



**Protection Committee**  
**Richard Stagliano, Chair**  
**Liza Kirschenbaum, Esq, Vice-Chair**  
**June 21, 2023**  
**Virtual Meeting**  
**Minutes**

**In Attendance:**

Jacqueline Augustine	NJ Administrative Office of the Courts
Eileen Caraker	Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office
Joanne Hatt	Passaic County Prosecutor's Office
Liza Kirschenbaum	CASA of New Jersey
Lisa Landsman	Attorney
Nydia Monagas	New Jersey Children's Alliance
Sonia Moticha	NJ Department of Education
Jane Reynolds	Mercer County Prosecutor's Office
Debbie Riveros	New Jersey Children's Alliance
Judy Spinney	Therapist
Richard Stagliano	Center for Family Services
Jennifer Underwood	NJ Department of Community Affairs

**Guests:**

Lennie Parham	NJ Department of Education
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**Staff:**

Daniel Yale	NJ Department of Children & Families
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**Introduction and Welcome**

The meeting was called to order and the Open Public Meetings notice was read. A brief welcome was provided by Richard Stagliano.

**NJ Student Learning Standards - Comprehensive Health and Physical Education (CHPE) Presentation**

*Lennie Parham, CHPE Coordinator, NJ Department of Education Office of Standards*

As questions have been raised at previous meetings, Sonia felt it would be helpful to invite Lennie Parham, Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Coordinator, to attend a Protection Committee meeting to provide an overview of the NJ Student Learning Standards and answer questions that may arise.

Lennie explained that the mission of CHPE is to ensure that students acquire the knowledge and skills of what is most essential to become individuals who possess health and literacy skills to pursue a life of wellness and to develop the habits that are necessary to live healthy and productive lives for not only themselves but for their family, their peers, and their community members. By law, Health and Physical Education has a minimum of 150 minutes of education per week. Lennie discussed the vision of the CHPE which includes:

- Maintain mental health awareness and rely social and emotional support systems



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- Recognize influences of media, peers, technology, cultural norms in making informed health-related as consumer of health products and wellness services
- Build and maintain healthy relationships
- Be advocates for personal, family, community, and Interglobal wellness
- Local, national, and global public health and climate issues of which students are faced

The spirit of the standards is to highlight that all students will participate in a quality K-12 sequential health and physical education program through their schools. Standards are a blueprint for curriculum development and instruction that reflects the latest research for effective health and physical education programs. The primary focus of the standards consists of the development of concepts, skills, and promotion to influence healthy behaviors. The 2020 standards were influenced and informed by national and international standards, other state's standards, and other documents from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), National Institute for Health (NIH), etc.

Curriculum is a complex, multifaceted, dynamic puzzle with the standards at the core. Educators are challenged to put all of these pieces - and others - together in coherent, high-quality curriculum that spans grades K-12. The 2020 standards incorporate 3 new elements that were not included in the previous iteration:

- Disciplinary concepts – building blocks that define the over-arching structure of discipline
- Core ideas – what students need to know by the end of the grade band to understand the disciplinary concept. They are taught through grades K-12 at a progressive level in depth and in complexity.
- Content-specific practices – identify the skills and the thought process needed to construct knowledge in a specific discipline.

Various elements support the implementation of a comprehensive curriculum and should be examined holistically when implementing the standards. Lennie explained that in the standards document, under each of the standards, the disciplinary concepts (13) are listed. Within each disciplinary concept is a core idea. The structure of the standards highlights the value of understanding the connections among the core ideas. Effective instruction provides opportunities for students to explore and identify how the core ideas relate to one another. Curriculum may look different between districts, but because they are using the standards, they will be talking about the same ideas, through the same disciplinary concept. Educators are allowed to include their own creativity and knowledge to bring forth the information. In addition to the disciplinary concepts and core ideas in the 2020 standards, there are 10 new content specific practices that are the habits of the minds for the students to be using and develop skills throughout their education experiences. Students should be developing these skills as they are learning (knowledge) health and physical education/ and the requisites (skills) to be developed.

- Acting as a responsible and contributing member of society
- Building and maintaining healthy relationships
- Communicating clearly and effectively (verbal and nonverbal)
- Resolving conflict
- Attending to personal health, emotional, social and physical well-being



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- Engaging in an active lifestyle
- Making decisions
- Managing-self
- Setting goals
- Using technology tools responsibly

Each practice has a description in the document. In addition, the standards identify what these skills may look like in specific grades. Practices are not independent elements of the standards but are embedded throughout the performance expectations. Lennie also walked members through the coding associated with standards.

Lennie spoke briefly about the legislation that impacts the standards:

- Consent (N.J.S.A. 18A:35)
- Mental Health (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.39)
- New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.40 & 18A:35-4.41)
- Sexting (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.33)
- Sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education (N.J.S.A 18A:35-4.5a.)

At the conclusion of his presentation, Lennie provided time for members to ask questions regarding the content that was presented.

### **Review draft of March 15, 2023 Minutes**

The March 15, 2023 minutes were approved without edit.

### **Protection Committee Business**

#### **Discussion topics**

#### **Protection Committee Member Recruitment**

Nydia spoke about the Protection Committee charter and where membership may be lacking in this group. Some of the areas to focus on are:

- DCF Office of Family Voice
- People with lived experience
  - DCF Youth Council members
  - Fatherhood engagement
  - Legislators
  - Garden State Equality
  - CSOC
    - CMOs

#### **Future Projects**

Members discussed the following topics as future projects for the committee:



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- The connection between social media and mental health
- Clinician Training for Youth with problematic sexual behaviors
- Guidance around how law enforcement and the juvenile justice system can work together for a coordinated response to problematic sexual behaviors

Richard encouraged members to continue to think about future projects, particularly involving system changes that the committee can influence.

### **Committee Initiatives**

#### **The Digital Realm of Child Abuse Workgroup**

Sonia announced that she will no longer be able to work with this workgroup due to conflicting responsibilities. The remaining members will continue with this work. No update at this time.

#### **Youth with Problematic Sexual Behaviors Workgroup**

Nydia spoke about the informational “one-pager” that was sent to committee members prior to the meeting. The document needs approval by the Protection Committee prior to being sent to the NJTF CAN for final approval. Nydia explained that reason the document was created was to assist legislators in understanding the importance of investing in this population – both by way of legislation and funding. Although neither the statewide workgroup nor this workgroup have sought legislation pertaining to this work, it may be helpful for the work to be legislatively supported in the future. Richard suggested adding a statement to the document stating that evidence has shown that there are numerous effective treatment programs that have shown positive outcomes in changing behaviors in this population. Nydia asked members to email any thoughts or feedback on this document prior to the next meeting.

Nydia provided a brief presentation of the statewide framework created by the Statewide Problematic Sexual Behaviors Workgroup. The presentation included a description of the framework, how it was created, the status of the initiatives included in the framework, updates on the work of the subcommittees of the workgroup, and next steps.

#### **Medical Evaluation and Referral Workgroup**

No update at this time.

### **Announcements**

No announcements.

**Meeting adjourned – Next Meeting September 20, 2023.**