



Tuesday, December 19, 2023
Virtual via Microsoft Teams
Call-in Number: 1-802-828-7667
Conference ID: 713 672 513#

State Board of Education
Rule Series 2000 – Education Quality Standards (EQS) Rule Update Committee

Draft Meeting Minutes

Present: Kimberly Gleason, Richard Werner, Grey Fearon, Mohamed Diop

Others: Sarah Buxton, Attorney; Chelsea Myers, Vermont Superintendents Association; Amanda Garces, Human Rights Commission; Sue Ceglowski, Vermont School Boards Association

Agency of Education (AOE): Maureen Gaidys

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Amendments to the Agenda

Gleason called the meeting to order at 3:18 p.m. and took roll call. There were no amendments to the agenda.

Approval of [December 7, 2023 Minutes](#)

Werner moved to approve the [December 7, 2023 minutes](#); Diop seconded. There was no discussion. Gleason called the vote. The vote passed.

Public to be Heard

There were no members to be heard.

Working Session - Consideration/processing of non-definition related public comments for EQS

Gleason explained that this working session would be spent reviewing [this spreadsheet summarizing Rule Series 2000 comments \(updated 12/05/23\)](#). She recapped the work of the last meeting. She explained that there are some areas of comment that overlap between the two rule series (2000 and 2200). Because of the need for alignment across the two rule series, and because a joint meeting of the two committees constitutes a quorum, there will be a special meeting of the full State Board. A Doodle poll has been sent but the date is not yet determined. The purpose of the Special Meeting is to flesh out the areas of crossover and develop some aligned language (definitions). When common language is developed, the language will go back to the separate committees, where consensus will be decided, and the rules will move forward.

Buxton referenced [this spreadsheet summarizing Rule Series 2000 comments \(updated 12/05/23\)](#). She noted two separate comments received around Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) from the Census-Based Funding Advisory Group and the Vermont Superintendents Association (VSA).

There was discussion on confusion around [Multi-Tiered System of Supports](#), need for professional development from AOE on MTSS, challenge of inconsistency of implementation of Act 173, [Act 173 of 2018](#) and Section 2902, directive for AOE on support for professional development and accountability mechanisms, Committee's responsibility should not be limited by AOE's lack of capacity, regulations create expectations, authority for setting statewide goals (fluency in two languages by graduation), comments offered that are not within the committee's authority, directing comments to the appropriate entity, personalized learning experiences, noncompliance with District Quality Standards (DQS) and publication of noncompliance findings, field reviews including site visits, parent/guardian annual assessment of EQS components, accountability for noncompliance, survey fatigue, establishment of minimum full-time equivalent (FTE) for school staff, researching Committee's authority on minimum FTEs, critical thinking and the use of "critical", misunderstanding (by the commenter) of EQS waivers for independent schools, waiver language in Rule Series 2200, and the challenge of having two sets of rules open simultaneously.

Buxton moved to the section with comments made related to Section 2120 Curriculum and Instruction: Arts Education Requirements. There was discussion on public and private schools determining/creating their own curriculum, aligning curriculum with standards, making arts education more prescriptive, lack of authority to make art education more prescriptive, value of adding music as a form of artistic expression, researching Title VI and IX, using "including, but not limited to" when giving examples, minimum class sizes for art educators, many schools make their own decisions on student to staff ratios, collecting items outside this committee's authority to share with the Legislature, and noting that there is a separate requirement for art instruction outside of global citizenship.

Future Agenda Items

Gleason said the next meeting will continue with review of public comments. She asked Committee members to complete the Doodle polls for the Special State Board of Education meeting in January. After the Special State Board of Education meeting is scheduled, there will be a Doodle poll for additional meetings of this Committee.

Adjourn

Werner moved to adjourn; Diop seconded. There was no discussion. Gleason called the vote; the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by: Maureen Gaidys