



## CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & PROTECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Virtual meeting via Google Meet: [meet.google.com/jes-tsyo-nqy](https://meet.google.com/jes-tsyo-nqy)

Join by phone: (US) +1 470-400-5676 PIN: 775 812 402#

March 11, 2021

12:00pm – 1:00pm

### In attendance:

#### Members

Alicia Mezu  
Camille Burke  
Cassie Shirk  
Christina Drushel-Williams  
Megan Latshaw  
Kristen Rawlett  
Kelly Love  
Laura Allen  
Ruth Vriend  
Eamon Flynn (staff)  
Cliff Mitchell  
Nse Witherspoon  
Dianna Abney  
Jovonne Walker  
Ben Gitterman

#### Guests

Veronika Carella  
Hannah Donart  
Kirsten Jackson  
Fred Mason  
Laura Stewart

### Meeting Minutes

- Report out by Kristen Rawlett on ad-hoc group looking at guidance pertaining to schools, reopening during the COVID-19 pandemic, and environmental health. Looking at both home and school environments.
  - Home:
    - Encouraging annual flu vaccinations
    - addressing asthma risk factors, obesity.
    - Hand/cough hygiene continues to be important, especially when isolation is challenging.
    - Minimizing screen time outside of school time, especially when using virtual technology for schooling. Encouraging hard-wired (ethernet) internet instead of WiFi.

- Schools:
  - Use of green cleaning products
  - HVAC ventilation/air exchange

#### CEJSC bills of interest

- HB 1310 – Would require commission to make funding decisions from host of state funding sources. CEJSC submitted LOI with concerns about the scope of the bill and CEJSC’s capacity to undertake what was required in the bill. **Eamon to distribute to group.**
- Dates for 2021 have been set
- SB 674 – Alters membership of CEJSC.
- Have not had a chance to discuss potential follow-up from joint CEHPAC/CEJSC meeting in December.

#### HB 1204– Equity in Transportation (Megan Latshaw)

- Crossfile has been introduced
- Motion to approve HB 1204 letter of support as edited by Laura Allen (Megan Latshaw), seconded by Laura Allen.
- Noted that COVID is not addressed, as many front-line workers depend on public transportation
- Motion passed with none opposed. Chair Mitchell, Kelly Love abstain.
- Request that letter be sent to Camille Burke and Devon Dodson for CEJSC to consider.

#### HB 82 – Constitutional Amendment (Megan Latshaw)

- Similar letter sent in past two years.
- Motion that CEHPAC accept the letter for HB 82 and SB 151 (Dianna Abney), seconded by Camille Burke
- Editorial correction
- Motion passed with none opposed. Chair Mitchell, Kelly Love abstain.
- Request that letter be sent to Camille Burke and Devon Dodson for CEJSC to consider.

#### Meeting minutes

- Camille motions to approve the minutes from 2/9/21. Seconded by Kristen Rawlett.
- Discussion of inclusion of comments made by the public.
- Motion passed, none opposed.
- Legislative call was a working session in which no action items were discussed.

Laura Allen motions to open discussion on two documents submitted to CEHPAC by Hannah Donart. Seconded by Kristen Rawlett.

- Motions were discussed and supported by schools ad-hoc group

- Kelly Love notes that the MD Public School IPM regulation specifically states that a pesticide is not defined as an antimicrobial agent, such as a disinfectant, sanitizer, or deodorizer, used for cleaning purposes is not considered a pesticide in the IPM Plans. The regulation is cited here: 15.05.02.02.B.8.b.i [copied below].

“(b) "Pesticide" does not include:

An antimicrobial agent, such as a disinfectant, sanitizer, or deodorizer, used for cleaning purposes; or”

- Discussion on whether use of an agent as a viricide would still be considered “cleaning purposes.”
- Schools using foggers to disinfect spaces is covered under the IPM law. 10.05.02.07. Further discussion about whether schools have established an IPM.
- Inclusion of IPM may be confusing the issue, rather than focusing on use of green cleaning products and explaining further what makes a product safer to use and availability of safer cleaning agents that are still on List-N of the EPA.
- Suggestion to table the motion until people are able to review and revise the motion. Noted that this information is time-sensitive and may need to be voted on before next meeting.

Motion that Council is directing the chair to reach out to the MSDE for a specific focused discussion around the implementation of the green cleaning law (Kristen Rawlett, seconded by Megan Latshaw).

- Request that next meeting be rescheduled to be sooner.
- Motion passed with none against. Cliff Mitchell and Kelly Love abstain.

## **Public Comments**

- Requested that CEHPAC act on two motions based on ask of MSDE in 2015 and 2016. CEHPAC is statutorily obligated to advise. HR 1319 sets aside funds for schools, need to ensure money go to schools that need it the most. Without data these two motions are asking for, cannot determine how to disseminate funding in an equitable way. Disappointed that CEHPAC was not able to pass two motions.
- Veronika Carella: The new federal stimulus bill (HR 1319) sets aside \$122.8 Billion dollars for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund. I will argue that that money should be spent to improve school IAQ (e.g. HVAC systems and maintenance), water and removal of known hazards. School level data is needed to determine the greatest need and fair distribution of Maryland's portion of the School Emergency Relief Fund. The two motions speak to closing the data gaps, addressing long standing EJ disparity issues documented in the MD HiAP 2019 Final Report - Data Sharing initiative and are consistent with CEHPAC duties and past requests to state agencies.
- Laura Stewart wished to make a comment but had difficulty with her microphone.

Request that second motion on indoor air quality be tabled for future discussion.

Megan Latshaw, Ben Gitterman motioned to adjourn. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously and the meeting concluded at 1:07pm.