

**State Board of Education
Operating Standards Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2013**

Committee Members Present:

Ron Rudduck – Chair
Darryl Mehaffie – Vice Chair
Mike Collins
Stephanie Dodd
Sarah Fowler
Kathleen McGervey
Debe Terhar
Bryan Williams

ODE Staff Present:

Kevin Duff
Sandra Hay
Sharon Jennings
Amber Schneider

Other Board Members Present:

Thomas Gunlock

Call to Order and Minutes

Mr. Ruddock called the meeting to order at 1:31PM. With all members present, except Mr. Collins, there was a quorum. Mr. Collins arrived later. Ms. Terhar moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting and Mr. Williams seconded. With all members voting AYE, the minutes were approved.

Introduction of New Staff

Kevin Duff introduced ODE staff Sandra Hay who has a history of working with the Operating Standards at ODE and Amber Schneider, who would be taking minutes at this meeting.

Update on Timeline

Kevin Duff updated the committee on the timeline for reviewing the Operating Standards rules. He provided a handout listing future meeting dates. Committee members noted that the proposed date of November 22 would not work. Later, they agreed that they could meet on November 20 instead. Mr. Duff reminded the Committee that ODE would create a website where proposed rule changes would be posted for public comment. The website will also inform the public of where each rule is in the revision process. Comments would be sent to OperatingStandards@education.ohio.gov. The Committee would also hear public comment during meetings. Once the committee agreed on the rule modifications, the changes would be sent to JCARR as a complete package. Rules that needed to go through the Common Sense Initiative (CSI) would be submitted after public comment.

Revision Process

Mr. Ruddock reminded the Committee that they should refer to the initial Guiding Principles of the Committee as they review each rule. The Guiding Principles seek to make the rules more understandable, flexible and avoid duplication. Sharon Jennings noted that some rules already exist in the Ohio Revised Code (ORC). Mr. Mehaffie noted that the revision process is an opportunity for schools to tell the Board what their needs are. Stakeholder groups have expressed interest in a more general blueprint rather than a specific guidebook. Mr. Williams stated that he was hopeful but skeptical about the success of the revision process.

Mr. Ruddock said that his vision was to create a user-friendly website where stakeholders could access the Operating Standards Rules. The website should be effortless and transparent. He noted that Florida's website was a good example. He suggested that rules should be a simple blueprint for schools and more guidance about implementing these rules could be available in a detailed handbook for those who wanted it. Ms. Terhar noted that this would model the new curriculum. The standards are the guide but the Model Curriculum provides specific examples of how to teach the standards.

Review of Operating Standards OAC 3301-35-02 to 3301-35-04

Mr. Duff presented the committee with a copy of each rule containing yellow and blue highlighting. The yellow indicated portions of the rule that already exist in ORC. Blue indicated areas that potentially would need to be changed or discussed.

OAC 3301-35-02

Mr. Williams asked what the purpose of the rule was. Mr. Duff explained that it existed to create governance for schools. Ms. Hay explained that prior to the creation of the rule, charter schools did not do what the rule instructs.

The Committee agreed by consensus that OAC 3301-35-02(A) should remain the rule. However, the phrase "including a commitment to the development and implementation of professional learning communities pursuant to division (D)(3)(a) of section 3301.07 of the Revised Code" should be removed because it is no longer relevant. The information in OAC 3301-35-02 (B) and (C) should be provided in the detailed handbook, but should not be part of the official rule.

OAC 3301-35-03

The Committee agreed by consensus that OAC 3301-35-03 (A) should be the Operating Standards Rule. The title of the rule should be "Continuous Improvement". 3301-35-03 (A)(1) through 3301-35-03 (A)(4) should be handbook material. Section 3301-35-03 (B) should be deleted because it is no longer relevant.

OAC 3301-35-04

Mr. Duff noted that the yellow highlights are verbatim from ORC. This is an opportunity to remove this language to avoid it becoming outdated if the law changes. Ms. Hay noted that section C of this rule address graduation requirements and that we need to consider the impact this could have on all potential graduates, including those who return to school after being away. The Committee agreed to continue discussing this rule at the next meeting.

Adjournment

The chair asked Committee members to continue reviewing the rules in order to be prepared for the next meeting. Mr. Gunlock asked ODE to provide the stakeholder groups with a list of the Committee's meeting dates. Mr. Ruddock asked that they also receive a copy of the Guiding Principles. Mr. Mehaffie moved to adjourn, Ms. Terhar seconded. With all members voting AYE, the meeting adjourned.