

## Teaching and School Administration Professional Standards Advisory Board

It is the mission of the Teaching and School Administration Professional Standards Advisory Board to promote excellence in the education profession and develop and review professional standards to ensure quality preparation and continued professional growth experiences.

Kansas State Department of Education

### OFFICIAL MINUTES

April 18, 2016 10:00 a.m.

Kansas State Department of Education, 900 SW Jackson Street, Room 102, Topeka, KS

#### 1. Call meeting to order

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Deb Mercer, Chair.

#### 2. Roll call

Attending: Shelley Addis, Kathryn Beougher, Christina Carlson, Amy Compton, Paul Erickson, Jamie Finkeldei, Jonathan Goering, Keith Jones, Gwen Landever, Deb Mercer, Rudy Perez, Kyle Stadalman, Kathy Wagoner, Mike Wilson, Maria Worthington

Absent: Adam Bancroft, Tammy Bartels, Bill Biermann, PJ Reilly, Rod Stewart

KSBE: Jim Porter

KSDE: Scott Myers, Susan Helbert, Catherine Chmidling, Jenna Cook, Jan Williams

#### 3. Approval of Agenda

**Motion:** It was M/S (Perez/Finkeldei) to approve the agenda with these clerical errors. Item II C. should be changed to an action item and Item II H. should be an information only item. Motion carried.

#### 4. Approval of Minutes

**Motion:** It was M/S (Addis/Goering) to approve the minutes of February 1, 2016. Motion carried.

#### 5. Open Forum

No one was available to speak at the open forum.

#### 6. New Business

##### Announcements

Scott Myers reported on the new proposed accreditation system. As said before, the first year of the implementation would be a "zero" year. Districts should review the 5R's document to begin the transition phase. They can start by identifying where the district is at and what resources are already on hand. Jim Porter added that as a superintendent the new system is welcomed and will be good for the state.

Myers also reported on Commissioner Randy Watson's Blue Ribbon Task Force that Rudy Perez is co-chairing with Ken Weaver, Emporia State University. Twenty-six members will be looking at teacher shortages and retention. The committee has had their first meeting and are diving into their work. Paul Erickson asked if any first or second year teachers were on the task force and shared the professional development experiences that impacted his career decisions.

##### Online Applications

Susan Helbert was unable to demonstrate the new online licensure applications live due to personally identifiable information, but she did show the committee where the applications were housed on the agency website and how to access the public authenticated applications to register. She reviewed general

instructions for both the applicant and district personnel that must complete a section of some applications that included screen shots of important steps. The newest online applications were launched in mid-March.

#### Educational Testing Service (ETS), Cut Score Setting

Cory Murphy, ETS Client Relations Director for Kansas, provided a summary of licensure testing including the purposes for testing and how tests are developed. He explained that all states require licensure testing to ensure knowledge is gained and retained by the educator. Murphy's purpose for attending the PSB was to lead members through the process of setting passing scores for Kansas for two tests, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and Latin. The ESOL assessment just completed the test regeneration process. Latin is a test new to Kansas. Multiple states participated in a multi-state standard setting study by sending participants to be panel members for both tests. The panel studies result in a technical report that includes a recommended study value (RSV) for states to use when considering the cut score for their state. In addition to the recommended study value, states should also consider any other available data when setting a cut score. Discussion on the ESOL cut score included the fact that the largest number of candidates add the ESOL endorsement by testing as there is a high need in the classroom. Committee members commented that Kansas' cut score for this test was pretty low. A motion was made by Paul Erickson, seconded by Jonathan Goering to set the cut score for the ESOL licensure test at 143, which was 2 Standard Errors of Measure (SEM) below the RSV. Discussion prevailed and it was stated that Kansas hadn't had to lower a cut score in recent history. Vote was 7 yes and 7 no. Motion did not carry. Mike Wilson made a motion to set the cut score at 155 – the RSV. Rudy Perez seconded the motion and the motion failed 3 yes and 11 no. Keith Jones stated that there is a high need for ESOL in his building.

**Motion:** It was M/S (Finkeldei/Addis) that Kansas set the cut score for the ESOL test at 149 (-1 SEM). Motion carried unanimously.

The Latin content test has been in existence and Kansas has a few districts teaching Latin but KS has not yet adopted or set cut scores for the test. The content test is a regulation requirement for licensure, so thus the need to set a cut score for state board adoption.

**Motion:** It was M/S (Erickson/Beougher) that Kansas set the cut score at 155 (-1SEM). Motion carried unanimously.

Members also indicated that data on test scores/results for regenerated tests should be reviewed on a regular basis to monitor whether any adjustments should be made to cut scores. Murphy also provided information on a new Content Knowledge for Teaching Elementary test ETS has developed. This is a potential replacement for the current elementary test. He was asked if ETS had a PreK-6 Elementary test but they do not offer one at this time.

#### Program Standards

Catherine Chmidling had previously emailed information to committee members regarding licensure program standards that are out for public comment, Biology and Earth and Space Science. Maria Worthington stated she had sent the standards to colleagues for review and hadn't heard back but they were still out for comment. It was decided that the committee would review the licensure program standards after the public comment period had closed.

#### New Appointment to Regulations Committee

Nathan McAlister was nominated by Kansas National Education Association (KNEA) to fill a vacancy on the Regulations Committee representing secondary teachers.

**Motion:** It was M/S (Worthington/Finkeldei) to approve Nathan McAlister to the regulation committee. Motion carried unanimously.

