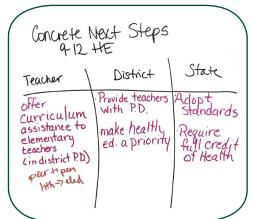




Heidi Shaw, RN, LSN Licensed School Nurse Athens City Schools/ Athens City School District OH Senate District 30, OH House District 94

Molly Wales, RN, BSN, LSN Licensed School Nurse Athens City Schools/Athens City School District OH Senate District 30, OH House District 94





Steven McCollum High School Health Education Teacher 9th_12th

Athens City High School/ Athens City School District OH Senate District 30, OH House District 94

Recently, health educators, school nurses, and guidance counselors in Southeast Ohio met to discuss short-term visions of health education in their schools, along with next steps to take (see callout figures for examples of both). Notably, all described the potential of health education to help youth develop into healthy, capable and worthwhile citizens who are connected to their families, peers, and communities.

They all also advocated for Ohio lawmakers to adopt standards for health education to enhance the credibility of schools as a resource for teaching health. Findings from a study of Ohio's health educators¹ also support adopting state health education standards.

 Standards would encourage using updated, evidence-based health education curriculum and refocus efforts for ongoing health skill development.

Study results: Health educators report using outdated curriculum; having limited access to professional development; and relying on non-credentialed speakers for teaching. Standards would help facilitate a renewal in using modern curriculum and teaching methods.

• Standards would offer state and local legitimacy for schools to educate youth on health topics by clarifying what students will learn.

Study results: Heath educators seriously doubt that state and local policy makers value health education. Guidance from the state through standards would validate teaching youth skills to make lifelong healthy choices.

• Standards would provide guidance for schools to provide developmentally appropriate K-12 health education that meets Ohio's requirements.

Study results: Currently, Ohio schools are not meeting the minimum requirements for health education. Standards would support consistently teaching health skills across grade levels.

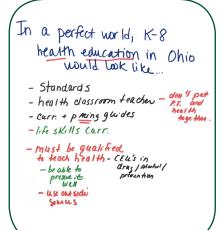
¹ Raffle, H., Ware, L. J., Lorson, K., & Blinsky, B. (2017). Portrait of middle and high school health education in Ohio. Paper presented at the convention of the Ohio Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, Sandusky,

P.D. = Professional Development; HLTH ED/H.E. Curr.=health education curriculum; DLT=district level team; K-8=kindergarten to eighth grade; P.E.=physical education; HOPE=Health and Opioid Abuse Prevention Education curriculum; C.E.U.s = Continuing Education Units

For more information, contact: Kevin Lorson, Professor

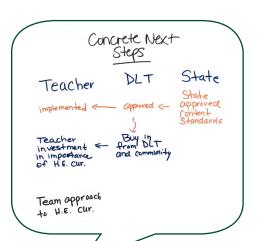
Wright State University, kevin.lorson@wright.edu Created: March 2018

THE MESSAGE IS CLEAR: WE NEED STATEWIDE **HEALTH EDUCATION STANDARDS**





Jordan Hill Lifeskills teacher 6th-8th grades Alexander Local Schools/ Alexander Local School District OH Senate District 30, OH House District 94





Karen Kubota Curriculum Director/Special **Education Director** Fort Frye Local School District OH Senate District 30, OH House District 95