

Health Content Standards Writing Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 1-2, 2025

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Bismarck Career Academy

Facilitator: Davonne Eldredge, NDDPI
Robin Lang, Consultant, former NDDPI

Meeting Convened: 8:00 AM

Meeting Adjourned: 4:30 PM

Attendance – Health Content Standards Writing Committee Members

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| • Eichmann, Austin | • Lindgren, Nicole |
| • Hahne, Kristen | • Pilon, Mary Beth |
| • Hendricks, Chelsea | • Rizzo, Michael |
| • Johnson Krug, Dr. Rachel | • Schmiedeberg, Pam |
| • Kalash, Dr. Lori | • Seyfried, Nicole |
| • Kanz, Dr. Betsy | • Swedberg, Leah |
| • Klootwyk, Kate | • Vaudrin, Madalyn |
| • Kuester, Brittany | • Wacha, Robin |

Attendance – ND Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI), Northeast Education Services Cooperative (NESC), and ND Department of Health and Human Services (NDDHHS) Members

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| • Davonne Eldredge, NDDPI | • Mikaela Schlosser, NDDHHS |
| • Robin Lang, Consultant, former NDDPI | • Sarah Massey, NDDHHS |
| • Jen Withers, NDDPI | • Sarah Scott, NDDHHS |
| • Shannon Sorenson, NDDPI | • Beth Oestreich, NDDHHS |
| • Erin Lacina, NESC | • Mallory Sattler, NDDHHS |
| • Heather Kapella, NDDHHS | • Kara Hickel, NDDHHS |
| • Melissa Markegard, NDDHHS (virtual) | • Kayla Stastny, NDDHHS |

Welcome and Introductions

Davonne Eldredge welcomed the Health Content Standards Writing Committee members and expressed gratitude to them for their service and unwavering support. She facilitated introductions of the committee members, NDDPI, NESC, and NDDHHS staff.

Welcome by Superintendent Baesler

State Superintendent Kirsten Baesler greeted the committee members and discussed the purpose of the standards creation through a recorded video.

Introductions, Overview of Roles and Responsibilities

Davonne Eldredge thanked the committee for the important work they will be doing. The committee's roles and responsibilities throughout the process were reviewed and assessed.

Introduction to Standards Development

Davonne Eldredge reviewed the purpose of content standards, design elements, ND Legislative mandates, and future selection of a Content Standards Review Committee. ND open records and open meetings laws were also reviewed.

Guiding Process for Standards Development

Ms. Eldredge discussed group working agreements, the “Fist-to-Five” method of reaching consensus, various group structures, and the use of the TEAMS site for Committee work and resources.

Presentation: Health Requirements in North Dakota Century Code and Legislative Actions

Robin Lang and Jen Withers reviewed the health requirements in the North Dakota Century Code and shared recent legislative actions regarding health from previous North Dakota legislative sessions.

Presentation: North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services

Representatives from NDDHHS shared data and trends regarding the health of North Dakota youth. They shared information from the 2023 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), the Child Fatality Review Panel, and data from the 2022 Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) Prevention Task Force Environmental Scan.

Presentation: School Profile Data

Robin Lang shared information from the 2024 Principal and Lead Health Teacher Survey, highlighting trends in health within communities and schools.

Group Discussion

The committee broke into small groups to discuss the data and legal health requirements, and discussed the trends and potential implications for the standards. The whole group then came together to share the information discussed in small groups. The information was recorded on charts. Photos of these charts were added to the TEAM.

October Meeting Tasks

Tasks for this two-day session were reviewed, and points to consider during the process were discussed, emphasizing that all standards be developmentally appropriate for ND students and reflect the ND trends and requirements discussed earlier. Ms. Eldredge reviewed the differences between standards and curriculum. She reiterated that this committee writes the standards, while the curriculum is developed within the local school district. The group was informed that the local school district sets the instructional units, lessons, and practices.

- Task 1: National standards analysis
- Task 2: Analyze comparable state and pertinent North Dakota standards (Physical Education, Computer Science and Cybersecurity, Library Media, Counseling, CTE)
- Task 3: Analyze current North Dakota standards
- Task 4: Select structural elements for the revised standards
- Task 5: Identify broad categories and goals for the revised standards
- Task 6: Identify sub-categories (if needed) for the revised standards
- Task 7: Start revising and organizing the standards

Review of Initial Survey Information

Mrs. Eldredge led a review of the survey results given to teachers in the state before the standards work. The survey identified the strengths of the current standards, opportunities for improvement, and potential topics to be embedded in the revised standards.

Task 1 Group Work

The committee broke into small groups to review the national health standards. They identified strengths and weaknesses of the standards and noted elements they may want to retain when writing the North Dakota standards.

Task 2 Group Work

The committee broke into small groups to review North Dakota standards (Physical Education, Computer Science and Cybersecurity, Library Media, CTE, Counseling) and standards from other states. They noted the strengths and weaknesses of those standards and identified aspects they may want to consider when writing the North Dakota standards.

Task 3 Group Work

The committee broke into small groups to review the current North Dakota Health Content Standards. They noted the strengths and weaknesses of those standards and identified aspects they may want to consider when revising them.

Discussion of Standards Review

The small groups reported the strengths, weaknesses, and aspects to consider based on the reviewed standards. These items were written on charts, and photos were later added to the TEAM file.

Identification of Categories

The committee broke into small groups to start identifying categories under which the standards would be grouped.

Day 1 Reflections and Day 2 Planning

Ms. Eldredge reviewed the events of the day and discussed the tasks for Day 2. The tasks completed on Day 1 were reviewed. Work on Day 2 would continue with the selection of categories.

Thursday, October 2, 2025

8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Bismarck Career Academy

Facilitator: Davonne Eldredge, NDDPI
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- Beth Oestreich, NDDHHS
- Mallory Sattler, NDDHHS
- Kara Hickel, NDDHHS
- Kayla Stastny, NDDHHS

Welcome Back and Announcements

Davonne Eldredge welcomed the group back and previewed the agenda for the day.

Day 1 Reflections

Ms. Eldredge reviewed the presentations and work from the previous day. Work would continue with identifying categories.

Identification of Categories

The committee broke into small groups to start identifying categories under which the standards would be grouped. The small groups started placing potential standards under categories to determine if they were needed. The group decided to begin writing standards and categorizing them before identifying goals or determining if subcategories were required.

Drafting Standards

The committee broke into grade-level groups to start writing standards. The groups examined current and national standards, as well as the legal requirements, when undertaking this work. The standards were arranged under categories as they were written. Clarifications of the standards were added as the groups deemed necessary. As the groups worked, information was added to the template in the TEAM file. Facilitators checked the progress of groups throughout the day.

Standards Alignment

The elementary group writers checked the alignment of the standards across levels as they were written. In the afternoon, the middle and high school groups combined to check the alignment of the standards they had written. Since the groups were at varying phases of the work, the group decided that alignment for the set of standards would be checked when the work resumed in November.

Day 2 Reflections and Planning for November Meeting

Ms. Eldredge reviewed the work completed in the two-day session. The group will review the alignment of the standards and refine the language when they return in November. They will also check the clarifications written and determine if further clarification is needed. The committee members will review other standard components (e.g., glossary, appendices) that may be necessary when the writing committee reconvenes.