

State Board of Education Education Quality Standards Rule Update Committee

Draft Meeting Minutes

Meeting Place: Virtual Teams Meeting/Video/Teleconference

Call in #: 1-802-828-7667, Conference ID: 182 173 73#

Date: October 20, 2022

Present:

State Board of Education (SBE) Subcommittee Members: Kimberly Gleason (co-Chair), Tammy Kolbe (co-Chair), Tom Lovett, Patrick Brown

Agency of Education (AOE): Heather Bouchey, Chris Case, Maureen Gaidys

Others: Alyssa Chen

Call to Order/Roll Call/Amendments to Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 11:06 a.m.

Approve [Draft Meeting Minutes - October 6, 2022](#)

Lovett moved to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2022 meeting of the EQS Committee. Kolbe seconded. There was no discussion. Gleason called the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Public to be Heard

No member of the public asked to be heard.

Invited Testimony from AOE for technical suggestions to the proposed EQS Rules - Deputy Secretary Bouchey

Dr. Heather Bouchey, Deputy Secretary, Vermont Agency of Education.

Dr. Bouchey provided the subcommittee with a document describing Agency of Education-proposed revisions to the EQS. The proposed revisions reflected the culmination of an internal AOE process whereby programs within the Agency, in collaboration with AOE leadership, identified technical changes and necessary updates to the EQS rule.

Dr. Bouchey walked through the recommended changes with the subcommittee, line-by-line. Key points of questioning and discussion during this review were:

- **Reference to students in grades “K-12” in Section 2120.5 (Curriculum content).**

Section 2120.5 of the current rule requires that each school “shall offer options for students in grades K-12 to participate in at least 30 minutes of physical activity.” AOE noted that applying this section to students in grades “K-12” may be incongruent with other statute that sets curricular requirements for students ages 5 and older (i.e., some students who are five years old may be enrolled in pre-kindergarten, not kindergarten). The AOE recommended, and the subcommittee concurred, that this potential conflict warranted outside legal review.

- **New language noting priority on interdisciplinarity in curriculum content (Section 2120.5)**

Gleason noted that the existing SBE-approved curricular standards prioritize interdisciplinary instruction. However, curricular content outlined in Section 2120.5 (Curricular Content) of the current rule speaks to distinct domains of content. The subcommittee noted that it may be worthwhile to update this section to include a new statement that points toward the importance of interdisciplinarity in schools’ curriculum, consistent with approved standards.

- **Incorporating computer science in areas students must demonstrate proficiency.**

Lovett noted that the existing definition of “scientific practices” in Section 2120.5 (Curricular Content) of the current rule does not include reference to computer science. AOE’s proposed changes recommend including “technology” before the word “design” (in current rule). The subcommittee discussed whether “computer science” should also be added here. Dr. Bouchey indicated that AOE would not oppose this revision.

Other Invited Testimony on Proposed EQS Rules

Committee Discussion of Input on the Proposed Changes to Draft EQS Rules

Public to be Heard

Alyssa Chen asked for clarification as to when the subcommittee’s public hearing on the rules would occur and whether there is a link where people could sign up for comment. Gleason noted that the hearing is scheduled for 5 p.m. on November 14. The subcommittee is working with AOE to publicize event and establish a way for people to sign up for comment.

Future Agenda Items

The Committee discussed activities for its next meeting, including inviting members of the education community for comment.

Adjourn

Kolbe moved to adjourn the meeting. Lovett seconded. Gleason called a vote; it was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Tammy Kolbe.