

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: #830 740 962#

Date: November 3, 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): Maureen Gaidys

Others: Amanda Garces

Call to Order/Roll Call/Amendments to Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 11:08 a.m.

Approve Draft Minutes – [October 20, 2022](#) and [October 28, 2022](#)

Lovett moved to approve the minutes from the October 22, 2022 and October 28, 2022 meetings of the EQS Committee. Kolbe seconded. There was no discussion. Gleason called the vote. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Public to be Heard

No member of the public asked to be heard.

Working Session

The focus of the subcommittee's work was to discuss rule revisions proposed by the Agency of Education at the October 20, 2022 subcommittee meeting. The group worked through the proposed revisions in the order with which they were presented in the text.

Broadly, the Subcommittee agreed with the following changes recommended by the AOE:

- Replace references to “career and technical education” with “career technical education (CTE) and adult education and learning (AEL)” throughout the rule.
- Replace references to the word “children” with “students” throughout the rule.
- Replace the word “vocational” with “occupational” in the definition of “Equity” or “Equitable.”
- Language changes to the definition of “Proficiency-based learning” (Section 2114(27)) to improve clarity and consistency in interpretation.
- Replace references to “research based” with “evidence based” in Section 2114(31). This change is consistent with the federal definition included in ESSA.
- Revise definition of “transferrable skills” (Section 2114(39)) to reflect best practice and current terminology.
- Change the title of Section 2120.1 from “Instructional Practices” to “Instructional Strategies.” This updates the language for consistency with ESSA.
- Revise language for Section 2120.5 to modify to read “scientific practices, cross-scientific inquiry and content knowledge (including the concepts of life sciences, physical sciences, earth and space sciences, and engineering and technology design.” The proposed changes update the language to bring it in line with current practice and focus (e.g., Next Generation Science Standards).
- Add new language that describes personalized learning plans in Section 2121.5 (Tiered Systems of Support).
- Replace reference to “public school district” with “supervisory union/supervisory district” in Section 2125 (Continuous Improvement Plan).
- Add new language to Section 2126.1 that describes the timing for when supervisory unions/districts are required to file a copy of their system’s Continuous Improvement plan for the current school year.

The Subcommittee identified the following items for additional clarification or feedback from the AOE:

- Section 2114 (Definitions) (1) states that the “Academic record” **may** include standardized test scores, dates of attendance, alternative graduation plan, Individualized Education Plan (IEP) 504 Plan ...” (emphasis added). The subcommittee requested clarification from AOE regarding the choice of the word “may” as opposed to “shall” in referencing the prerogative to share students’ IEPs or 504 plans.
- AOE recommended a new definition for “Education Support Team” (proposed Section 2114(14)). The subcommittee agreed with the AOE’s recommendation to incorporate a definition for EST into the rule. However, before agreeing to the change the subcommittee requested clarification from AOE regarding whether the proposed definition is aligned with what is currently in statute and/or guidance for the field promulgated by AOE.
- AOE recommended new language for Section 2120.7 regarding graduation requirements for English Learner (EL students). Before deciding, the committee requested clarification from AOE regarding whether the proposed language is consistent with other federal statute and regulations.
- In Section 2121.1(a) the AOE recommended that CTE directors be added to the list of individuals superintendents must supervise. The subcommittee requested that AOE clarify that the proposed change is consistent with superintendent responsibilities (i.e., to supervise CTE directors).

The Subcommittee identified the following items for additional clarification or feedback from the Act 1 Working Group:

- The subcommittee agreed with the AOE’s recommendation to add a new definition for “civic engagement” into the EQS (proposed Section 2114(8)). There was some discussion among committee members as to whether this definition should read “civic and community engagement” and replace instances throughout the document that reference “community research and civic engagement” are referenced. Before making this change, committee members requested input from the Act 1 Working Group as to whether this change would affect the substance of their recommendations.

- AOE proposes to revise Section 2140.4 (Personalized Learning Plans) to delete the phrase “and support services” from the section. AOE suggested that this reference connotes an IEP or 504 plan, which should be documented in a separate file. The PLP can reference an IEP or 504 plan, but these documents should not be part of a student’s PLP. The committee discussed whether students may need other “support services” to implement their plan (e.g., transportation). Subcommittee members requested input from the Act 1 Working Group as to whether they thought dropping this phrase would imply that students shouldn’t have equitable access to PLP opportunities.

Other issues considered in the committee’s discussion:

- At the AOE’s advice, the Subcommittee requested outside legal advice on whether Section 2150.2(g) that describes whether the requirement to participate in at least 30 minutes of physical activity should apply to students in grades K-12, even though some children who are age 5 are enrolled in pre-kindergarten.
- The committee noted that when the rule references “families” we should evaluate whether the text also refer to “legal guardian (e.g., proposed revision to Section 2125, Continuous Improvement Plan).

Public to be Heard

No member of the public asked to be heard.

Planning for Next Meeting

The Committee’s next meeting will be the public hearing scheduled for November 14 at 5 p.m.

Adjourn

Kolbe moved to adjourn the meeting. Lovett seconded. Gleason called a vote; it was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Tammy Kolbe.