

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Standards and Regulations Sub-Committee**  
**PIECES**  
**March 10, 2003**  
**Amended**

Members present: Beth Hall, Jim Reddick, Mary Chipps, Pat Gracey, Sandra Walsh.

**Meeting Summary**

Update on legislative happenings. Family home and day care centers rule passed. WV Pre-K remains in tact. Governor's Cabinet on Children and Families will be studied.

Unsure whether or not there was a lead poison screening bill passed.

Discussion and work on completing goal number 1.1 on establishing minimum standards for early care and education programs. The committee has decided that the document will give a basic statement of programs complying with existing rules which apply to them and then adding standards which are minimal but not included in all rules. Topics discussed were playgrounds/fences, background checks, pickup/dropoff supervision.

The committee will recommend that the minimum staff:child ratio for four year olds be 1:10. This will require a change to the child care center regulations. (Tabled: will discuss at next meeting.)

Question the committee needs to research: Do Head Start centers that are not licensed do background checks? Has there been a change in the role or function of the OEPA? Is there any identified problem related to accessibility for any birth – 5 program for which a minimum standard needs to be written?

Discussion on the streamlining and cross training of regulatory staff – to be further addressed as we move on to other goals. The committee would like DHHR regulatory staff to be aware of health and fire regulations so that a referral could be made to them when a concern is spotted in programs that are not routinely inspected by fire or health.

Members discussed collaboration efforts in which they are involved.

Question for technical assistance team: If a faith based program wants to participate in WV Pre-K, can they supplement the curriculum with religious instruction? Is prayer or religious symbols okay?

Next meeting the committee will develop a recommendation for how the DHHR and OEPA will work together on the WV Pre-K classrooms.

Next meeting is April 14, 2003, Flatwoods DHHR, room 6. Meeting time is planned for 10-3.