

NORTH SANPETE SCHOOL DISTRICT
HEALTH CURRICULUM MATERIALS REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
September 1, 2026

Minutes of the North Sanpete School District Health Curriculum Materials Review Committee meeting held Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at the North Sanpete School District Office, 220 East 700 South, Mt. Pleasant, Utah. Assistant Superintendent Rena Orton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Committee members present were Jessica Hall, parent of a high school student; Jenna Hansen, parent of elementary and middle school students; Lacey Daniels, parent of elementary and high school students; Kenzie Larsen, parent of an elementary school student; Jeremy Madsen, school board member and parent of a high school student; and Rena Orton, Assistant Superintendent.

Others present were Principals Christy Straatman and Ryan Syme; Vice Principal Bryan Holder; Secretary Brittany Stubbs; Katie Hopkins; Taylor Christensen; Angela Thompson; and Lacey Rosenlof.

Fifth-Grade Health Curriculum Materials

Mrs. Orton reviewed the fifth-grade maturation program and reported that the curriculum has not changed. School nurses Mindy Brotherson and Shauna Rawlinson present the program for female students, and a male physician or physician assistant presents the program for male students. Parents are invited to attend. No questions or concerns were expressed.

Middle School Health Curriculum Materials

Mrs. Hopkins reported that the middle school health and sex education curriculum has not changed. The state updated its health curriculum standards in June 2026, adding content concerning skills for a successful life.

Parents receive the Utah State Board of Education consent form and have two weeks to decide whether their student will participate. Students who do not participate in the four-day sex education unit complete an alternative healthy-relationships assignment and receive the same credit. Parents may also request the instructional materials for use at home. No questions or concerns were expressed.

High School Health Curriculum Materials

Mrs. Christensen reported that the high school health and sex education curriculum has not changed. Parents receive a consent form and have two weeks to indicate whether their student may participate in all or part of the five-day unit. Students excused from sex education may still participate in healthy-relationships instruction that does not contain sex education content.

Mrs. Hall raised concerns about Slide 19 in Mr. Whipple's materials, including its discussion of nature and nurture and terminology she considered inappropriate. Mrs. Straatman agreed that the slide should be removed or revised. Staff agreed to correct it before the materials are presented to the Board of Education for approval.

Mrs. Hall also identified an Instagram video link she was unable to access. Mrs. Orton explained that teachers, rather than students, open and present linked videos. The video will be reviewed for accessibility and appropriate content.

Public Comment and Additional Discussion

Mrs. Daniels asked how the district handles student requests involving different gender pronouns or gender transition. Mrs. Orton explained that these matters are referred to school administration and handled according to applicable law and District Policy E-53, including parent-notification requirements.

Mrs. Daniels also asked whether sex education classes include content parents cannot review. Mrs. Christensen explained that students may submit anonymous questions, but teachers answer only those they are legally permitted to address. Questions that raise concerns are referred to administration, and parents are contacted as appropriate.

No other public comments were offered.

Committee Recommendation

Mrs. Orton asked whether there were objections to recommending the proposed health curriculum materials to the North Sanpete Board of Education.

Mrs. Larsen, Mrs. Daniels, and Mrs. Hansen expressed support. Mrs. Hall also expressed support, contingent upon correction of the identified slide and review of the Instagram video. No other objections were stated.

Based on the committee's responses, the proposed fifth-grade, middle school, and high school health curriculum materials will be forwarded to the Board of Education with a recommendation for approval, subject to the identified corrections and review. Final approval or adoption will be considered by the Board at a future public meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Post-Meeting Administrative Follow-Up

On September 2, 2026, following the committee meeting, Slide 19 in Mr. Whipple's presentation was revised, and all Instagram video links were removed. Mrs. Straatman and Mrs. Orton reviewed the revised slides for compliance. The parent who raised the concerns was notified of these changes on September 2, 2026.

This note documents administrative follow-up on the revisions discussed during the September 1, 2026, meeting and was not part of the committee's proceedings.