

**PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS BOARD (PTSB)  
WEN VIDEO CONFERENCE – MULTI-SITE  
JANUARY 25, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER – 3:00 P.M.**

Present: Board: Molly Kinsey, Shawn Peck, Molly Potas, Liesl Sisson, Jason Wheeler, Dan Mayer, Leslie Rush, Ray Reutzell, Aaron Jensen, Brenda Creel, Tracy Ragland, John Lyttle, and Janice Marshall; Staff: Andrea Bryant, Nicholas Bellack, Ashley Graham, Trisha Wright, and Morgan DiNoble; Attorney General's Office: Mackenzie Williams; Guests: Wyoming Department of Education: Brent Bacon; Wyoming Education Association: Kathy Scheurman; Campbell County School District #1: Larry Reznicek, Jody Howly, and Keri Shannon; Utah State Office of Education: Gregg Roberts and Brandee Mau; Wyoming DLI Parent Group: Ann Tollefson, Thea True-Wells, and Nicole Thompson; Albany County School District #1: John Weigel and Barb Farley

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Janice Marshall and seconded by Dan Mayer to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Brenda Creel and seconded by Tracy Ragland to adopt the Board Meeting minutes from October 12, 2015 with no changes. Motion carried.

**DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION**

Gregg Roberts with the Utah State Office of Education presented on Utah's Dual Language Immersion (DLI) program. Utah's DLI program is a top-down initiative where Utah schools received funding to support the Governor's Language Summit and the Governor's World Language Council's goal of creating a K-12 language roadmap for Utah. Utah's DLI program is in 138 schools and has 1,274 DLI teachers who teach utilizing a dual teacher model with time spent in each language (English and the target foreign language) at a 50/50 ratio. Utah utilizes an international teacher bank to recruit many of its teachers and aids in its foreign teachers accessing J-I Visas and Q-I Visas. Gregg Roberts summarized Utah's DLI licensure requirements consistent with the Utah State Office of Education report by Jamie Leite found at:

<http://www.wm.edu/offices/revescenter/internationalization/papers%20and%20presentations/jaime%20leite%20-%20utah%20model.pdf>

“Dual language immersion teachers must have a current K–12 teaching license with credentials for elementary or secondary education. Teachers must also prove a certain level of language proficiency, as evidenced by a minimum score of AdvancedMid on the Oral Proficiency Interview conducted by ACTFL. Mandatory training for teachers is provided by the state through a week-long Annual Utah Dual Immersion Institute (AUDII) in August and other professional development days throughout the year. Teachers are also required to obtain two endorsements to teach in Utah immersion: the World Language Endorsement and the Dual Language Immersion Endorsement. Some Utah immersion teachers are international guest teachers who have come to the United States on a J-I visa for one to three years because of Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) that the Utah State Office of Education has negotiated with agencies in six countries: Brazil, China, France, Mexico, Spain, and Taiwan.”

Gregg Roberts fielded questions such as how Utah treats teachers from Puerto Rico (such teachers are treated as out-of-state domestic applicants). He also stressed that Wyoming should consider seeking MOUs with countries like Spain and China as soon as possible. Utah brings in about 100 foreign teachers a year, and they currently have about 200 teachers licensed as International Guest Teachers.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRANSCRIPT EVALUATION SERVICES ACCEPTED BY PTSB**

As a way to increase flexibility for districts and applicants, Board staff evaluated the transcript evaluation services it accepts for applicants who obtained their education outside of the country and are applying for licensure in Wyoming. PTSB staff members researched the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) and determined that it is a reputable regulator of the industry and recommended that the Board accept any transcript evaluation services provider that is a member of NACES.

Moved by Brenda Creel and seconded by Shawn Peck to accept only transcript evaluation service providers maintaining membership with the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) for use in the application process by applicants in need of foreign transcript evaluation services. Motion carried.

### **WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (WDE) UPDATE**

Brent Bacon, Chief Academic Officer for WDE, provided an update to the PTSB on behalf of the WDE.

