

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

June 18, 2015, 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 10:02 a.m. by Deb Mercer, Chair.

2. Roll call

Attending: Shelley Addis, Adam Bancroft, Tammy Bartels, Kathryn Beougher, Nick Compagnone, Amy Compton, Paul Erickson, Jonathan Goering, Gwen Landever, Deb Mercer, Denise O’Dea, Michele Perez, Rudy Perez, Kathy Wagoner, Mike Wilson

Absent: Kate Thompson

KSBE: Jim Porter

KSDE: Scott Myers, Susan Helbert, TJ Boeckman, Catherine Chmidling, Jenna Cook, Diana Stephan

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion: It was M/S (Wagoner/Wilson) to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes of April 13, 2015

Motion: It was M/S (R. Perez/Addis) to approve the minutes of April 13, 2015. Motion carried.

5. Open Forum

No one was available to speak at the open forum.

6. New Business

Opportunity for announcements

There were no announcements. Items B, C, and D under New Business will be addressed later in the meeting. Scott shared that the agenda items relating to the Standards will need to be approved by the Standards Board first and then will go to the State Board for approval. A template has been developed by a workgroup that will now be used when reviewing program standards.

New appointment to the Policies and Procedures Committee (P&P)

Motion: It was M/S (R. Perez/Erickson) to nominate Bill Biermann to the Policies and Procedures Committee as the representative of the Professional Standards Board (PSB) administrator to replace Denise O’Dea who will complete two terms on the PSB as of June 30. Mr. Biermann will begin his term on the PSB and the P&P July 1, 2015. Motion carried.

New appointments to the Regulations Committee (Regs)

Motion: It was M/S (Wilson/M. Perez) to approve the appointment of Amy Linton, representing elementary teachers, and Susan Perkins, representing secondary administrators, to the Regulations Committee, with terms to begin July 1, 2015. Motion carried.

New appointments to the Evaluation Review Committee (ERC)

Motion: It was M/S (Addis/Wagoner) to approve the appointments of Brian Gee, representing secondary administrators, and Kim Mitchell, representing elementary administrators, to the Evaluation Review Committee, with terms to begin July 1, 2015. Motion carried.

Routes to the Classroom, Innovative Coalition

Scott shared that Susan will present information presented to the State Board on licensure options, including a timeline from past to present. Handouts prepared for the Innovative Coalition to explain license options were shared. The handouts were the wheel graphic titled “Routes to Licensure” and an accompanying explanation chart. Discussion followed regarding some of the barriers to licensure mentioned by the Innovative districts. The Innovation Coalition is seeking approval from the State Board to issue innovative licenses. Areas talked about were Latin teachers and also elementary teachers not being licensed to teach kindergarten or 3 and 4 year olds when a district has an early childhood program. There is a need to break down barriers for everyone.

Routes to the Classroom Presentation

Susan showed the powerpoint entitled “Routes to the Classroom.” The handouts will be posted on the KSDE/TLA website as well as e-mailed to Standards Board members. A review of each decade and the types of licenses issued and available from the KSDE were highlighted and then current routes to licensure were explored and explained. Susan indicated that the Licensed Personnel Report (LPR) will be presented to the State Board in July and will include full year data on the number of licenses of each type issued – those counts will update the data presented in the chart. Before posting the chart, the data will be removed and links to LPR data will be included. Comments included the following: would like to see a survey on increased workload of mentoring and peer teachers. Would like to see information five years later on out-of-state and STEM licenses and if the teacher(s) is still in Kansas. Would like to know the number of successful and non-successful cases that are reviewed by the Licensure Review Committee.

Math Program Standards, 5-8, 6-12

Library Media Specialist Program Standards

Catherine provided handouts of the draft math program standards 5-8 and 6-12 and the draft library media specialist program standards. The standards are currently posted for public comment on the KSDE website. The committees that reviewed the standards used feedback from the Speciality Professional Areas (SPAs) so that our standards align with the SPA standards. The committees are still finalizing the standards so there is not a “crosswalk” document available today that shows the changes from the old standards to the new proposed standards.

Motion: It was M/S (Wilson/R. Perez) to approve the middle level 5-8 math program standards. Motion carried.

