
Repeal Mental Health Standards and Guidelines Policy 4.209

The Background:

The State Board of Education's Mental Health Standards and Guidelines Policy 4.209 provides guidelines on improving student achievement by reducing fragmentation of services and aligning and integrating mental health services to children.

This policy has not been updated since 2009. Since then, with the support of the Tennessee General Assembly and Governor Bill Lee, the State has made unprecedented investments in student mental health and well-being. As part of those efforts, new and revised policies and programs have superseded the recommendations listed in this policy.

Therefore, this item repeals the policy. The guidelines and recommendations contained in this policy are now included in and fully addressed by other policies and Department programs, most significantly the Coordinated School Health Program Policy 4.204, School Counseling Model and Standards Policy 5.103, and Project AWARE.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

Connection to the [Master Plan](#):

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Engagement and Accountability outlined in the Master Plan by identifying policies for review and update based on opportunities to improve outcomes.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.