The public hearing adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Maureen Gaidys.