Motion: It was M/S (R. Perez/M. Perez) to approve the secondary level 6-12 math program standards. Motion carried.

Motion: It was M/S (Wilson/Wagoner) to approve the library media specialist program standards. Motion carried.

The approved program standards will now be forwarded to the State Board of Education for their approval.

Program Review Template

The Policies and Procedures Committee drafted a sample program report format program template that will be used by program reviewers. Each program area reviewed will have a separate program template. The handout today is a sample to be used for reviewing elementary programs.

Motion: It was M/S (Addis/Wagoner) to move forward with finalizing the program templates. Motion carried.

Reconsider Elementary level to include PreK

Discussion was led around the issue of who is allowed to teach kindergarten and prekindergarten. Comments brought up included who has jurisdiction to license--the Kansas Department of Education (KSDE) or the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). KSDE licenses the teachers and KDHE licenses the facilities. Nick shared that the private schools do not have PreK programs in their private school buildings like the public schools, and it makes a difference how KDHE views licensing. Susan met recently with early childhood staff comprised of representatives from higher education. Discussion continued regarding possible options to increase flexibility on who can be assigned in K or PreK. It was proposed to change the level of elementary education from K-6 to PreK-6. This would require a regulation change and an adjustment to program standards. In the meantime, how do we provide access for current elementary licensed teacher(s) to be assigned to PreK? Discussion resulted in a proposal to move forward on a regulation change for PreK-6 elementary and to allow those with five years of experience in any elementary grade, an offer for hire, and holding a license for grades K-6 or K-8 to be allowed to be issued a PreK-6 endorsement. Susan suggested we seek to have the State Board adopt by policy, similar to what occurred when the board adopted mentoring as the performance assessment in 2008. Susan will check with KSDE legal office if we can present as a policy to the State Board. Another future option should include developing an added endorsement for PreK to an existing elementary license, which would also require a regulation change. Susan will check with the KSDE legal office. Following the discussion a motion was made to move forward with a policy recommendation.

Motion: It was M/S (Wagoner/Erickson) to move forward with a policy to add Pre-K to an existing K-6 and K-9 elementary license providing that the individual has five (5) years of teaching experience in K-6 and an offer from the hiring district. Motion carried.

The meeting was recessed for lunch in room 509 at 11:30am. The meeting resumed at 12:22pm, in room 102.

Unique needs certification options

Scott talked about defining unique needs. The two sides of the unique needs are content and pedagogy. What does the person know and how does he/she use that knowledge with children? Susan followed up with the need for transparency and knowing what school districts need. Gwen suggested looking at the professional education standards and pulling out the key attributes. Further discussion and comments: This could lead to a portfolio with artifacts as unique as the person. How much latitude do school districts have? This could be used for situations that are not defined or addressed in regulation. Another suggestion was to look at online opportunities with the local program supervised by the district. Susan talked about having something available to address unique needs, somewhat like a visiting scholar but without the advanced degree. It would be a cooperative experience with the department of education. It was agreed by consensus that this conversation should be continued and will be on the agenda of a future Standards Board meeting.

Reconsider substitute licenses: 125 day, 90 day, 30 day, 15 day

The licenses are part of the QPA regulations. With the rewriting of the QPA regulations, there is a need to address these licenses.

The consensus was that the only change might be to state that the Standard sub license was limited to 50% of the total school days in the year in the same assignment, rather than 90 days.

7. Continuing Business

Online endorsement

Scott asked for a vote on whether to pursue an online endorsement option or to add the professional education standards or to add the endorsement to license by regulation.

Motion: It was M/S (Compton/Wilson) to continue discussion on the online endorsement option. Motion carried.

Restructuring math endorsement

There are many issues to look at, including the content test. Following discussion a motion was made to continue discussion and to develop a proposal.

Motion: It was M/S (Erickson/Addis) to continue the discussion and to develop and recommend a proposal for restructuring the math endorsement. Motion carried.

Middle school generalist endorsement

Educational Testing Service (ETS) has a test available for the middle school generalist endorsement. The test could be reviewed and a score could be recommended for adoption. Nick shared that this would be helpful to the Diocese schools. Following discussion a motion was made to move forward.

