

**State Board of Education  
Rule Series 7000  
Public Hearing**

**Draft Minutes**

**Meeting Place: Virtual Teams Meeting/Video/Teleconference**  
**Call in #: 1-802-828-7667, Conference ID: 990 049 488#**  
**1 national Life Drive, Davis 5, Room 513**  
**Montpelier, VT 05620-2501**

**Date: December 1, 2021**

Written comments can be directed to the State Board of Education via email at [SBE.PublicComment@vermont.gov](mailto:SBE.PublicComment@vermont.gov) and should be received by December 10, 2021.

**Present:**

**State Board of Education (SBE) Members:** Oliver Olsen, Jennifer Samuelson (until 4:30 p.m.), Tom Lovett, Kim Gleason.

**Agency of Education (AOE):** Donna Russo-Savage, Cassandra Ryan, Maureen Gaidys

**Others:** Michale McComis

**Call to Order/Roll Call/Amendments to the Agenda**

Chair Olsen called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. and took roll call.

**Public Comment**

Chair Olsen asked if there were any members of the public to be heard.

Michale McComis introduced himself as the Executive Director of the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC), in Arlington, VA. ACCSC is the successor of the National Association of Trade and Technical Schools, Washington, DC. ACCSC accredits both non-degree and degree programs and is a recognized accrediting agency by the U.S. Secretary of Education.

Mr. McComis explained that the term “regional accrediting agencies” is no longer an accurate description and it would be more appropriate to refer to such agencies as “institutional accrediting agencies.” He suggested the following amendments to Rule 7320:

- Strike the word “regional” and replace with “institutional”
- Strike “National Association of Trade and Technical Schools, Washington, DC (for non-degree granting purposes only)” and replace with “Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC), Arlington, VA.”

Mr. McComis has worked with other states as they updated the processes by which they recognize accrediting agencies. He agreed to provide additional information from other states to assist the State Board in the related, phase two amendments to the 2200 series. He said that ACCSC is the progeny of National Association of Trade and Technical Schools (NATTS) but has not used that moniker since 1993. He also said that currently ACCSC accredits the following school in Vermont: Advanced Welding Institute – South Burlington, VT.

There were no other members of the public to be heard.

## **Adjourn**

Chair Olsen adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Donna Russo-Savage, Agency of Education