

**12 March 2020**

**Education Quality Team**  
*Staff Report for 12 March 2020*

**From the Education Quality Division: Patrick Halladay, Division Director**

Since our last Standards Board meeting, the Office has seen the trickle of 2020 renewals grow to a steady stream. Our licensing specialists have been keeping up with demand and maintaining good humor. As of 2 March, we welcomed back Walter Earle to help us keep up with the growing demand. For the fourth consecutive year, Walter will be stepping in on a part time basis for a few months, making sure the stream of renewals does not become a torrent.

Since our last meeting, Andrew Prowten has assumed the reins of Peer Review. He already facilitated several interviews and hosted a Peer Review clinic. A big thank you to Cathy Wilkins, Terry Reilly, and Wendy Scott for making the transfer as simple as possible.

We are continuing to interview for Andrew's previous position of Program Technician. We had to restart the search and have just recommenced actual interviews. We hope to have a new person in place within the next couple of weeks.

The Office received a waiver request for the PRAXIS Core from the Kingdom East School District on behalf of an educator. The educator met all requirements for the waiver, and the license is in the process of being issued. Per rule the license will be limited to the Kingdom East School District.

The AOE's Student Support Services division is in the process of applying for a grant from the US Department of Education to support the development of an Early Childhood Administrator endorsement. At this point, the Office is simply notifying the Standards Board that a proposal to pursue a new endorsement of Early Childhood Administrator will be forth-coming in the next couple of months.

The Standards Board has asked for an update on AOE work around Proficiency Based Learning initiatives. Due to a long agenda and an ever-evolving legislative status, we will provide an update in April.

**From the Education Quality Division: Ron Ryan, Education Programs Manager**

The 2020 Renewal season is in full swing. Renewal volume is well above last year's. As of the first week in March – approximately 1,351 renewals had been received and approximately 944 renewals have paid and been approved. We are projecting 5282 renewals this year. This is the first of two years that both 5-year and 7-year license renewals will come due at the same time.

Licensing trainings have been set for Superintendents and their designees over the next few months. Sessions will cover a variety of licensing topics including model code of ethics, registry checks, fingerprinting, renewals, reinstatements, retired licenses, transcript review, reciprocity, traditional route, provisional, emergency, apprenticeship licenses, expanding instructional range, endorsement revisions, and waiver requests. Sessions will be offered March 20 at Lake Morey, March 31 in Castleton, and April 3 in Colchester.

**L/RSB:** L/RSB Grant Agreement Documents are being forwarded to AOE Finance Office for approval. To date, 39 of 62 Boards have been forwarded. 2 of 62 Boards have decided not to apply for an L/RSB Grant Allotment this year. Also, the process has changed this year and the timeframe which made it more challenging for Boards to complete. Now Boards need to specify how they plan to spend the allotted funds by code. The new process has caused delays and many Grant Applications have needed to be returned. Several SU/SDs have also delayed in sending in the SDE 3.0 required by the State for last year’s spending. Reminders were sent to all Boards reminding them to send in missing Grant Applications prior to March 31<sup>st</sup>.

An update was sent to all Boards the first week in March informing them of renewal totals as of the last week in February. Several reminders were also sent to Boards: to be cognizant of endorsement dates and employment when deciding whether an endorsement should transition to a Level II or not; to inform educators not to be fingerprinted until the actual renewal application is submitted to the AOE; to ensure employment for educators is current and reflects what they are actually doing; to track individual renewal applications via ALiS.

E-mail volume and calls have increased with the ending of school vacations from both Boards and individual educators.

As mentioned above, renewal volume is well above last year’s volume. As of the first week in March – approximately 1,351 renewals had been received and approximately 944 renewals have paid and been approved. The last two weeks in February and first week in March include school vacations. See charts below.

**Renewals 2020 - 5282**

**Renewals 2019 – 3912**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Received 2019</b>	<b>Received 2020</b>	<b>Percentage 2019/2020</b>
<b>June</b>			
<b>May</b>			
<b>April</b>			
<b>March</b>			
<b>February</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>16% / 23%</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>8% / 11%</b>

Renewals 2020 - 5282

Renewals 2019 – 3912

Month	Paid/Approved 2019	Paid/Approved 2020	Percentage 2019/2020
June			
May			
April			
March			
February	310	542	12% / 16%
January	150	320	4% / 6%

*From the Education Quality Division: Terry Reilly, Pre-Service Educator Quality Programs*

The Early Childhood Education (ECE) endorsement revision group has been scheduled for March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Agency of Education. The majority of group members are dually endorsed in ECE and as Early Childhood Special Educator. At the time of the meeting, group members will set a date to reconvene to revise the Early Childhood Special Educator endorsement. The same group will revise both endorsements to provide the continuity between them that is necessary given their extensive overlap.

The revision group for the Teacher of the Visually Impaired endorsement will meet in the third week in April. The exact date is yet to be determined. A number of members have been determined, though not the full final group. The next endorsement to be revised will be the Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

The driver education VSBPE work group continues to move forward with creating a report for the Board. The report will include the recommendation that a CTE sub-endorsement be created in Driver and Traffic Safety Education. It will include recommendations for actions the Board to take in order to make this happen. It will also explain that while the driver education curriculum will be offered from the CTE Centers, there is more than one option of how the curriculum can be made accessible to CTE students and general high school students equitably.

**ROPA**

Recent ROPA work items include:

- The Castleton 2-Year Report on graduate programs
- Correcting a discrepancy in Policy N14/Rule 5924.2
- Revising Policy N22
- UVM's notification of changes to CAEP approval process
- A proposal to clarify the approvals for Post-bac and graduate levels
- NVU-Lyndon's teach-out of their secondary programs
- The NVU-Lyndon ROPA Review Team
- The Champlain New Program Report

- The revised new ROPA Standards.

Additionally, the ROPA Coordinator attended the Association for Advancing Quality in Education Preparation (AAQEP) Quality Assurance Symposium on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Examples of some of the sessions offered include Making Sense of Messy Data in Accreditation and Assessment, The Accreditation Proposal: Reflection and Improvement, and Addressing Fairness and Trustworthiness in an Assessment System.

### **Peer Review**

After a little over a month with a new Peer Review Coordinator, effort has refocused on responding to the most recent ROPA review. At this point, actions have been taken to address almost all the stipulations and concerns that the review brought up. Changes have been implemented and now the work of a continual improvement plan is underway. For example, all panelists currently under contract have gone through additional training while the training materials and procedures are being improved based on what was learned from the new training. New methods for collecting data have been established and we begin to work with panelists to understand how their assessments now create data input. As this work continues, it will become the basis of Peer Review's Two-Year report to be submitted to the Board in late summer. The Two-Year report will show that very clear actions have been taken in response to the ROPA review demonstrating to the Board that Peer Review can move from its current status of conditional approval to the status of full approval.