Motion: It was M/S (Compagnone/R. Perez) to amend the regulations to include testing for the middle school generalist endorsement. Motion carried.

Adding endorsements through testing+

Susan reviewed the test only option for added endorsements. The CTE higher education group had presented proposed language for requiring a content specific performance assessment in addition to the content test. The assessment would be prescribed, administered and verified by a Kansas IHE with an approved program in the specific CTE subject. Discussion continued on how to pursue. If we change the regulation, would we change in other areas as well? ESOL was specifically discussed. What are we hearing from the superintendents? How do we address safety through a course or testing? Should we ask Career/Technical Education (CTE) staff to attend a Standards Board meeting for more discussion? Deb shared that she had polled Regents universities and found that a large number of superintendents are reaching out for additional support for ESOL licensed teachers who were able to pass the ESOL test and add the endorsement. Susan will contact the Kansas Institutes of Higher Education regarding ESOL and bring back information to a future meeting. A motion was made to continue discussion.

Motion: It was M/S (Wilson/R. Perez) to continue the discussion to make generic beyond CTE and focus on lab safety and ESOL as high demonstrative need. Motion carried.

Fingerprinting and preservice candidates

Susan reviewed some background on fingerprinting processes. The Kansas State Department of Education collects fingerprints only for the purpose of issuing an educator license or certificate. If a fingerprint/background check is completed for an emergency substitute license applicant during preservice and then later that person applies for an initial license, fingerprinting could be required again if the e-sub license expires prior to the application for the initial license. Concerns have been expressed about placing student teachers or preservice candidates in school districts without a background check. Is there a need for fingerprints at both times? Districts often have their own background check requirements, but the check may not be fingerprint based. Should we survey the districts? Do IHEs prescreen and have a moral obligation to work with students? Is it the responsibility of the IHEs? Gwen stated that the University of St Mary currently does background checks on juniors and a second sweep before student teaching, but that it is not a requirement. Following discussion a motion was made to reaffirm that it is the responsibility of the IHEs. Scott will share the recommendation with the Unit Heads when they meet in September.

Motion: It was M/S (O'Dea/R. Perez) that the Professional Standards Board recommends background checks for preservice candidates remains the responsibility of higher education institutions. Motion carried.

Director of Special Education endorsement: SEAC Feedback

What level does special education director need to come in with? Susan shared the current requirements and her conversation with the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC). As proposed to SEAC, Susan will draft potential options and present them to SEAC. Their input will be brought to a future Standards Board meeting.

8. Goals Update

PSB Bylaws

Susan disseminated the final version of the bylaws that includes the changes in contact organizations for filling vacancies, removing the mission statement, and addressing meeting absences as well as other changes. All the revisions have been presented and reviewed in sections by the Standards Board at previous meetings. Susan, Gwen and Jonathan comprised the subcommittee that revised the bylaws. A motion was made to approve the PSB bylaws.

Motion: It was M/S (Erickson/Addis) to accept the current revised bylaws as disseminated today. Motion carried.

Test review process

Susan asked the Standards Board members for permission to proceed on a test review process. She has recently visited with an ETS representative for a summary of the process. The PSB and KSDE would look at various test options and make a recommendation. A formal test review would then occur. The content areas needing a recommended cut score are elementary education, early childhood, speech/theatre, Latin, middle level generalist. A motion was made to move forward with the test review process.

Motion: It was M/S (R. Perez/Goering) to move forward with the test review process in the areas of elementary education, early childhood, speech/theatre, Latin, and middle level generalist. Motion carried.

Ethics: Model Code of Ethics for Educators (MCEE)

Scott reported that the National Association of Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) has sanctioned an Ethics model. He asked Diana to give a brief report of her recent attendance at the NASDTEC national conference in Portland, OR. Diana reported that NASDTEC is planning to release the Ethics model on July 5 at the National Press Club and that there are five principles of the MCEE.

- Principal 1: Responsibility to the Profession
- Principal II: Responsibility for Professional Competence
- Principal III: Responsibility to Students
- Principal IV: Responsibility to the School Community
- Principal V: Responsible and Ethical Use of Technology

The MCEE can be found on the NASDTEC website at: http://www.nasdtec.net/?page=MCEE_Doc

Diana also noted that the three responsibilities of the Kansas Educator Code of Conduct do match up with the MCEE five responsibilities.

