

**Minutes for the TOPSS Committee Zoom Meeting
August 21, 2023, 7:30 PM Eastern time**

Participating on call: Terri Lindenberg, Virginia Welle, Natasha Alson, Julie Gowans, Emily Polacek, Melissa Rogers, Tony Puente, Jenni Redifer, Emily Leary Chesnes, Aliza Epstein, Sue Orsillo

Unable to participate: Dana Melone, Jennifer Thompson, Debra Kawahara

Recent Events in Florida Regarding the AP Psychology Course

The Committee was provided with a brief overview of APA's responses to recent events related to the teaching of sexual orientation and gender in Florida and the AP psychology course. Next steps: Sue suggested that staff gather statements to share with the Committee to inform next steps. Advocacy tools from APA will be shared in the next TOPSS chair eblast.

TOPSS Lesson Plan Discussion

The Committee was provided with a summary of the discussion from July on the lesson plans. Committee members had each reviewed lesson plans since the last call.

- Overall, small updates are needed to many of the lesson plans, and EDI needs to be better infused across many of the lessons.
- At least one activity from the Consciousness unit should be removed. Some activities are fine to keep and some need updating. A few lesson plans could benefit from updated activities.
- The Committee discussed how TOPSS should prioritize lesson plan revisions in the 2024 workplan relative to other initiatives. Updating these lessons to address EDI issues should be a priority for any potential next steps. The new EDI project materials could be integrated into these revisions.
- In general, we want to make resources easy for new teachers to access. Having one resource with EDI content and activities together would be most helpful.
- This is difficult work, but the work has started through the TOPSS reviews.

Next steps: Staff will consult with Terri on next steps to advance this work and share options with the Committee to consider.

TOPSS Priorities for 2024

In preparation for drafting a 2024 TOPSS workplan, the committee was asked to start brainstorming on progress made in 2023, what additional work is needed to advance this year's priorities in 2024, and if there are other priorities to address next year.

The Committee should consider what goals TOPSS has for 2024 and what unique needs TOPSS members have. A strategic planning retreat was mentioned as a possibility to help TOPSS determine what it might want to do or focus on for the future.

Next call and TOPSS Elections

The Committee agreed to hold a 90-minute call on Monday, September 18, 2023, and a possible 90-minute call on Monday, October 16. Both calls will start at 7:30 PM eastern.

The TOPSS elections opened on August 21; Committee members were encouraged to vote.