

Education Quality Standards Rule Update Committee

April 20, 2022 - The State Board of Ed received the proposed changes to the EQS rules from the Act 1 Working Group.

May 13, 2022 - The EQS Rule Update Committee met for the first time to discuss charge and work plan;

- Charge:
 - Pursuant to [Title 16 of the Vermont Statutes, Chapter 3](#), the State Board of Education is responsible for the establishment, advancement, and evaluation of public education policy. The powers and duties of the Board include making [regulations](#) governing: attendance and records of attendance of all pupils, standards for student performance, adult basic education programs, approval of independent schools, disbursement of funds, and equal access for all Vermont students to a quality education. The governing regulations are outlined in the [State Board of Education Rules](#).
 - The State Board of Education Education Quality Standards (EQS) Committee is charged with updating Vermont's [Education Quality Standards](#) (Rule Series 2000), for compliance with Vermont [Act 1](#), and other recommendations from AOE or others for the purpose of policy coherence and alignment. The EQS is the body of state education rules that set standards for educational quality and equal educational opportunity in Vermont.
 - This committee will review these rules in the context of the relevant legal framework, recommendations from Act 1, and others, and the committee will identify changes in language to existing rules, as well as changes to statute that are necessary to implement the revised rules. The Committee's work will include careful review of existing statutory requirements, recommendations of the Act 1 working group and the AOE, and substantive stakeholder input.
 - The Committee will submit proposed Draft EQS Rules updates to the full State Board of Education for review and approval (December-January).
 - Upon approval by the full State Board, the EQS will enter the ICAR/LCAR formal adoption process, which will include additional formal public comment period and will be concluded within eight months, at which time the rules will be adopted.

June 23 - November 15, 2022 - EQS Committee met 10 times to hear testimony and discuss possible revisions to the proposed changes

November 30, 2022 - Public Listening Session to offer opportunity to hear feedback on the proposed EQS rules (heard from more than thirty people)

Most Current Working Draft: <https://education.vermont.gov/sites/aoe/files/documents/sbe-eqs-rules-update-with-committee-annotations-and-aoe-recommendations-11-30-2022-protected.docx>

December 8, 11:30-1pm - EQS Committee meeting

- Review of statement of purpose (application to Independent Schools); Feedback from Special Education Advisory Panel; Other invited/submitted testimony

December 15, 11:30-1:30pm - EQS Committee meeting

- Committee review of full document; independent legal review (if available); possible committee vote on draft to be submitted to the full state board

December 21, 2022 - State Board of Education Meeting

- EQS Committee Update: to include presentation of the most current working draft of the EQS Committee and discussion with Board

January - February - review of the Draft EQS by the State Board of Ed; expected vote to move on to ICAR/LCAR process

- Formal public comment period will be open
- Completion of the administrative rules process within eight months

Concurrently, DQS and Quality Assurance Process will be moving through the AOE rule making process. Efforts will be made to ensure there is appropriate reference and alignment with EQS and DQS.