

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
COUNCIL OF BASIC EDUCATION**

**333 Market Street | 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126**

January 11, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 11:24 a.m. by Council Chair Dr. Lee Williams.

Attending:

Hon. Carol Aichele
Nathan Barrett
Brenna Chernich
Claire Chi
Katherine Christiano

Aarushi Dedhiya
Sandra Dungee Glenn
Ernest Hadrick
Amanda Hetrick
Jeffrey Keeling

Robert Mitchell
Hon. Pedro Rivera
Monica Taylor
Karen Famer White
Lee Williams
Benjamin Wilson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 3, 2023, meeting of the Council of Basic Education were approved on an **Aichele/Christiano** motion.

COMMITTEE REPORT
ACADEMIC STANDARDS/CHAPTER 4 COMMITTEE

Dr. Lee Williams, Chair of the Academic Standards/Chapter 4 Committee (Committee), shared that the Committee met earlier in the morning and adopted a recommendation for proposed amendments to Chapter 4. Dr. Williams formally transmitted the Committee's recommendation to the Council for its consideration. She reviewed in detail the recommended amendments to Chapter 4 that would update the existing standards for Career Education and Work (CEW), Economics (ECON), and Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS), would establish new academic standards for Personal Finance, would shift administration of the elementary-level Science PSSA from grade 4 to grade 5, would require school entities to post various strategic plans on their publicly-accessible websites after the plans are approved as final, and would make numerous other technical and clarifying amendments throughout the Chapter.

Dr. William summarized recent amendments to the Public School Code enacted by the General Assembly in Act 35 that pertain to this work. Act 35 directs the State Board of Education (Board) to review the CEW, ECON, and FCS standards and directs the Department of Education (PDE) to develop updated resources and model curriculum aligned to standards for Personal Financial Literacy in Chapter 4. PDE must update these resources by the beginning of the 2025-26 school year and, in the future, within one year of the Board's review of these standards. Act 35 also established a new requirement for high school students to complete a half credit financial literacy course beginning in the 2026-27 school year. Dr. Williams said the Committee was mindful of the timeframes in Act

35 in preparing its recommended amendments to Chapter 4 and that the Committee recommends that new standards for Personal Finance and updated standards for CEW, ECON, and FCS take effect as a matter of classroom instruction in the 2026-27 school year.

Dr. Williams also discussed the regulatory review process and clarified next steps related to this work if the Council and, later the Board, approved the recommended amendments to Chapter 4 as a proposed rulemaking. Dr. Williams said those next steps include review and input from other state policymaker and from the public and an opportunity for the Board to determine whether to make refinements to its proposed amendments before adopting a final rulemaking.

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

Dr. Carrie Rowe, Deputy Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, provided a report on activity related to K-12 education. Dr. Rowe discussed updates to the PA Future Ready Index and designations of Annual Meaningful Differentiation, forthcoming updates to the ESSA State Report Card, and efforts to operationalize amendments to the Public School Code that were enacted by the General Assembly in December.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ACTION ITEM

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 4 (ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT)

A motion to approve proposed amendments to 22 Pa. Code Chapter 4 (Academic Standards and Assessment), as recommended by the Committee on Academic Standards/Chapter 4, and to transmit the proposed amendments to the State Board of Education for its consideration was made by Katherine Christiano and seconded by Carol Aichele.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m. on an **Aichele/Taylor** motion.

Stephanie Jones

Stephanie Jones
Administrative Assistant