

## **State Board of Education Education Quality Standards Rule Committee**

### **Draft Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Place: Virtual Teams Meeting/Video/Teleconference**  
**Call in #: 1-802-828-7667, Conference ID: 323 958 301#**

**Date: August 25, 2022**

**Present:**

**State Board of Education (SBE) Subcommittee Members:** Kimberly Gleason (co-Chair), Tammy Kolbe (co-Chair), Tom Lovett, Patrick Brown, Gabrielle Lucci

**Agency of Education (AOE):** Maureen Gaidys

**Others:** Amanda Garces, Josh Daniels, LL, Karen Fishman, Debora Steinerman, Mill Moore, Susan Aranoff, Mike Martin

**Call to Order, Roll Call**

Meeting called to order at 11:03 a.m.

**Public to be Heard**

None

**Approve Draft Minutes from July 28, 2022, and August 11, 2022**

The meeting minutes from the July 28 and August 11 EQS Subcommittee meetings were approved by unanimous vote.

**Updates from Act 1 Working Group regarding definitions (Amanda Garces/Mark Hage, co-chairs, invited)**

Amanda Garces (Co-chair Act 1 Working Group) reported that the Working Group met the prior week to discuss potential revisions to the definitions of “Ethnic Group” and “Ethnic Studies.” The Working Group agreed to revise the definitions to include reference to “persecution” and “genocide” as descriptors for conditions and criteria that certain groups may have experienced.

Lovett asked Garces about the Group’s decision to include “social identity group” in the definition of “Ethnic Studies.” Garces noted that consideration of social identity groups is generally accepted in the definition of ethnic studies curricula.

Brown noted that he supported the decision to incorporate “socio economic status” in the definition of “Social Identity Group.” Lucci concurred with Brown’s support.

Kolbe asked Garcia about why the term “genocide” was not included in the definition of “Ethnic Group.” Garces pointed to the comprehensive written response (considered at the July 25 meeting) the Working Group provided the State Board describing the rationale for not including that term in the definition of “Ethnic Group.”

Lovett noted that he would appreciate having the term “persecution” included in the definition of “Ethnic Group.” The Committee discussed this addition, and agreed to revise the definition to include the following language: “social exclusion, discrimination, persecution and other inhuman treatment” (at end of definition).

The Committee discussed the Working Group’s other proposed revisions to the definitions of “Ethnic Studies” and “Social Identity Group.” The Committee agreed to accept those revisions. Potential revisions to the definitions of “Ethnic Group” and “Ethnic Studies” that were discussed by the Subcommittee are available in a working draft document here.

Mike Martin (Act 1 Working Group member and Executive Director, Rowland Foundation) provided testimony on the Working Group’s discussion of a possible definition of “Critical Thinking” to be included in the revised EQS rule.

Lovett indicated that he supported including a definition of critical thinking and noted that as an educator he felt that having a definition of “critical thinking” included in the EQS rule would be appreciated in the field. Other Subcommittee members concurred.

Brown noted the importance of incorporating a multi-cultural lens in a possible definition of critical thinking.

Kolbe offered additional language that might be considered in a definition of critical thinking, and the group discussed other potential language that could be added to the definition proposed by the Working Group.

Martin agreed to go back to the Act 1 Working Group to draft a definition of “critical thinking” for the Subcommittee to review at its September 1 meeting.

## **Future Agenda Items**

### **Public to be Heard**

None

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Tammy Kolbe.