

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting
Call In: 1-802-828-7667
Conference ID: 617 159 405#

Members: **Heather Bouchey**, AOE, Secretary of Education; **Amanda Garces**, Vermont Human Rights Commission (HRC), Director of Policy, Education and Outreach; **Sarah Robinson**, Vermont Network Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, Deputy Director; **Rebecca McBroom**, Vermont-NEA, General Counsel; **Heather Lynn**, Vermont School Boards Association (VSBA), Attorney; **Jay Nichols**, Vermont Principals' Association (VPA), Executive Director; **Chelsea Myers**, Vermont Superintendents Association (VSA), Associate Executive Director; **Dana Kaplan** (not yet confirmed), Outright VT, Executive Director; **Xusana Davis**, Executive Director of Racial Equity; **Lynn Currier-Stanley**, Vermont Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), Executive Director; **Rachel Seelig**, Vermont Legal Aid (VLA), Project Director; **Henri Sparks (Sparks)**, Harassment, Hazing, and Bullying Prevention Advisory Council (HHB), Chair.

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Present:

Lynn Currier-Stanley, Vermont Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), **Rachel Seelig**, Vermont Legal Aid (VLA), Project Director; **Heather Lynn**, Vermont School Boards Association (VSBA), Attorney; **Sarah Robinson**, Vermont Network Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, Deputy Director; **Xusana Davis**, Executive Director of Racial Equity; **Jeff Fannon**, Executive Director, Vermont-NEA, (representing Rebecca McBroom, Vermont-NEA, General Counsel); **Chelsea Myers**, Vermont Superintendents Association (VSA), Associate Executive Director; **Jay Nichols**, Vermont Principals' Association (VPA), Executive Director; **Henri Sparks (Sparks)**, Harassment, Hazing, and Bullying Prevention Advisory Council (HHB), Chair; and **Amanda Garces**, Vermont Human Rights Commission (HRC), Director of Policy, Education and Outreach.

AOE: Emily Simmons, Lindsey Hedges, Maureen Gaidys.

Members of the public/others: Sue Ceglowski, VSBA; Rob Evans, School Safety Liaison.

Call to Order/Introductions Roll Call/Amendments to Agenda

Secretary Bouchey called the meeting to order at 3:50 p.m. Secretary Bouchey asked members to introduce themselves and give their affiliation and note if they are the official designee for this group. Currier-Stanley, Seelig, Lynn, Robinson, Davis, Fannon (for Rebecca McBroom), Myers, Nichols, Sparks, and Garces introduced themselves.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Review of Statute and Working Group's (WG) Purpose

Secretary Bouchey briefly reviewed [Act 29 of 2023 Section 5a](#). Secretary Bouchey confirmed that there was a quorum and that all members have been identified except for representation for Outright VT. Secretary Bouchey reviewed the powers and duties of the WG and specific areas for consideration regarding recommendations. She explained that the WG will have the support of the AOE (Sprague and/or Gaidys), who will handle meeting logistics (required web postings, accessibility of documents, scheduling, warnings), and ensure adherence to Open Meeting Law.

Election of a Chair, Vice Chair and Minute Taker

Secretary Bouchey said that even though it is not in statute, it is recommended in such WGs that a Vice Chair is also elected. Nichols asked if AOE could take minutes; Secretary Bouchey said there is not capacity for that and suggested a rotation of members serving as minute-taker. Nichols nominated Davis as Chair. Seelig seconded. Secretary Bouchey closed nominations and called the vote. Davis was elected as Chair by unanimous vote.

Chair Davis asked for nominations for Vice Chair. Currier-Stanley was self-nominated for Vice Chair. Fannon seconded. Chair Davis called the vote. Currier-Stanley was elected as Vice Chair by unanimous vote.

There was discussion on taking meeting minutes with one designated minute taker or rotating that task, using the transcript function in Teams, and using a shared document for taking minutes. Seelig suggested rotating notetaking to share the burden and allow for fuller participation. Chair Davis asked if the group was comfortable with using a rotation. She asked for volunteers for the next few meetings. Bouchey, Myers, Robinson and Garces volunteered.

Chair Davis asked if there were any other roles that need to be fulfilled. None were identified.

Public to be Heard

There were none.

Next Meeting, Meeting Cadence

Chair Davis asked how the group wanted to proceed with meeting frequency and duration. Garces suggested creating a work plan should be a priority. Myers said she would be beneficial to have the next meeting focus on background information of the law and hearing from different stakeholders prior to creating a workplan.

Chair Davis proposed scheduling the next meeting with the purpose of having a deep dive into the history, charge and opportunities for this WG and that would help inform the frequency and duration of future meetings. There was discussion on a Doodle poll to schedule future meetings. Sparks asked if Lynn or someone else could give a report on what is currently being done, as this will be helpful moving forward. Lynn agreed to present this at the next meeting. Garces suggested talking about what is not happening and to have a neutral conversation that is open to other ways of doing the work and also discuss the issue of compulsory attendance and how that related to standards. Chair Davis asked Garces to bring to the next meeting a rundown of what is not happening and an update on the advocacy space.

There was discussion on topics for discussion at the next meeting: data received by HRC, some examples from VLA and experiences of what is not working for them, level set of

statute as well as disconnect between law and practice, compulsory attendance (Robinson will bring context to next meeting), hearing from the Vermont Council of Special Education Administrators (VCSEA) even though they are not named in statute as part of this group, having a 2-hour meeting, and need for field to have prevention resources and high-quality training.

Chair Davis recapped next steps: Bouchey, Myers, Robinson and Garces have volunteered to take minutes at the next four, 2-hour meetings. A template for minutes will be provided. The transcription/recording function in Teams will be utilized going forward. A Doodle poll is forthcoming. This meeting will involve 1) learning and information sharing and 2) decision-making around meeting cadence and goals. At the next meeting, the WG will hear about the history of the bill and from number of people about what is happening and what is not happening and what is important context. Chair Davis will work with AOE to investigate a shared folder and/or other ways to give WG members access to shared documents.

Other

N/A

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Meeting Minutes recorded by: Maureen Gaidys

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