

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 | 1 National Life Drive, Montpelier, VT
Date: October 14, 2021**

Members Present:

Brenda Seitz, Bill Clark, Amy Minor, Ric Reardon, Jennifer Clement, Christine Kurucz, Amanda Garces, Bernadette Cleland, Ellen Emery, Amy Flannery

Members Absent:

Christie Martin, Shelby Quinn, Cheryl Niedzwiecki

Staff Present:

Patrick Halladay, Ron Ryan, Andrew Prowten, Deb Giles, Amy Scalabrini, Ellen Cairns, Cathy Wilkins

Members of the Public:

Matthew Pelkey, Jen Miller-Arsenault, Kyla Piper, Malik McKinley, Cynthia Reyes

Call to Order:

A. Minor called the meeting to order at 9:04am.

Approval of Agenda:

E. Emery moved to approve the agenda.

Seconded by B. Clark.

Motion approved.

Approval of Minutes:

E. Emery asked for an amendment on Board Member Updates from the 9/8/21 minutes to include ROPA before Standard 5 for clarification purposes.

“E. Emery contacted the President of EPIC to begin the conversation of adopting language of ROPA Standard 5 into the portfolio.”

Moved by B. Clark.

Seconded by R. Reardon.

Motion approved.

Board Member Updates:

B. Clark gave the Board an update on the Literacy Committee work.

Staff Report:

The Pre-Service Education Quality Coordinator interview process is underway. We hope to have a decision made by the end of next week. As of October 14, there are 24 Special Education provisional waivers granted or in process of being reviewed.

Superintendent Waiver Request: L. Lorenz

R. Reardon moved to waive the three years of licensed teaching experience for L. Lorenz contingent upon successful completion of the Vermont Licensure Portfolio limited to Core Teaching Standards in conjunction with a Peer Review application for the Principal endorsement.

Seconded by B. Clark.

Motion approved.

Superintendent Waiver Request: M. Pelkey

R. Reardon moved to waive the 5440-00 and limit the Elementary Education endorsement to Math, limited to the Washington Central Supervisory Union and that M. Pelkey will need to meet any remaining math competencies and complete remaining practicum hours.

Seconded by B. Clark.

Motion approved.

Superintendent Waiver Request: H. Batchelder

B. Clark moves to approve the waiver for a one-year provisional license with an Early Childhood Education endorsement for H. Batchelder.

Seconded by A. Garces.

Motion approved.

Educator Waiver Request: K. Piper

E. Emery moved to waive the Praxis Core requirement for K. Piper to earn her Vermont Early Childhood Educator license.

Seconded by A. Garces.

Motion approved.

Educator Waiver Request: E. Wright

B. Clark moved to approve the waiver for E. Wright to add the Specialized Literacy endorsement to her educational Speech Language Pathologist endorsement.

Seconded by A. Minor.

Motion approved.

Para-educator Standards

P. Halladay gave the Board an overview of the work being completed to develop paraeducator standards. The Office has requested direction from the Board as to how to proceed. A potential pathway would include working with CCV or EPPs to develop a course sequence to meet Core Teaching Standards. The Office will draft a proposal for consideration to review in March. Suggestion by A. Garces to develop a survey for Superintendents to assess needs.

3.0 GPA

The Office is seeking guidance from the Board as to whether the current rule should be reconsidered. Potential options include:

- Create a sliding scale allowing for a lower GPA with higher test scores
- Dismissing the GPA requirement for candidates with an advanced degree
- Considering waivers from EPPs attesting to the academic competency of a candidate
- Allowing a limited number of courses below a “B” grade for Transcript Review applicants
- No change

The Board directed the Office to come back with a formal proposal.

Anti-Bias Standards

As a result of the passage of Act 1 in 2019, a statutory working group was created to ensure marginalized people were represented in standards. The Board directed the Office to develop a corresponding set of anti-bias teaching standards and bring those back to the Board for consideration later in the term.

Committee Reports and Motions

Licensing Committee, J. Clement, Chair, Reporting

B. Clark moves to approve the request to increase the cohort in the ECE Provisional policy from 25 to 40.

Seconded by E. Emery.

Motion approved.

R. Ryan gave the Board an update of Special Education Provisional Waivers. Total submitted to date are 24 applications.

- 6 of the applications are for K-8 Special Education endorsement (8-82)
- 3 of the applications are for Grades 7 through age 21 Special Education endorsement (10-82)

- 14 or the applications are for Grades k-through age 21 Special Education endorsement (12-82)
- 1 application is for Birth through age 6 Early Childhood Special Education (5-80)
- 15 different SD
- 7 of those districts submitted multiple applications
- 12 Modules to complete. One application had to be closed.
- Pathway for most has been VTHEC/P. Review

B. Clark moved the VSBPE shall not adopt the updated Praxis II Content test for Reading/ELA Specialist or Coordinator test code 5302 and drop the Praxis II testing requirement for the 76 and 78 endorsements.

Seconded by C. Kurucz.

Motion approved.

Program Approval Committee, R. Reardon, Chair, Reporting

A. Garces moved that the VSBPE approve UVM's application for a new program ROPA review of its ELL program.

Seconded by B. Clark.

Motion approved.

A. Garces that the VSBPE approve the Teacher Apprenticeship Program (TAP) request for approval to recommend candidates for the Computer Science Teacher endorsement.

Seconded by B. Seitz.

Motion approved.

E. Emery recused herself.

The ROPA Handbook has been updated to include the new standards. R. Reardon suggested editorial changes.

Student Teaching and COVID-19

The Office and Board discussed the options below to provide guidance to Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs) who have student teachers in the field. The Office will present a template at the November meeting.

Non-transcripted Internship

P. Halladay presented choices for the Board's consideration regarding non-transcripted internships. The Board will consider this proposal for a vote at the November meeting.

November Agenda Items

Student Teaching and Covid-19
Non-transcripted internship (vote)
Endorsement revision timeline
Decision on substantial rule change in 2022
Discussion on grow your own programs

A. Garces moved to adjourn at 1:07pm.
Seconded by E. Emery.
Meeting adjourned by consensus.

Minutes recorded by Amy Scalabrini.

DRAFT