

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS BOARD (PTSB)  
FREEMONT #1 STARRETT LIBRARY - LANDER, WY  
JUNE 20-21, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER – 12:02 P.M.**

Present: Board: Molly Kinsey, Shawn Peck, Molly Potas, Liesl Sisson, Jason Wheeler, Leslie Rush, Ray Reutzel, Aaron Jensen, Tracy Ragland, John Lyttle; Staff: Andrea Bryant, Nicholas Bellack, and Ashley Graham; Attorney General's Office: Mackenzie Williams; Wyoming Department of Education: Jessica Binning; State Board of Education: Paige Fenton-Hughes; Wyoming Education Association: Kathy Scheurman; Educational Testing Services: Terry Owens

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Liesl Sisson and seconded by Shawn Peck to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Shawn Peck and seconded by Tracy Ragland to adopt the minutes from April 15, 2016 with no changes. Motion carried.

**CONSIDERATION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FOR DOCKET# 2015-021**

Moved by Tracy Ragland and seconded by Aaron Jensen to approve the Settlement Agreement, Stipulation and Order for Voluntary Surrender in Docket# 2015-021.

**STATE BOARD UPDATE BY PAIGE FENTON-HUGHES**

Paige Fenton-Hughes provided a detailed update of the State Board of Education's (SBE) current events and major responsibilities. She clarified that SBE's major responsibilities included standards, accreditation, assessment, and accountability. The SBE's current focus regarding standards is the science standards. The rules are currently out for public comment until August. Paige explained that accreditation is an annual occurrence for school districts, and Deb Lindsey is working on an RFP for new assessments. For accountability, the SBE is reviewing Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and looking to transition to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in the coming year. The SBE continues its efforts to align rules, policy, and statute with their current focus being on early childhood and attendance.

**WDE UPDATE BY JESSICA BINNING**

Jessica Binning introduced herself to the Board as the new Title II Program Consultant. WDE will be hosting virtual town hall meetings this summer to gather stakeholder input regarding the new ESSA requirements. The ESSA requirements will be replacing the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirements. NCLB will continue to be upheld through the next year while WDE evaluates options and stakeholder input before implementing ESSA.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Staff Update: Andrea happily reported that PTSB has seen some stability in the staff over the past year and hopes this will continue as the receptionist position was approved by the Legislature to move from an AWEC to an FTE position. This allows PTSB to offer full benefits to this now permanent position. Andrea provided a staff-wide update discussing the strengths each staff member brings to the mission and work of the PTSB.

Update on Application & Workshop Processing: Although the number of applications has fluctuated by month-by-month, overall processing numbers are consistent with previous years. Workshops are also staying fairly consistent with previous years.

Financial Report: Due to the Cost Allocation billed to PTSB on May 19, 2016 it was necessary for PTSB to submit a B-II request to increase its spending authority. Cost Allocation is the method for which self-funded (or non-generally-funded) agencies pay back the cost of using State services that are funded out of the General Fund. Even with this additional B-II request, PTSB's revenue stream is keeping pace with its spending authority.

HB0062 → HEA0040 → 2014 Session Laws Chapter 69:

During the 2014 Legislative Session, legislation (originally proposed as HB0062, enrolled as HEA0040, and finalized after the session as Chapter 69 of the 2014 Session Laws) was enacted which impacts all licensing boards. The five identified impacts were outlined in the Board Packet and discussed briefly during the meeting.

Update on Legislative Interim Activities: Andrea Bryant and Nicholas Bellack have made it a point to attend as many legislative meetings as they can to enhance PTSB's presence and partnership with all aspects of the education community. In May they attended the Select Committee on Statewide Education Accountability (SCSEA) where Andrea was listed on the agenda to specifically respond to how current rules and regulations influence Phase II of the Wyoming Education in Accountability Act (WAEA). Most notably, the word "teacher" is proposed be taken out of the language in the next legislative session. The focus has switched to leader accountability. PTSB will be participating in Phase I (starting with focusing on WAEA alignment to ESSA) and Phase II (leadership accountability) meetings for the Advisory Committee to the Select Committee on Statewide Education Accountability.

