

**TO:** Program Approval Committee Members

**SUBMITTED BY:** Linda McSweeney, ROPA Consultant

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

That the Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators vote to accept the Norwich University full ROPA visit report.

**MOTION:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, move that the VSBPE accept the finding of the ROPA review team (7-year visit) report and grant full approval for the following undergraduate programs:

Elementary Education K-6

Mathematics 7-12

Physical Education PK-6, 7-12, or PK-12

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

On February 6 – 8, 2017, a ROPA team visited Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont. Norwich offers three teacher preparation programs: Elementary Education, Mathematics, and Physical Education. The team was comprised of Chair Judy Kaplan, UVM, Karen Uhlendorf, Johnson State College, Claudine Bedell, St. Michael's College and VSBPE member, Jane Spina, educator at the Warren School, and supported by Terry Reilly and Linda McSweeney of the AOE. The team reviewed the Institutional Portfolio, interviewed faculty, staff, administration, current candidates and graduates as well as mentor teachers and school administrators. They also reviewed licensure portfolios in various formats over the past six years. The team was in agreement that Norwich should be commended for its efforts to improve their education preparation with recent new faculty who have the expertise and energy to move the programs forward. Student candidates, faculty, staff, cooperating teachers and administrators from the field were all complimentary of recent program improvements which have resulted in higher quality, better prepared preservice teachers and excellent, collaborative oversight by education preparation faculty.

The team found no stipulations but the AOE will be looking for evidence in Norwich's May 2019 Two Year Report that they have addressed the concerns outlined in the report with particular attention to, and evidence of, improvements with concerns expressed in Standard 2.

**STAFF AVAILABLE:** Linda McSweeney, ROPA Consultant