



## Meeting Minutes

**Friday, September 20th, 2024 | 10 AM – 2 PM**

In-Person | WCPS's Beyond The Limits

9975 Sharptown Road, Mardela Springs, MD 21837

### Attendees

Jim Barry, Megan Bellarin, Nicole Brennick, Ashley Cotton, Delke Crouthamel, Rachel Deitch, Matt Golonka, Cara Grant, Will Gray, Erin Hager, Jason Hayes, Julie Hummer, Brad Hunter, Mackenzie Irvin, Nick Klug, Jamie King, Kilo Mack, Geoff Meehle, Eric Michael, Donyae Miles, Stephen Miller, Jason Semanoff, Leszek Sibilski, April Sigman, Crystal Snyder, Britta Sparks, Nick Thompson, Christiana Walsh, Suzannah Ward, and Amy Wiley.

### Greetings and Introductions

**10:15 AM**

*Nicholas Thompson, Co-Chair*

- Called to order
- Member introductions
- Reviewed and approved the Spring 2024 minutes
  - Motion to approve Geoff Meehle; Seconded by Christiana Walsh.
  - The motion was unanimously approved as written.

### World Bicycle Day

**10:20 AM**

*Leszek Sibilski, Global Lead and Founder of the World Bicycle Day Initiative/Campaign*

- The United Nations General Assembly Resolution approved by all member states is celebrated on June 3rd, and everyone is encouraged to participate.
- UNESCO's Executive Board has adopted "Bicycle For All," highlighting the importance of bicycles for sustainable development and healthy lifestyles.

### Maryland State Department of Education Update

**10:43 AM**

*Jason Semanoff, Director of Comprehensive Health and Physical Education*

- Membership update—Member organizations were invited to nominate someone to serve a 3-year term this summer. 41 of a possible 44 seats have been filed.
- Standards and Frameworks Validation Committees (SFVCs)—The State Superintendent has developed new policies and procedures to revise, readopt, or polish the existing standards and frameworks. After a rigorous and thorough application process, 12 applicants from each content area were chosen to participate in this work. Additional details can be found on the new SFVC web pages.
  - [Health Education SFVC](#)
  - [Physical Education SFVC](#)
- Other Information—Governor Moore proclaimed May 1-7 National PE and Sport Week. MSDE is seeking a proclamation for National Health Education Week (October 21-25) and encourages LEAs to participate in [SOPHE's webinars](#). Walk Maryland Day is Wednesday, October 2, and

Walk & Roll to School Day is Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. Please encourage your teachers and schools to participate and register.

- Data sharing—In response to the Council's concerns about the health education teacher workforce, MSDE's Office of Accountability provided the data points below. However, the data is limited by how LEAs code their classes and advertise their vacant positions.
  - In 2023, there were 1,840 health education teachers of record, of whom 1,072 taught outside their area of licensure. Of those certificated/licensed, 26 held conditional certificates, with the majority, 582, holding advanced professional certificates.
  - There are 15 national board-certified health education teachers (Health Education Early adolescence through young adulthood).
  - 28 health education teacher vacancies were reported to MSDE in 2023, a slight increase over previous years (10 in 2021 and 23.4 in 2022).
  - In 2023, there were 12 health education teacher education program completors, 9 of whom participated in a dual certification program.
  - While several health education teacher education programs at Maryland's IHEs are under development (Towson, Loyola, UMD), as of August, there is only one approved program.
- On behalf of the council, the Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Branch is seeking an opportunity to share this data at an upcoming deans and directors meeting.
- Also, on behalf of the council, the Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Branch seeks to expand the health education teacher workforce via an exhibit at MSDE's [Teach Maryland Conference](#).

#### **SHAPE Maryland & SHAPE America Update**

**11:01 AM**

*Geoff Meehle, Past President*

- Membership remains free.
- The award ceremony will be held on October 26 from 6 to 9 PM at the Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel.
- SHAPE America's national convention will take place in Baltimore from April 1 to 5. Please consider attending and/or dedicating funds for teachers to attend.
- The board is seeking passionate, dedicated, growth-minded health and physical education professionals to serve on the board.
- Demo schools and the HEIL program are being updated.
- The 2025 and 2026 State conventions will occur at the Ashore in Ocean City.

#### **Council Business**

**11:13 AM**

*Nicholas Thompson, Co-Chair*

- Discussed the need for communication with the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics to advocate for pediatricians to complete an LEA's "Medical Allowances and Limitations Form" when a student is temporarily unable to FULLY participate in physical activity. The group then revised a letter that can be used to communicate with the president of the MCAAP.

- Members drafted a list of potential talking points for the co-chairs' meeting with MSDE leadership.
  - SEL is embedded in the health and physical standards and frameworks and can be referred to as a tier 1 intervention.
  - How can health and physical education be better represented on the Maryland Report Card?
  - Blueprint implications—Class sizes, funding for instructional materials, and teacher qualifications have been adversely affected in many LEAs. How can we course correct and refocus on educating the whole child?
- To fill the co-chair seat that was vacated this summer, April Sigman (BCPS proxy) nominated Kirsten Roller to fulfill the remaining part of the 2-year term (Fall 2024-Spring 2025).
  - The motion was seconded by Jim Barry and unanimously approved.

#### All Member Update

12:05 PM

- Maryland State School Health Council—Received federal funding to develop a policy toolkit to support best practices related to recess.
- SHAPE America—Collaborated with Booster to help Health and PE teachers/programs raise awareness and funds.
- Special Olympics Maryland—The Polar Bear Plunge for schools is now two days long. Their Health LEAP project will be published in January.
- Maryland's IHEs—Developing a future professional series of webinars to assist PETE and HETE students in their transition to the workforce.

#### Public Comment

12:16 PM

- None

#### Facility Tour\*

12:17 PM

*Lauren Karrh, Wicomico County Public Schools*

- Members had the opportunity to tour the facility, and some chose to participate in one or more of the elements.

#### Closing Remarks

1:58 PM

*Nicholas Thompson, Co-Chair*

- Members were asked to complete the survey/evaluation.

\* Optional