

VSBE

Date: Jan. 10, 2024

Item: TAP ROPA Review Team

ITEM: Shall the VSBE approve the team for the ROPA review of TAP's teacher preparation program which is scheduled for March 14-15?

AGENCY RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the VSBE approve the team for the ROPA review of TAP's teacher preparation program which is scheduled for March 14-15

BACKGROUND:

TAP had their last ROPA review in 2017 and are thus due for a review this year.

PROPOSED TEAM:

Mikaela Simms will chair the team. Mikaela is the licensure officer and a faculty member at Spark educator preparation program in Brattleboro. Mikaela received her BA from NYU, her teaching preparation from Bay Area Teachers' Center, and master's degrees from SIT (School for International Training) and Marlboro Graduate Institute. Besides her work with Spark, Mikaela serves as the Diversity Coordinator for Windham Southeast SU.

Maresa Nielson also teaches future teachers at Spark, and has been an elementary educator since 2012. Maresa got her BA at Bowdoin College and Master's degrees from SIT and Marlboro.

Mikaela and Maresa completed a ROPA review of Spark in 2022, and would like to serve on the team together if possible to continue learning about the process. Although this is a little unusual, the AOE and TAP are in support of their request.

Luisa Millington received her doctorate in Natural Sciences from the University La Sapienza in Rome, Italy. She has completed additional graduate coursework and holds Level II Vermont educator endorsements in science and math, as well as several administrator endorsements. She is currently the Principal at Barnet Elementary School, and has previously been a Curriculum Director and taught math and science at the

secondary level. Luisa is also a past chairperson of the VSBPE Program Approval Committee and served on a previous ROPA team in 2014.

Katie Revelle is the Director of Community Collaboration in the Department of Education at UVM. Her specialties are teacher education, curriculum development, project-based learning, literacy instruction, and social studies instruction. She will serve as the VSBPE representative on the team.