



**State of Vermont
Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind Advisory Council
School Age Subcommittee**

June 1, 2022, 12 pm – 1:30 pm

Meeting Summary

Present: Co-chairs Sherry Sousa and Sharon Henry; Laura Siegel; Jacqui Kelleher; Tracy Hinck; Jen Bostwick; Rebecca LaLanne

Absent: Amelia Briggs

Invited Stakeholder: none

AGENDA

Welcome & Intro:

- Accepted meeting summary from 05/25/2022 (by committee vote)
Note: these summaries along with the closed captioning meeting transcript are posted to: [Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind Council | Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living \(vermont.gov\)](https://dail.vermont.gov/resources/boards/deaf-hard-hearing-deafblind-council). (<https://dail.vermont.gov/resources/boards/deaf-hard-hearing-deafblind-council>)

Discussion of Working Draft of Quality Standards based on NASDSE (55 min) – Sherry/All

All Committee members discussed and revised the remaining portions of the “Vermont Quality Indicator Tool for DHHDB Services.” All revisions are complete at this time.

Decide/discuss how do we disperse the other work that needs to go into the document– (10 min) – Sherry/All

The group discussed the list below of items to include in the appendices.

- 1) Communication/Language Plan – all agreed to include this. Jen will forward a copy to Sharon
- 2) AAA guidelines (#7 pages 19-28 addresses Implementation and Validation Procedures) – Tracy has provided this to Sharon



- 3) Template for classroom observations – Jen emailed Sharon the link
- 4) Template for educational session of General Education teachers – the group decided there is not an adequate resource to include for this activity at this time.
- 5) Template for functional evaluation in the classroom, other environments – Tracy to send the link to Sharon
- 6) Recommended list of reliable, valid tools for assessing children (3-22 yo) who are DHHDB (see Appendix E, page 64 of “Guidelines for Working with Students Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Virginia Public Schools” as one list of possibilities) – not discussed today
- 7) Definitions for Qualified Providers/professionals of DHHDB services
 - a. For Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (TODHH):
 - Jen will send link to endorsement.
 - Also see Transcript Review Worksheet from AOE:
(<https://education.vermont.gov/documents/edu-educator-quality-transcript-review-worksheet-teacher-hard-hearing>)
 - b. Audiologist
 - Office of Professional Regulation (OPR) VT licensure:
<https://sos.vermont.gov/audiologists/>
 - ASHA link (Tracy will send to Sharon)
 - c. Speech Language Pathologist
 - AOE: <https://education.vermont.gov/educator-licensure/become-a-vermont-educator/speech-language-pathologists>
 - OPR: <https://sos.vermont.gov/speech-language-pathologist/>
 - d. Educational Interpreter
 - ASL proficiency tests (e.g., determine proficiency of qualified ASL Interpreters
 - Recommended to have a score of 4.0 on the EIPA proficiency test
 - e. Communication Facilitator – still need to define minimum qualifications.
- 8) Qualifications of reviewers who would review evidence submitted based on use of the Quality Indicator tool

The group brainstormed that a review committee of about five to six members would be ideal. The qualified committee members would consist of a TODHH, Audiologist, SLP, Deaf community member, a DeafBlind community member and could consist of experts outside of Vermont.
- 9) Evaluation scale to judge the quality and merit of the evidence submitted by DHHDB providers through use of this tool



Sharon provided the rationale and framework for the scoring scale. At the June 7 meeting, the group will discuss the language used to anchor the scale and make other revisions as needed.

- 10) Recommended list of reliable, valid tools for assessing children (3-22 yo) who are DHHDB (see Appendix E, page 64 of “Guidelines for Working with Students Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Virginia Public Schools” as one list of possibilities) – The group did not discuss this; we need to decide if we still want to include this.

Update: Additional assessment tools/resources (10 mins) – Sharon/ All

- Jen indicated that in the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind document pages 39-54 are worth reviewing for Student Academic Outcomes and for Outreach Programs. This agenda item was not discussed given time was short; we will take this up on 6/7/2022.

Other dates for stakeholders? (5 mins) – All

- Jacqui shared that Dawn Campbell and Lisa Johnson will join the meeting on June 7. LEA Special Education Teacher/Case Manager Cassie Santos has provided written feedback which Jacqui forwarded to the group to review.

Meeting transcript also available.