

VSBPE

Date: June 5, 2018

Item: St. Michael's College Review Team

ITEM: Shall the VSBPE accept the proposed ROPA Review Team members for the review of St. Michael's College in the fall of 2018?

AGENCY RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the VSBPE accept the proposed ROPA Review Team members for the review of St. Michael's College in the fall of 2018

BACKGROUND:

Per Rule 5934, "Each review shall include an evaluation by a review team appointed by the Standards Board. The review team shall include, but not be limited to: one member of the Standards Board, one educator preparation professional and two at-large members."

RATIONALE:

Proposed Review Team member brief biographies:

Kathleen Brinegar (Chairperson) is the Program Director of Middle and Secondary Education at Northern Vermont University-Johnson. In addition to her work at NVU-Johnson, Kathleen is co-editor of Middle School Journal, an academic journal sponsored by the Association for Middle Level Education, serves as vice chair of the Middle Level Education Research Special Interest Group of the American Educational Research Association, and is an active member of the Middle Grades Collaborative. She also consults with public middle and high schools on a range of topics related to curriculum, instruction, and assessment. Kathleen completed her academic studies at the University of Vermont, earning her master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction and her doctoral degree in educational leadership and policy studies. She has also taught in Vermont public schools and at UVM, and coordinated the Vermont Adolescent Literacy and Learning Initiative

Emma Bay-Hansen received her M.Ed. from Union Institute and University in Secondary Social Studies and her B.A. from Evergreen State College in Political Science. Emma has taught Social Studies first at The Danville School and then at U32 High School for a total of five years, and holds a Vermont Level II license in that endorsement.

Nan Parsons is the Associate Director for School Leadership at the Upper Valley Educator's Institute as well as the Special Education Director for SAU #102 in Goshen, N.H., and an Adjunct Professor in the Education Department at Plymouth State University. She has been a Principal at both the Elementary and Secondary levels and holds New Hampshire certifications as a Superintendent and Principal and teaching endorsements in Special Education, Elementary Education, and Early Childhood Education. Nan recently earned her Ph.D. from Plymouth State University in Learning, Leadership, and Community.

Cindy Gauthier received her B.S. in Education from the University of Vermont with a major in Elementary Education and a minor in Reading. She has a Masters of Education with a concentration in Special Education from St. Michael's College and a Masters of Education with a concentration in Curriculum and Instruction from the Vermont Mathematics Institute at UVM. She has been an elementary school classroom teacher for over thirty years in a range of grades from Kindergarten to 6th. She has also been a cooperating teacher for student teachers from Norwich and Johnson Colleges. In 2013, Cindy was recognized by UVM as a Vermont Outstanding Teacher.

Cathy Newton received her Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction with a specialty in K-6 Mathematics from UVM and her Bachelors in Elementary Education from Johnson State College. She is currently the Principal of Ottauquechee Elementary School in Hartford, VT, and was the Interim Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment in the Hartford School District prior to her current position. She has also been a classroom teacher and the District Literacy Teacher Leader. In addition, Cathy has been a graduate course instructor at Southern New Hampshire University, Trinity College, and Lyndon State College, as well as a presenter at many conferences and conventions, including the National Science Convention in 2014. She won the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching Elementary Mathematics in 2008.

Tara Fortner, Ed.D. is an assistant professor of education with a focus on literacy and upper level undergraduate and graduate level special education courses at Lyndon State College. She teaches courses in literacy, special education, educational psychology, and American Sign Language as well as supervises field work students. Tara has more than two decades of experience with students (age 3 – 21) with special needs. Her expertise is in the evaluation of and best practices for working with students with emotional and/or behavioral disabilities and learning disabilities.

Wendy Hillmuth will represent the VSBPE. Wendy is an attorney by training, having received her Juris Doctor from Suffolk University Law School in 1998 after graduating from the University of Vermont. She is admitted to the Bar in both Vermont and Colorado. Wendy practiced primarily Family Law for several years in both states. Wendy has three children in her local school system and she has been an active parent volunteer in many capacities, as well as a persistent advocate for her children’s educational needs. Wendy is currently on the Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators as the parent/non-teacher representative.

Ellen Cairns will represent the AOE. Ellen received her B.S. from The University of Vermont in Elementary and Special Education and is a former elementary school teacher. She served on the Science Curriculum Development Committee for Chittenden East School District, and, more recently, as the Early Childhood Assessment Coordinator for the AOE before joining the Educator Quality Team as the ROPA Consultant.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT: None