

Committee on Revising Standards
Meeting Summary
Monday, February 4, 2013
10:00am – 12:00pm

Illinois Public Act 97-1102 created the Enhanced Physical Education Task Force. This Committee of the Task Force is charged with making recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on Goals 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24 of the Illinois Learning Standards for Physical Development and Health. The Committee shall focus on updating the standards based on research in neuroscience that impacts the relationship between physical activity and learning.

Task Force Members Attending:

Chicago location: Chair Deb Vogel, representing Illinois Education Association; Maureen Fournier, Southwest Suburban Teachers Union, representing IFT; Neil Duncan, Naperville Central High School, representing the Illinois Assoc. for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance.

Springfield location: Peggy Pryor, representing Quincy Federation of Teachers; Serena Preston, Superintendent, Illinois School for the Visually Impaired; Joey Ohnesorge, Principal Consultant for Health, PE, HIV, Illinois State Board of Education, representing State Superintendent Christopher Koch

By telephone: Representative Linda Chapa LaVia, Illinois State Representative; Holly Benjamin, MD, representing the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Representative John Cavaletto, Illinois State Representative, 107th District, Michael Isaacson, designee for Amaal Tokars, representing the Northern Illinois Public Health Consortium.

Illinois Department of Public Health Staff: Leticia Reyes-Nash (Chicago), Margie Harris (Springfield), Joanna Rewerts (telephone)

Illinois State Board of Education Staff: Shawn Backs (Springfield)

Illinois Public Health Institute Support Staff: Jess Lynch (telephone); Sarah Chusid (Chicago); Coby Jansen (Chicago)

Task Force Standards Revision Committee Members not in attendance:

Michael Brunson, appointed by Chicago Teachers Union; Linda Holmes, Illinois State Senator; Andrew Pickett, designee of Dr. Stephanie Whyte

Other: Michael Isaacson, Kane County Health Department

Welcome & Opening Remarks:

Chair Deb Vogel called the meeting to order at 10am and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Committee on Revising Standards. She reminded committee members that the objectives were to revise Goals 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24 of the Illinois Learning Standards for Physical Development and Health and to make sure the revisions are budget-neutral.

Shawn Backs announced Deb Vogel's official appointment as committee chair.

Committee members and support staff in Springfield and Chicago introduced themselves.

Open Meeting Act Compliance

Coby Jansen reviewed the Open Meetings Act requirements pertinent to this meeting. She emphasized the OMA rule that communications between a majority of a quorum of committee members would constitute a meeting and would therefore be required to be open to the public. IPHI will send out the final count of committee members so they are informed of the number that constitutes a majority of a quorum. Coby also informed committee members that the bylaws allow the committee to invite others to join in an advisory capacity, but that advisors would not vote and would not count toward a quorum.

Overview and History of Standard Revision

Committee members re-introduced themselves, this time speaking to their familiarity with standards revision. Chair Vogel relayed her history with the process. In summary, in 1997 she participated in writing and reviewing the physical development and health standards. Later, the use of benchmarks was discontinued and performance descriptors were substituted. In 2011, IAHPERD decided that the emerging body of evidence establishing a connection between enhanced academic performance and physical education necessitated a revision of the standards, leading to the drafting of a bill to revise the standards and, ultimately, the creation of this committee.

Coby Jansen stated that Illinois and many other states just went through a collective process of revising common core standards and asked if any other regional group or states were undertaking a similar effort to revise or update PE standards. Chair Vogel that some states are looking at their standards but not from a neuroscience perspective and not in a coordinated effort. The only major revisions are happening at the national level, but since that is happening in tandem with the Task Force's work, the committee will only be able see to draft versions to inform their work.

Determine Information Needed

Coby Jansen informed the group that IPHI is able to devote resources to compiling a comparison of Illinois standards with other states' standards and asked the group to

consider what specific information they would need to move forward.

Maureen Fournier said that the comparison should exclude states where PE is not a priority. Peggy Pryor said the states they choose to examine should have standards that encompass 12th grade, as Illinois does. Margie Harris asked if standards include kindergarten and Chair Vogel said many states address that grade level through the term “early elementary”.

Chair Vogel said California, Texas and New York are states that are notably concerned with the correlation between PE and enhanced academic performance. Neil Duncan said he suggests expanding the comparative research to the global level, specifically to work being done in Canada, Finland, Sweden and Japan.