Andrea and Nick also attended the Joint Education Meeting on June 13-14 in Casper. The meeting included discussions surrounding an increased focus on STEM within Wyoming. Most notably was a discussion around endorsement areas surrounding computer science. There is an ongoing discussion with some members of the committee looking into how to get more computer science teachers licensed to teach in Wyoming schools as well as a discussion surrounding what credit can be offered with computer science content (elective vs. foreign language vs. math).

Update on the Statewide System of Support: Nicholas Bellack has been attending the Statewide System of Support meetings on PTSB's behalf. Council members testified at the Select Committee on Statewide Education Accountability meeting on May 9 with a focus surrounding what options are available in the tiered support structure. The Statewide System of Support met on June 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss ESSA, action steps for 2016-2017, and plans for advocating with legislators for funding the regional model.

Update on the online Educator Credentialing, Assignment Validation, and Reporting System: There is no substantial progress to report. WDE has provided the requirements for the Assignment Validation portion of the system but ETS has not reported any progress on the system in months. The Board advised PTSB Staff to prioritize agency tasks first and to work on the system as time and system functioning allows.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Moved by Tracy Ragland and seconded by John Lyttle to move into executive session at 2:30 pm to discuss personnel matters. Motion carried.

Executive Session concluded at 3:59 pm.

### **RECESS**

The Board recessed for the day at 4:00 pm.

### **RECONVENE**

The Board reconvened the meeting on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at 8:18 am.

### **PRAXIS PRESENTATION BY TERRY OWENS, EDUCATIONAL TESTING SERVICES**

Terry Owens with Educational Testing Services (ETS) is PTSB's assigned Client Relations Director, and she provided a presentation on ETS and available products. ETS strives to provide innovative and meaningful measurement and assessment solutions that improve teaching and learning, expand educational opportunities, and inform policy. Terry also clarified available testing sites throughout Wyoming and surrounding states.

### **CAEP UPDATE**

Aaron Jensen provided a recap of the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) accreditation visit at UW for which he attended on behalf of the Board in an observer capacity.

Andrea Bryant provided a CAEP Training-in-Brief where she explained who CAEP is and how their accreditation process works. The University of Wyoming (UW) completed the national accreditation process utilizing NCATE Legacy Standards and process in March. However, UW will still have to complete several Program Reviews through the SPAs and a couple through PTSB. In addition, UW will begin to shift to CAEP standards and accreditation process for their next accreditation process. There are some challenges that will accompany this transition to CAEP due to some standards being extremely difficult for UW to meet due to size and lack of diversity in Wyoming. CAEP also has been experiencing a lot of turnover in staff resulting in states and Educator Preparation Providers (EPPs) getting mixed messages from CAEP and from SPA coordinators.

### **PROGRAM APPROVAL OF UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING PROGRAMS**

Nicholas Bellack provided an overview of the extensive process necessary for program approval. PTSB provides program approval to programs offered by the University of Wyoming (UW) that lead to licensure or endorsement in the state of Wyoming.

Liesl Sisson moved and Tracey Ragland seconded for the Social Studies Program to be approved for continued program approval with the timelines for follow-up by the program recommended in the SPA Report in Attachment I3.a.i. Leslie Rush and Ray Reutzel abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Shawn Peck moved and Jason Wheeler seconded for the Physical Education Program to be approved for continued program approval with the timelines for follow-up by the program recommended in the SPA Report in Attachment I3.a.ii. Leslie Rush and Ray Reutzel abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

John Lyttle moved and Aaron Jensen seconded for the Middle Level Mathematics Program to be approved for continued program approval with conditions using the timelines for follow-up as recommended in the

Program Review Committee Report in Attachment I3.b.i. Leslie Rush and Ray Reutzel abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Tracy Ragland moved and Jason Wheeler seconded for the Reading Program to be approved for continued program approval with conditions using the timelines for follow-up by the program as recommended in the Program Review Committee Report in Attachment I3.b.ii. Leslie Rush and Ray Reutzel abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

John Lyttle moved and Molly Kinsey seconded for the School Social Work Program to be approved for continued program approval with the associated time limits as recommended in the Program Review Committee Report in Attachment I3.b.iii. Leslie Rush and Ray Reutzel abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Program approval for the Teachers of American Indian Children Program was postponed to the October 2016 Board Meeting.