Professional learning

Scott stated that the Bloomboard work will wait until Commissioner Watson comes on board July 1. Scott will give an update at a future Standards Board meeting.

Goals for next year

- Annual Report and Preconditions Audit Committee
- Endorsements around math, middle level math online
- Ethics
- Professional Learning, Bloomboard

Motion: It was M/S (Erickson/Beougher) to accept the goals for 2015-16 as set out in these minutes.
Motion carried.

9. Standing Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Chair Mercer reported that the Executive Committee met prior to the full meeting and reviewed today's agenda.

State Board of Education Report

Mr. Porter commended Scott and Susan for the licensure report they presented at the recent State Board of Education meeting. Of concern is the teacher shortage, rules regarding working after retirement, and finances.

He recognized that KSDE is doing more with less. Updates of major issues coming before the State Board will include the new K-12 accreditation model and curriculum standards.

Licensure Review Committee (LRC)

Jenna shared a handout that reflected the revised processing of review cases. There are now 60% fewer files going through the Licensure Review Committee.

Another handout was a sample analysis of appeal. We are now seeing less paperwork and fewer files for the committee members to review. Applicants now receive a copy of the professional education standards before attending the LRC meeting. Two members of the LRC will complete their terms on June 30. Two new members have been appointed by the State Board to replace the outgoing members.

Evaluation Review Committee (ERC)

Catherine reported that the ERC met on April 23 and reviewed programs from Kansas State University, McPherson College, Ottawa University, Southwestern College, and University of St Mary. The programs are now ready for State Board approval. The committee reviewed the year's work and drew up a document. The next meeting date is June 19. Programs will be reviewed from Tabor College, Kansas State University, Newman University, Southwestern College and University of St Mary at the June meeting.

Policies and Procedures (P&P)

Catherine reported that she is currently waiting for the ad hoc committee program template review and is making plans for coming year. The *Institutional Handbook for Program Approval and Accreditation* needs revision. The committee will begin revising the handbook in 2015-16.

TLA Leadership

Scott reported that we are honing in on result of the five R's of accreditation (Relationships, Relevance, Responsive Culture, Rigor, and Results) and the four categories of Academic/Cognitive, Technical/Career-specific, Employability and Post-secondary Evidence. A subcommittee is reviewing the employability skill data points.

Also noted was that Shane Carter, program consultant in TLA, recently resigned and a new consultant has been hired to replace him. The new consultant will begin July 6.

Susan shared that the TLA office is working with Dale Dennis on the vacancy data system that includes teacher vacancy data.

Regulations Committee

Susan reported that the Regulations committee has not met. The committee is still working on regulations regarding the change from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accrediting agency to the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) accrediting agency. The committee will also be working on new regulations to include the new licensure endorsements.

Set meeting dates for next year

Meetings for next year were approved by consensus.

- September 21, 2015
- November 16, 2015
- February 1, 2016
- April 14, 2016
- June 16, 2016

Presentation of Plaques

Plaques were awarded to Standards Board members for completing at least two full three-year terms.

- Denise O’Dea – 2009-2015
- Nick Compagnone-2009-2015
- Michele Perez – 2009-2015
- Kate Thompson-2009-2015

Election of Officers

Motion: It was M/S to retain the current members of the Executive Committee (Chair, Vice-Chair and three members) for the 2015-16 year. Motion carried.

A second motion was made to replace Michele on the Executive Committee as she will be going off the Standards Board because she has served two full terms.

Motion: It was M/S (Beougher/Landever) to appoint Paul Erickson as a member of the Executive Committee for the 2015-16 year. Motion carried.

- Chair – Deb Mercer
- Vice Chair – Rudy Perez
- Paul Erickson
- Jonathan Goering
- Mike Wilson

Items for next meeting

- Follow up on goals
- Special Education direct entry and adding by policy
- Update on Bloomboard

Please e-mail Scott if you have new items for the September agenda.

10. Adjournment

Motion: It was M/S (M. Perez/Erickson) to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.