### Reappointments to Evaluation Review Committee (ERC), Policies and Procedures (P&P), and Regulations Committee (Regs)

ERC – Lori Cook Benjamin to her second full 3-year term to run from July 1, 2016 until June 30, 2019.

ERC – Beverly Furlong to her second full 3-year term to run from July 1, 2016 until June 30, 2019.

ERC – Allen Jantz to his second full 3-year term to run from July 1, 2016 until June 30, 2019.

ERC – Cheryl Reding to her second full 3-year term to run from July 1, 2016 until June 30, 2019.

P&P – Deborah Holloway to her second full 3-year term to run from July 1, 2016 until June 30, 2019.

P&P – Beth Maloun to her second full 3-year term to run from July 1, 2016 until June 30, 2019.

Regs – Paul Erickson to his second full 3-year term to run from July 1, 2016 until June 30, 2019.

Regs – Marlysue Holmquist to her second full 3-year term to run from July 1, 2016 until June 30, 2019.

Regs – Royce Powelson to his second full 3-year term to run from July 1, 2016 until June 30, 2019.

Regs – Ruth DeLange to her first full 3-year term to run from July 1, 2016 until June 30, 2019.

**Motion:** It was M/S (Addis/Perez) to approve all reappointments to the standing committees. Motion carried unanimously.

### Program Standards Issue: CTE/Content Areas

All content areas are pathed correctly. Art has been fixed. Susan and Jay Scott, Assistant Director of Career Standards and Assessment Services, are continuing efforts to refine the Licensed Personnel Guide that aligns assignments to license endorsements/certificates, especially for assignments in the pathways.

### Middle Level Endorsements

Most Institutes of Higher Education (IHEs) have dropped their middle level teacher educator programs and programs are now PreK-6 and 6-12. Currently we are working on a new license for middle level generalist. Do we need teacher preparation programs for middle level or should middle level be added by testing? Questions about what middle level licenses are available today. Questions about how school buildings are organized. It appears most 6, 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> grades are in the same school with 5<sup>th</sup> grade remaining in the elementary school. Committee members said that there is movement into middle level positions and it would give smaller districts more flexibility in filling positions. Susan said there would be more flexibility with secondary teachers who can teach 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade. There is a Praxis test available for middle level generalist. The committee asked for information on which IHEs offer middle level programs.

### PreK-12/IHE Partnership Committee: Showcase

Several IHEs and districts have formed partnerships but a number of districts do not have any contact or connection with a university or college. Would it be possible to showcase IHEs to all districts so that new relationships could be formed? The committee would like to continue the discussion of this item.

### Restricted Licensure for Elementary

Anyone with a degree could be a candidate for the restricted program. Concerns were brought up immediately about classroom management and harming young children without the proper training. Kathy Wagner stated that the lack of a qualified teacher in the elementary years could cause issues for the middle level and secondary instructors. Continued discussion was directed to the Blue Ribbon Task Force and the shortage of elementary teachers this year. Paul said that with over 60,000 licensed educators it is clear we need to “fix the problem” not provide a “fix” for the problem. One of the concerns was the mentoring of new teachers. It has no consistency and is different in every district. Jim asked what should be done when no one applies for the vacant position. It was decided that there is a need to protect the profession but at the same time provide some flexibility. Chair Mercer said the vacancy data needed to be reviewed as there are 16,000 licensed elementary teachers and only 25 unfilled positions. Perhaps working after retirement without being penalized will be readdressed by the task force. The committee does not want to offer restricted licensure for elementary education.

### Micro-credentialing

Could professional learning and a change in the way we manage PDC points work with licensure? Who would issue the micro-credentials? IHEs? Districts? Discussion on any advantages/disadvantages when hiring, could help find the right person. Chair Mercer said that her institution has offered classes without credit so that the focus work is documented on the transcript. Gwen stated that this would give educators another avenue to continue learning without having to earn another degree. Paul thought it would be a way to tie into the State Board's mission. Kyle Stadalman wondered how teachers would find the additional time for a focus study. The response was positive and the committee would like to start exploring micro-credentials.

## **7. Continuing Business**

### Mentoring Update

Applicants have been banking the mentoring for licensure upgrades. Staff is dealing with issues individually with the districts. Kelly Slaton is the consultant working with mentoring. For best results, mentoring should be ongoing over multiple years. Please give names to Scott if you know of any mentoring dilemmas.

### Next Year's Goals

Scott asked the committee to begin thinking about what they would like to look at next year.

## **8. Standing Committee Reports**

### Executive Board

Chair Mercer said the board reviewed the agenda and made corrections. If you have any agenda items please forward them to Deb or Scott.

### State Board of Education

Jim stated that current politics are hurting kids and he encouraged members to vote.

### Teacher Licensure and Accreditation Leadership

Scott said we continually try to fill vacancies on our committees. We are also experiencing a decline in attendance which could result in members being removed for excessive absences. He also said that at this time he didn't foresee an increase in license fees.

### Regulations Committee

Susan said the group is struggling with scheduling meetings and attendance at meetings but they have made progress.

### Evaluation Review Committee

Catherine reported that the committee will meet on Thursday, April 21. Four universities went through program review and four other institutions have new or revised programs for the committee to review.

### Policies and Procedures Committee

The committee has decided to meet twice a year. According to Catherine, they met on April 1 to look at the Handbook for Program Review and Accreditation and made a few changes.

### Licensure Review Committee

The committee has a vacancy for district leader representation. Jenna said the case numbers are still down and meetings are only lasting one day. They will continue to streamline the process.

## **9. Adjournment**

**Motion:** It was M/S (Goering/Erickson) to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.