Next, Andrea Bryant provided the Board with an overview of the PTSB Program Review process and discussed limitations to the current process. She discussed desired outcomes, special cases, and options for improving the current process. The Board discussed different policy options for when a program may request an exemption for being Nationally Recognized. As well as to make the process consistent and transparent.

Moved by Tracy Ragland and seconded by Aaron Jensen to adopt options 1 and 2 in attachment I3.c. as approved procedures for working with programs which, after repeated attempts, are unable to meet National Recognition by the respective SPA and are in need of program approval. Motion carried.

#### **BOARD OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Moved by Jason Wheeler and seconded by Molly Kinsey that it will be Board policy to have elected Board Officers serve a two year term with the election occurring the first meeting following March 1<sup>st</sup> in odd years. Motion carried.

#### **SCHOOL-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP**

Moved by Liesl Sisson and seconded by Shawn Peck for the Board to continue its membership with the Wyoming School-University Partnership for the 2016-17 school year.

#### **RULE CHANGES**

##### Chapter 6 Permits:

The changes to the Substitute Permit will clarify the requirements as follows:

- The minimum number of college semester hours required for applicants is 65, however, PTSB has accepted conferred associate's degrees in lieu of 65 semester credits as some associate's degrees only require 60 semester hours.

Wording in the chapters has also been clarified throughout to make the PTSB Rules more accessible to Wyoming citizens.

- The General Educational Development (GED) Certificate is no longer offered in Wyoming, so the proposed language updates that a "high school diploma or equivalent" is the requirement allowing for applicants who completed a different type of testing.

Shawn Peck moved and Tracy Ragland seconded to proceed with the proposed Rule change as presented in Attachment I6 for Chapter 6 with an additional modification changing Section 2(b)(ii) to reflect a minimum of 60 instead of 65 semester hours. Motion carried.

### **EDUCATOR DISCIPLINE**

Andrea Bryant provided the Board with the Summary Statistics of PTSB Background Review table reflecting disciplinary review over the past six months. She also discussed an article printed in USA Today and what the review really means and what affected PTSB's grade in the article. Nicholas Bellack provided an update regarding the NASDTEC course *Prevention and Correction: An Overview* and the success PTSB has had utilizing it as a disciplinary method for educators who violate rules and ethics but do not quite meet the level of revocation. Nicholas also discussed PTSB's efforts to review and update its *Professional Conduct Guide* and the MCEE may be utilized as a tool in this process. Nicholas felt it would be best to have a subcommittee of the Board to help facilitate work on this project. The Board created a committee to aid in the review of the *Professional Conduct Guide* and *MCEE*. Board Members appointed to this committee are: Leslie Rush, Molly Kinsey, and Jason Wheeler (John Lyttle was later added to the committee by Chair Potas).

### **DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION**

Discussion regarding the Dual Language Immersion was postponed to the next meeting. PTSB has a meeting with districts to draft Dual Language Immersion licensure requirements scheduled for July 7, 2016.

### **DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL SCHOOL NURSE LICENSURE CHANGES**

The staff at PTSB have been discussing a possible phase out process of the School Nurse Endorsement and School Nurse Permit offered by PTSB with several leaders in the school nursing field (School Nurses Association, UW School of Nursing, the Wyoming Board of Nursing, and the Wyoming Department of Education). In order to be eligible for either type of PTSB licensure, nurses must first hold and maintain their RN license with the Wyoming Board of Nursing. In essence, this group of licensees must maintain dual licensure. Although the PTSB licensure is optional for employment, many school districts still require school nurses to hold PTSB licensure. It was the consensus of this group that PTSB should explore the possibility of discontinuing School Nurse licensure and leave the Wyoming Board of Nursing to provide the only licensure for school nurses. Our agency will be continuing its efforts in soliciting stakeholders to form a recommendation to the Board in the coming months regarding a recommendation on whether or not to continue to offer the School Nurse licensure.

### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

Molly Kinsey moved and Leslie Rush seconded to schedule the next Regular Board Meetings for October 10, 2016 at 8:15 a.m. in Casper, January 23, 2017 at 3:30 pm via virtual meeting format, and the two-day retreat will be June 12-13, 2017 in Laramie. Motion carried.

The Board postponed scheduling the March/April 2017 meeting until the October meeting.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.