

Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators

*VSBPE: Ensuring a Caring, Competent, Highly Effective Educator in
Every Vermont Classroom to Improve Student Learning*

Draft Meeting Minutes

Meeting Place: Virtual Meeting | Microsoft Teams

Date: March 11, 2021

Members Present:

Erik Remmers, Jennifer Fribush, Christine Latulippe, Cynthia Cole, Bernadette Cleland, Ric Reardon, Jennifer Clement, Christine Kurucz, Amy McMullen, Shelby Quinn, Amy Minor, Amy Flannery, Cheryl Niedzwiecki

Members Absent:

N/A

Staff Present:

Patrick Halladay, Ron Ryan, Deb Giles, Ellen Cairns, Andrew Prowten, Wendy Scott, Kate Rogers, Chris Case, Jacqui Kelleher

Members of the Public: M. Dudek, educator with waiver request, Jonathon Miller-Lane, Christina Johnston from Middlebury.

Call to Order:

E. Remmers called the meeting to order at 9:02

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

A. Minor moved to approve the agenda with additional waiver request and minutes of the Jan. meetings.

Seconded by R. Reardon

Motion approved.

Board Member Updates:

R. Reardon thanked P. Halladay and E. Cairns for updating the field on vaccines for student teachers.

Staff Report:

P. Halladay reviewed the staff report.

Waiver Requests:

Superintendent Waiver Request: C. Putney

R. Reardon moved to extend the Emergency License for C. Putney until 6/30/2021.

A. McMullen seconded.

Motion passed.

Educator Waiver Request: B. Behrendt

J. Fribush moved to waive the requirement for three years of licensed teaching experience preemptively.

R. Reardon seconded.

Motion failed.

Educator Waiver Request: M. Dudek

J. Fribush moved that the Board waive the requirement for three years of licensed teaching and accept M. Dudek's experience of teaching in a non-licensed capacity for an administrative endorsement.

A. McMullen seconded.

Motion passed.

Educator Waiver Request: R. Forlow

J. Fribush moved that the Board extend R. Forlow's Provisional license to June 30, 2022, limited to the Barre Unified Union School District.

Seconded by R. Reardon.

Motion passed unanimously.

COVID-19 Update:

Vaccinations have started for teachers and should be completed sometime in April. Working to determine who is eligible: student teachers are, but not sure about those working on practica or those who supervise student teachers.

Legislative Update:

P. Halladay updated the Board regarding relevant pending Vermont legislation, including online teaching specialist, literacy, and African American history.

P. Halladay also updated the Bord regarding federal COVID relief legislation for schools.

Nine data literacy workshops will be starting April 1, led by WestEd. These have been intentionally aligned with the Recovery Plan.

The Board broke for a 10 minute recess.

Policy Q2: Early Childhood/Early Childhood Special Educator Provisional Licenses:

J. Fribush moved to approve Policy Q2.

Ric seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Early Childhood Educator Oversight:

ROPA Coordinator and EPPs will meet to better understand oversight of student teachers and practicum students in early childhood education settings.

Committee Reports and Motions:

Licensing Committee: C. Latulippe, Chair, Reporting

Licensing renewal update: R. Ryan gave an overview of the license renewals.

C. Latulippe commended the AOE for the good work on this, and D. Giles also commended the L/RSBs for staying on top of it.

Program Approval Committee:

R. Reardon moved that the VSBPE approve Peer Review's Two-Year Report and change the approval from Conditional to Full.

Seconded by C. Latulippe

Motion passed.

R. Reardon moved that the VSBPE not approve Middlebury's request to change their current approval status for Art Education and Modern and Classical Language Education from Conditional to Full; and shall extend the Conditional approval until Dec. 31, 2021 to allow for a more thorough follow-up review to be conducted, including the receipt and review of the full Two-Year Report. Middlebury will be dropping the Computer Science endorsement as there are still no candidates in that program.

Seconded by C. Latulippe

Motion passed.

Micro Credentials and Paraeducator Endorsement:

P. Halladay, C. Case and J. Kelleher facilitated a discussion to address potential licensing policy actions to ameliorate teacher shortages in special education and better serve vulnerable students.

The Office will be proposing draft standards to spur discussion within the next six months.

New Board Member Recruitment:

P. Halladay informed the Board that he has had interest from many educators and administrators. Still looking for interested school board members.

April Agenda Items:

Review Public Comment/ Update on new Rules
Micro credentials
Licensing update
Board recruitment
COVID update
Legislative update
2021-2022 Meeting Schedule

The meeting adjourned by consensus 1:06.

Minutes recorded by Ellen Cairns.