

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: November 29, 2022

Members Present:

Amy Minor, Brenda Seitz, Bill Clark, Jennifer Clement, Christine Kurucz, Bernadette Cleland, Kate Fay, Ellen Emery, Amy Flannery, Shelby Quinn, Katie Revelle, Amanda Garces, W. Lucci

Members Absent:

N/A

Staff Present:

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

Members of the Public:

Jody Emerson, Central Vermont Career Center; Leigh-Ann Brown, VtSU, Anne Slonaker, VtSU; Hannah Miller, VtSU; Robert Schulze, NVU; Ric Reardon, VtSU

Call to Order:

A. Minor called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

Approval of Agenda:

P. Halladay presented one additional waiver request for the Board to consider adding to the agenda.

J. Clement moved to approve the agenda with an additional waiver request.

Seconded by B. Clark.

Motion approved.

Approval of Minutes:

B. Clark moved to approve minutes from 10/19/22.
Seconded by J. Clement.
Motion approved.

Public to be heard:

N/A

Correspondence and announcements:

P. Halladay shared correspondence received from L. Hoke and J. Naigle.

Board Member Updates:

B. Clark gave the Board an update on the progress of the Act 28 Committee. Results from the Smarter Balanced Assessment were presented to the committee on November 9. The presentation indicated an approximate 50% proficiency rate of achievement across all of the grades on the English Language Arts SBAC assessment.

Staff Report:

P. Halladay updated the Board on the progress of a new licensing system. The Office expects to reach a decision on a vendor soon.

The Office has received a request to explore what it would entail to create educational endorsements for Occupational and Physical Therapists akin to the Educational Speech Language Pathologist.

Superintendent Waiver Request: J. Rosas

B. Seitz moved to grant J. Rosas a one-year provisional license with a Special Educator endorsement, limited to Greater Rutland County SU.
Seconded by E. Emery.
Motion approved.

Superintendent Waiver Request: A. Cembalisty

B. Clark moved to accept A. Cembalisty's passing MTEL Scores for Science in lieu of the Praxis II equivalent.
Seconded by A. Flannery.
Motion approved.

Superintendent Waiver Request: J. Lind

B. Clark moved to grant J. Lind a one-year provisional with a Special Educator endorsement, limited to Southwest Vermont SU.

Seconded by A. Flannery.

Motion approved.

Superintendent Waiver Request: C. Shumans

B. Clark moved to approve a one-year provisional license with a Special Educator endorsement, limited to Southwest Vermont SU.

Seconded by B. Seitz.

Motion approved.

Educator Waiver Request: P. Patel

A. Garces moved to allow P. Patel to receive a recommendation for licensure without a passing score on the Praxis II for PE, license to be limited to Slate Valley USD.

Seconded by B. Clark.

Motion approved with one abstention.

This waiver is not precedent setting and has been considered based on individual circumstances.

Superintendent Waiver Request: A. Chase

B. Clark moved to waive the Bachelor's Degree requirement for A. Chase to apply for an Emergency License, valid until June 30, 2023. The license will be limited to the Central Vermont Career Center.

Seconded by A. Minor.

Motion approved.

This waiver is not precedent setting and has been considered based on individual circumstances.

The Board took a 15-minute break.

Committee Reports and Motions

Licensing Committee

The Board reviewed Policy F2 to decide if revisions should be made to include language regarding initial licensure when another state has granted a lifetime license which was originally issued 10 or more years from the Vermont application for licensure.

The Office will provide a proposed draft of the revised Policy consideration for vote and adoption at the January meeting.

P. Halladay presented policy G4 which creates a new pathway to middle grades licensure allowing educators currently holding a secondary (7-12) content area endorsement to add a middle grades endorsement in the same content area. A second draft reading for a vote and adoption will be presented at the January meeting.

Anti-Bias Standards Update

A draft of the anti-bias standards along with a narrated PowerPoint has been shared with stakeholders. A presentation to EPIC will be made on Monday, December 5.

School Psychology Endorsement Revision

A. Garces moved to approve the recommended changes to the School Psychology Endorsement Competencies, Provisional license requirements, and School Psych specific student-teaching requirements as recommended by the Endorsement revision team.

Seconded by J. Clement.

Motion approved.

NVU Special Education Proposal

NVU shared a proposal for a Grow Your Own Program for Special Educators on a provisional license. The Board will have a formal proposal to consider at the January meeting.

Program Approval Committee

E. Cairns hosted a ROPA Conference where most Educator Preparation Programs were represented. E. Emery spoke of recent ROPA visits, including Spark's ROPA visit beginning November 30th.

K. Faye moved to accept the Two-Year Report and grant full approval to HEC's additional endorsement programs in Early Childhood, Early Special Education, and Special Education until their next ROPA review.

Seconded by A. Minor.

Motion approved.

VtSU Proposal/Request on Course Substitution for Special Ed Masters

B. Clark moved to accept the proposed course substitution for Vermont State University's Special Education graduate program to maintain ROPA approval for the program.

Seconded by B. Cleland.

Motion approved.

EQS Revision Update

Tabled until the January meeting.

VtSU Presentation

Leigh-Anne Brown, from Castleton University, shared Early Childhood Education course updates and changes impacted by the merger between NVU and Castleton University to form VtSU. A crosswalk of course options is currently in development.

VtSU will be adopting NVU's inclusive childhood education program and increase the education credits from 23 to 51.

Hannah Miller, from Northern Vermont University, spoke about a new adolescent education program that is currently in development.

January Agenda Items

- EQS Revision Update
- Second Reading of Policies F2 and G4
- Praxis II Discussion
- New endorsement areas: Math Specialist
- Foreign credentials

Meeting adjourned at 12:46 pm

Minutes recorded by Amy Scalabrini.