Representative Cavaletto asked about the use of waivers in Illinois. He also asked if it was still policy that students are required to take PE but do not have to pass it. He also said he objected to grouping students by ability.

Coby Jansen asked if there were any metrics to consider in terms of the information-gathering process. Chair Vogel said it was important to look at the issues from both a curricula and evaluative viewpoint – teachers and administrators have to be involved. Representative Cavaletto added that the school board has to be involved too.

Coby Jansen reiterated the committee’s resolution to include Texas, California and New York in the comparative analysis and then asked what specific information should be compared. Through discussion, the committee determined it needed to look at information about how physical activity and fitness affect academics and neurochemistry of the brain and, if feasible, any budgetary impacts of improving PE. Neil Duncan also expressed that he’d like the Task Force’s work to speak to students’ investment in doing well in PE, i.e. colleges taking that into account in admissions. Coby Jansen pointed out that the committee can include recommendations in its final report that fall outside the scope of standards revision.

Overview of Assistive Resources

Chair Vogel reviewed the assistive resources disseminated in advance of the meeting.

Process for Revising Standards and Role of Committee

Chair Vogel asked committee members to articulate the role they envision having on the committee. She offered advising, writing or acting as ‘critical friends’ as examples.

- Chair Vogel will help author the standards.
- Neil Duncan will help by providing data related to neuroscience and the practical application of that science they have done in Naperville. He can also weigh in on

- what *not* to do, speaking as an experienced PE teacher.
- Maureen Fournier will be a ‘critical friend’ and will help with writing the parts that pertain to early elementary levels.
 - Margie Harris will help with research and data. She can tap her resources at CDC and NPLAN and is also willing to help out in other areas as needed.
 - Joey Ohnesorge can provide the ‘small school’, administrative and teaching perspectives.
 - Serena Preston will help review literature and see what other states have done.
 - Peggy Pryor will help with writing and revisions, and can provide a downstate point of view.
 - Representatives Cavaletto and Chapa LaVia will help as needed.
 - Holly Benjamin said she could provide expertise on metrics (how to measure activity level), different types of exercise, safety and instructional differentiation.
 - Mike Isaacson was not present for this portion of the call.

Identification of Additional Expertise Needed

Chair Vogel would like to consult Paul Zientarski. Neil Duncan will gather information on global-level work and on instructional differentiation. Chair Vogel will look at resources from the Illinois School Health Association and will tap her contacts at IAHPERD.

Joey described the Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Advisory Committee and mentioned that ISBE recently began reconvening this committee to advise on of health education.

The next step for initiating outside expertise is to see whether those individuals are interested in participating and, if so, Chair Vogel will appoint specific individuals to serve as advisors to the committee.

Establish Timeline and Next steps

Chair Vogel stated that the next immediate steps are to gather the research and reach out to the identified experts. She asked everyone to begin looking at the standards and to identify where neuroscience would fit or what the committee could do to make it fit.

Coby led the group in setting the calendar of meetings, dictated largely by the report due to the General Assembly in August.

The committee established the following phases for its work:

- 1) Research/Review and Invite Experts
- 2) Writing
- 3) Review
- 4) Revisions

Below is the calendar for meetings:

Timeframe/Meeting	Activities/Purpose
February 5 th through February 25 th	Gather research, reach out to expert advisors
Monday, February 25 th , 10am to Noon (IDPH conference room)	Review research and summarize for report to full Task Force. Meeting outcomes: Prepare presentation to TF on: (1) Summary of research and other information that will inform revisions, (2) Vision for how standards will be revised based on that research, (3) Any additional information to pass on to the Task Force as a whole or the other committee.
March 15 th – Full Task Force Meeting (ISBE v-tel room)	Report to full Task Force
March 16 th -April 29 th	Begin revising standards
April 29 th , 10am-Noon (IDPH conference room)	Committee meets to review draft
May 15 th – Full Task Force Meeting (ISBE v-tel room)	Report to full Task Force
June-July <i>Additional committee meeting will be scheduled as needed</i>	Revisions. Work wraps up in July
August	Report to General Assembly due

Public Comment

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Closing Remarks

Chair Vogel thanked everyone for coming to the first committee meeting.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm