

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DIVISION OF PROGRAM SUPPORT
101 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD

December 6, 2017

Room 15

12pm to 3pm

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting:

Present: Kirk Beitler, Janine Casavant, Joe Crawford, Kenneth Gorrell, Jack Grube, Cynthia Lucero, Joann Misra, Irv Richardson, Christie Sweeney, Dianna Terrell, Anne Wallace, David Webster, Kimberly Yarlott

Absent: Vincent Connelly, Joann Goetzler, Page Tompkins, Katrina Hall, Christine Oskar-Poisson, Lisa Witte

Department Staff: Bill Ross, Amanda Phelps, Michael Seidel, Nancy Fournier

I. CALL TO ORDER:

A. Chair Dianna Terrell called the meeting to order at 12:30 and asked that everyone take a moment to review the minutes.

II. MINUTES:

A. Motion - Ms. Terrell called for a motion to approve the minutes. Irv Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Cynthia Lucero and passed by a unanimous vote. Joanne Misra, Michael Seidel, Joe Crawford and abstained from the vote.

III. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION:

A. Membership Update

1. Ms. Terrell updated the members on the status of Vincent Connelly's membership. She stated that there was concern when he did not attend November's meeting after his appointment to the Board, adding that she discovered he had a home accident involving a fall. Ms. Terrell stated that she has been in contact with him and his colleagues and that he is recovering and plans to keep his seat on the PSB. She added that he plans to be able to attend February's meeting.

2. Ms. Terrell introduced the newest member of the PSB, Joe Crawford, Director of the NEXT Charter School in Derry, NH. Mr. Crawford introduced himself and discussed his background in the field of education. Ms. Terrell asked that all other members introduce themselves to Mr. Crawford.

3. Ms. Terrell introduced the new Director of the Department's Division of Higher Education, Michael Seidel.

B. Proposed By-Laws

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1. **Motion** - Ms. Terrell stated that she had not had the opportunity to make edits to the by-laws from the November meeting. David Webster made a motion to table the by-laws discussion until February. The motion was seconded by Kirk Beitler and the motion passed unanimously with three abstentions.

C. Update on Subcommittees

1. Ed 507.39 and Ed 612.07 – General Special Education Teacher (Expire 9/16/19); Ed 507.391 and Ed 612.071 – Early Childhood Special Education Programs (Expire 9/16/19); Ed 507.40 through Ed 507.45 Special Education Teacher Categoricals – Co-Chairs, Cynthia Lucero and Joann Misra

Ms. Lucero stated that the subcommittee is just starting to form and that the group will have something to report at the next meeting.

2. Ed 507.25 and Ed 612.27 Educator in Mathematics for Grades 5-8; Ed 507.26 and Ed 612.28 Educator in Mathematics for Grades 7-12 (Expire 5/14/18) – Chair Annie Wallace

Annie Wallace stated that the standards were condensed and reformulated into three separate rules. She added that the 5-8 and 7-12 standards had language that was about 95% identical. For that reason, the subcommittee identified all of the language that was the same for both rules and created “Math Teacher; General Requirements.” Similar to the science rules, a math teacher will need to meet the requirements of that rule, plus either 5-8, 7-12 or both.

The PSB used the “quality criteria” to make sure that the rule met the criteria set by the PSB for rule revision.

Kimberly Yarlott made a motion to approve Ed 507.25, Ed 507.26, Ed 507.27, Ed 612.27 and Ed 612.28 relative to Math Teacher certification. The motion was seconded by Kirk Beitler. The vote passed unanimously with 3 abstentions.

3. Ed 507.35 Educational Interpreter/Transliterater for Children and Youth Ages 3-21 – Joanne DeBello

Joanne DeBello was not in attendance. Bill Ross gave an update stating that the subcommittee has been meeting for about 6 months and are concluding their work. He stated that the proposal should be ready for the next PSB meeting. He stated that there are significant changes being proposed, including testing requirements and the requirement of a Bachelor’s degree.

4. Ed 507.05 Comprehensive Technology Education Teacher (Expires (8/12/19) – Kirk Beitler

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Kirk Beitler stated that the committee has been formed with the assistance of David Benedetto of the DOE. He added that the rule has been sent out to the 9 members of the committee, but the group has not yet met. Mr. Beitler stated that the group plans to meet after the 1st of the year most likely directly before or after the next PSB meeting.

5. Ed 507.22 and Ed 612.07 Education Technology Integrator (Expire 11/11/18) – Kimberly Yarlott

Ms. Yarlott stated that the committee is meeting following the PSB meeting and has representation from elementary, middle school and high school with about 10 members on the committee.

6. Ed 505.01 through Ed 505.05 regarding Qualifying Methods for Obtaining a Teacher Credential (Alternative 1-5) Expire 9/16/19 – Chair Page Tompkins

Ms. Terrell stated that Mr. Tompkins could not attend and that he would provide an update at the next meeting. Bill Ross stated that he has discussed with Page tapping into a federal initiative for completing a national survey for alternative certification across all 50 states in order to compare NH's alternative pathways to the trends in the country.

