

From: Jay Nichols <jnichols@vpaonline.org>

Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2024 2:30 PM

To: Jeff Fannon <jfannon@vtnea.org>

Cc: sceglowski <sceglowski@vtsba.org>; Kolbe, Tammy <Tammy.Kolbe@vermont.gov>;

Chelsea Myers <cmyers@vtvsa.org>; michael <michael@therowlandfoundation.org>;

Carmolli, Gwen <gwen.carmolli@colchestersd.org>; Gleason, Kimberly G

<Kimberly.G.Gleason@vermont.gov>; scameron <scameron@vtsba.org>

Subject: Re: Feedback requested on AOE-proposed standards for health and PE

Hi Tammy,

It sounds like Jeff and Sue had more time to go into this than our VPA staff did (we are running full day trainings for school leaders today and tomorrow). I agree with everything that Sue and Jeff stated and echo their comments. Additionally, here are the comments that our team agreed to last night.

1. VPA does not have any objection to the adoption of new rules in this area but want to be clear that the new rules must apply to all students/schools including non-public schools (that should be a given but I'm ringing the bell wherever I can).

2. School systems that don't belong to SHAPE need to receive whatever support necessary from the AOE to successfully implement the new standards and any corresponding pedagogical changes. The resources HAVE to be available - no more letting locals figure things out for themselves without corresponding support including training and materials as necessary.

Thanks.

J

On Thu, Dec 12, 2024 at 12:50 PM Jeff Fannon <jfannon@vtnea.org> wrote:

Tammy,

First off, thank you, Sue, for your below comments, which I echo. secondly, there are several places in the green sheets in which it is stated that the Agency will assist schools with training and other resources. The experience over the last several years, however, has been the Agency lacks sufficient resources already to fulfill its obligations, so I worry that we are adding more work to an agency that hasn't been able to meet its existing obligations. For example:

- “The Agency of Education will provide guidance and training to the field on the implementation of the new standards, within its capacity, and provide these resources for free to educators.” [Emphasis added]
- “The Agency of Education will be developing model state level Proficiency-Based Learning Hierarchies for Health Education now that these standards are released.”

Finally, the green sheet states that the National Health Education Standards have been revised, such that even if Vermont’s standards don’t change schools will be required to adopt the national standards. If true, and I have no reason to doubt this, adopting these new Vermont standards seems to make obvious sense, but so too should adding in resources for schools to access, as Sue mentions below.

Jeff

Jeff Fannon

Executive Director

Vermont-NEA

From: Sue Ceglowski <sceglowski@vtvsba.org>

Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2024 11:14 AM

To: Kolbe, Tammy <Tammy.Kolbe@vermont.gov>

Cc: Jeff Fannon <jfannon@vtnea.org>; Chelsea Myers <cmyers@vtvsa.org>; Jay Nichols <jnichols@vpaonline.org>; michael <michael@therowlandfoundation.org>; Carmolli, Gwen <gwen.carmolli@colchestersd.org>; Gleason, Kimberly G <Kimberly.G.Gleason@vermont.gov>; Sandra <scameron@vtvsba.org>

Subject: Re: Feedback requested on AOE-proposed standards for health and PE

Hello Tammy,

Thank you for reaching out regarding the work of the SBE’s committee on standards to address health and physical education standards.

The [Advisory Council on Wellness and Comprehensive Health](#) was created by [Act 66 of 2021](#) to assist the Agency of Education to plan, coordinate, and encourage wellness and comprehensive health programs in the public schools. The Council is required to meet not less than twice a year. The Council is also required to examine and coordinate state health wellness policies and federal wellness policies to identify and, if possible, eliminate any redundancies.

When considering the standards, did the AOE or SBE committee on standards seek feedback from the Advisory Council on Wellness and Comprehensive Health? The VSBA is a member of the Vermont Advisory Council on Wellness and Comprehensive Health and has not been previously contacted regarding these proposed changes.

With regard to your specific questions, please see considerations below:

- Whether there are conditions or considerations for implementing the revised standards, including resources and cost? Similarly, are there potential impacts for existing practice that the SBE should consider? Any necessary professional development or changes in curriculum delivery and/or resources may require financial resources and should be provided by the State of Vermont rather than required as an unfunded mandate. Another potential impact of changes in standards is the [AOE's required model policy on Wellness and Comprehensive Health](#) and related resources, including this [Guide](#), which were just developed in 2023-24. Lastly, we urge the SBE committee on standards to require implementation of these standards in both public schools and approved independent schools. All students in Vermont deserve equitable access to and protection provided by these standards.

- To what extent does your organization feel that the standards are aligned ~~misaligned~~ with the recently updated EQS? Given the AOE's required model policy and related resources on Wellness and Comprehensive Health (which closely aligns with health and PE standards), we suggest that the Advisory Council on Wellness and Comp Health conducts an analysis of proposed changes to standards and any possible required revisions to the EQS, which go into effect July 1, 2025, as the charge of the Advisory Council is to "examine and coordinate state health wellness policies and federal wellness policies to identify and, if possible, eliminate any redundancies."

Thank you again,

Sue

Sue Ceglowski, Esq.

Executive Director and General Counsel

Vermont School Boards Association

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Pronouns: she/her/hers ([why](#))

On Tue, Dec 10, 2024 at 6:57 PM Kolbe, Tammy <Tammy.Kolbe@vermont.gov> wrote:

Greetings.

Vermont's State Board of Education is considering proposed updates to the state's existing curricular standards for Health and Physical Education. In both instances, the revisions proposed by the national organizations that authored the existing standards in these content areas, to which the state already subscribes. Attached to this Email are the "green sheets" provided by the AOE that describes the proposed revisions.

The SBE's committee on standards is charged with making a recommendation as to whether the updated standards should be adopted by the state. When considering the standards, the committee would like to consider any feedback or comment you have on these standards when it next meets, on December 16 (330-530 p.m.).

In particular, the committee is the following

- Whether there are conditions or considerations for implementing the revised standards, including resources and cost? Similarly, are there potential impacts for existing practice that the SBE should consider?
- To what extent does your organization feel that the standards are aligned/misaligned with the recently updated EQS?

You may simply respond to this email with your comments or you may request time on the committee's agenda to provide testimony with your feedback. We request that you submit any written feedback that you have by noon, Friday December 13. Similarly, if you would like to testify at the committee's meeting, please let us know by that time as well.

Thank you in advance for sharing your thoughts.

Tammy Kolbe