

Family Life Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Notes
October 9th, 2024

Attendance: Jennifer Joseph (Chariperson), Kilo Mack, Brittany Pettus, John Siemsen, Kim Harner, Ediena Parsons, Chanel Bailey, Dr. Kelsey Bianca, Jennifer Bryer, Laurie Caldwell, Shanda Carr, Nicole Clark, Gina Gibson, Kristy Gizinski, Erin Grad, Tina Graf, Cody Berry, Christopher Hersl, Phillips Thomas Hornbuckle, Alison Imhoff, Ana Jakse, Jacqueline Kolbe, Cathy Kowalewski, Jade-Faith Wanjiru Mashua, JoAnna Murdoch, Lynne Parry, Troy Phillips, Rachel Porto, Yan Protsyuk, Edward Roberts, Jaime Savarese, Catherine Smith, Amy Streett, Alexis Trowbridge, Cyrus Walker, Joe Webb, Jaime Whitaker, Ryan Wiggins, Dr. Faith Williams, Katie York, Iris Zebulun

I. Review of Family Life Education Citizens Advisory Committee Overview

- a. The committee overview was shared with committee members: Works jointly with the Family Life Education Curriculum Committee to review and comment on the Family Life Education Curriculum and alignment to the MSDE comprehensive health education framework.

II. Review of Family Life Education Citizens Advisory Committee Charge

- a. The committee charge was shared with committee members: Review and comment on instructional materials for the Family Life and Human Sexuality Education program in grades 5 – 12, in relation to compliance with the State Standards for Comprehensive Health Education.

III. Review of Family Life and Human Sexuality [COMAR 13A.04.18.01.D.2](#)

- a. The committee was provided a review of the family life and human sexuality section of COMAR, as referenced above in the link. This section of COMAR will guide the work of this committee.

IV. Reviewed Committee Processes and Procedures for Informational Updates

- a. The procedure for providing committee feedback for informational updates was shared with committee members
 - i. Following Informational update presentations, committee members will provide comments on the information shared
 - ii. Comments can be submitted electronically or on a paper handout

V. Informational Update: Family Life Unit Accommodations for STRIVE and Life Skills Students - COMAR (13A.04.18.01):

- a. This informational update aligns with Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) – COMAR 13A.04.18.01
 - 01 Comprehensive Health Education Instructional Programs for Grades Prekindergarten—12.**
 - A. Each local school system shall:

(3) Provide access to the curriculum for non-diploma-bound students.

- b. The informational update provided the committee with background knowledge of the certificate of program completion and criteria for the program. During the update, the terms 'cognitive disability', 'alternative framework' and 'adaptive behaviors' were defined.
- c. The purpose of the certificate of program completion was shared: Students who are unable to earn a diploma will receive a Maryland Certificate of Program Completion, their education will prepare them for a transition into a career & community living with independence and success. Students who meet the qualifications for a Maryland Certificate of Program Completion can receive instruction & assessments using modified achievement standards. This allows school staff to focus on essential grade-level skills while providing intense, direct instruction with repeated practice.
- d. An example of an accommodated lesson sample from the Health 5 Family Life and Human Sexuality Unit was shared with committee members.

VI. Next Family Life Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Information

- a. Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 12:30 – 2:00pm, location is to be determined