D. Social Studies Curriculum – Janine Casavant

Ms. Casavant stated that she had been in touch with Ashley Frame of the DOE. She stated that the work would probably begin after the 1st of the year and that she would report back at each PSB meeting.

IV. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A. CEEDAR GOAL 3 – John Fibrezio

Mr. Fibrezio, former chair of the PSB and Director of Student Services in Merrimack, NH. He gave a PowerPoint presentation to the PSB regarding the work that CEEDAR Goal 3 working group had done on reforming special education credentialing in New Hampshire.

Mr. Fibrezio stated that the presentation was given to the Commissioner of the Department of Education and other DOE staff and that the goal 3 working group received questions and feedback. Mr. Fibrezio provided the PSB with several different recommendations for how to revise special education credentials.

Ms. Terrell stated that the next step is for the subcommittee, being formed by Cynthia Lucero and Joann Mizra, will pick up where the CEEDAR group left off. Ms. Lucero raised the concern the subcommittee could not start its work without knowing which direction

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the PSB wants the subcommittee to go in. Ms. Phelps asked if it would be appropriate for the subcommittee, with appropriate stakeholder engagement, to be tasked with the making the recommendation to the PSB regarding which of CEEDARS options they should move forward with.

The members present agreed. Ms. Lucero stated that she would have a report out for the meeting in February.

Esther Kennedy asked when there would be opportunity for public input. Ms. Phelps outlined the rulemaking process and Ms. Terrell encouraged that public interest present should sign up for subcommittee work.

V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

A. Update on Rulemaking – Amanda Phelps

1. Science Teacher Final Proposals – Submitted to OLS November 15, 2017
2. School Nurse Certification and Computer Science Educator – Adopted, November 9, 2017
3. Ed 507.19 and Ed 614.08 – Specialist in Assessment of Intellectual Functioning (SAIF) – Initial Proposal to address “and/or” issue for December 14 State Board Meeting

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ethics Update – Kimberly Yarlott

Ms. Yarlott stated that after completing the code of ethics, or guiding principles, the Ethics Task Force began working on the code of conduct for educators by revising the Ed 510 and Ed 511 rules regarding professional conduct by educators. She explained the difference between ethics and conduct being ethics is a guideline for behaviors and conduct are actions that can affect an educator’s credential.

Ms. Terrell asked when the proposals would be going to the State Board of Education. Ms. Yarlott stated that they would be presented to the State Board at their February 8 meeting which is the day after the PSB meets. Ms. Terrell added that she believes weighing in on the code of conduct is a task of the PSB. Ms. Yarlott stated that, because the PSB does not meet in January, the conversation regarding how or if the PSB can weigh in needs to happen with Nicole.

Kirk Beitler stated that the language is in the statute for the PSB that conduct falls under the purview and asked, why, again, is the PSB being bypassed? Ms. Phelps stated that the PSB could vote to hold a January meeting if they wanted to weigh in on the code of conduct proposal. Ms. Terrell stated that she would like to hear from the Ethics Task Force prior to the February 8, 2018 State Board meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Elementary Educator K-6 and K-8 Credential

Bill Ross explained that the Council for Teacher Education has been looking at the elementary education credentials and would like to request that the PSB look into revising the credentialing rules. Mr. Ross explained that the current rules require a concentration area for a K-8 endorsement, but once certified you are still able to teach any of the four subject areas in any grade, including 7th and 8th grade. The CTE is asking that this rule be looked at so that the concentration area determines the area a teacher is allowed to teach at the 7th and 8th grade level.

Kirk Beitler asked how this would impact a district in the North Country that has a limited pool of teaching candidates. David Webster agreed that schools would have difficulty with a change such as this. Ken Gorrell pointed out that while this puts restraints on small schools, the proposal from CTE states, "Complaints from parents that there are children being taught by under qualified educators" He asked that the PSB not lose sight of that and would like to see the PSB form a subcommittee to address this issue.

Ms. Terrell explained that she believes there is a middle way to address both of these concerns and that at the time the original rule was written, the PSB was not looking at that middle way. Mr. Gorrell asked if she was looking for a motion. Ms. Terrell asked for more input from other PSB members. Mr. Ross stated that CTE would like the PSB to give this consideration with the normal rulemaking process. He explained that the scenarios exist that teachers are in a classroom teaching outside of their concentration area. Parents express concern that their neighbor's child is being taught Social Studies by a social studies teacher, and yet their own child is being taught social studies by a math teacher because of the K-8 credential.

David Webster made a motion to table the discussion until next meeting. Annie Wallace seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Terrell called for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Yarlott made the motion and was seconded by Ms. Lucero. The motion passed unanimously.