- Brent discussed the S5S (Superintendent's Summit) which hosted about 150 attendees from across the state to discuss topics around career readiness, school improvement, graduation and remediation and was an overall great success.
- WDE has been working with legislators on the budget for the upcoming budget session, and they anticipate further interesting conversations moving forward.
- They are working with 16 other states for the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program to develop work study programs and a more focused vision. WDE will be working with PTSB for the licensure of these educators for this program.
- WDE has developed its Equity Plan for which focus will be on recruitment and retention of teachers across the state, and they will utilize their partnership with the University of Wyoming (UW) to expand opportunities.
- The Daniels Fund has provided a substantial grant for UW to improve the quality of its teacher preparation program.
- WDE is working on creating a state digital learning plan which is due in October and will feature a listening tour across the state to determine areas of need.
- The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) will be replacing the No Child Left Behind Act. WDE is still working on fully conceptualizing the process from which they will be implementing and understanding this Act and what it means for Wyoming.
- There is an Early Childhood study going on that is anticipated to continue throughout the year where recommendations for legislation will be formed surrounding the question of where the state-level early childhood should be housed (such as with WDE or Wyoming Department of Health, etc.).
- The assignment validation portion of the Educator Credentialing, Assignment Validation, and Reporting System being created by Enterprise Technology Services is being worked on and progress has been slow. There is a concern regarding the funds expiring on June 30<sup>th</sup> of this year.

WDE, like the rest of the state, has experienced budget cuts and worries about needing to fund the remainder of this project once the funds expire in June.

- The WEN Video Network will be decommissioned in June of this year.
- Finally, Brent concluded with a list of bills WDE will be monitoring throughout the upcoming legislative session.

### CONSIDERATION OF CHANGES TO UW'S DIRECTOR K-12 PROGRAM

Leslie Rush discussed the University of Wyoming's (UW) request to change the agreement under which UW can provide an Institutional Recommendation for the Director K-12 endorsement as presented below.

*The University of Wyoming's Certification Officer may complete an Institutional Recommendation (IR) for a Director K-12 endorsement for candidates who complete the requirements outlined below:*

*1) Completion of the UW master's degree in Special Education (34 to 41 credit hours; approved by the PTSB for an Exceptional Generalist K-12 endorsement)*

*PLUS*

*2) Completion of the UW Educational Leadership Principal Graduate Certificate Program (18 to 21 credit hours; approved by the PTSB for a Principal K-12 endorsement)*

*Successful completion of this program enables candidates to receive the Director K-12 endorsement on their license upon receipt of a complete application.*

After consultation with our Special Education and Educational Leadership faculty members, we would like to request a change to this agreement, so that it would read as follows:

*The University of Wyoming's Certification Officer may complete an Institutional Recommendation (IR) for a Director K-12 endorsement for candidates who complete the requirements outlined below:*

*1) Completion of a UW Special Education program that is approved by the PTSB for an Exceptional Generalist K-12 endorsement*

*PLUS*

*2) Completion of a UW Educational Leadership Principal program that is approved by the PTSB for a Principal K-12 endorsement.*

*Successful completion of both programs enables candidates to receive the Director K-12 endorsement on their license upon receipt of a complete application.*

(From UW's request to change the agreement for the Director K-12 endorsement program prepared by Leslie Rush dated 11/30/2015)

Moved by Liesl Sisson and seconded by Dan Mayer to accept the proposed changes to the requirements for the University of Wyoming to provide an Institutional Recommendation for the Director K-12 endorsement as outlined in Attachment 8. Board Members Ray Reutzler and Leslie Rush abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest based on their affiliation with UW. Motion carried.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Andrea Bryant provided an extensive director's report discussing updates on several PTSB projects and daily duties.

- Applications and workshop processing numbers are both up from previous years' numbers.

- The financial report showed that revenue continues to slightly outpace expenditures with expenditures being mainly associated with application volume demands. PTSB's accountant has recommended the Board request a B-II to increase spending authority by approximately \$45,000. The process of converting PTSB's AWEC Receptionist position to an FTE position was approved by the Joint Appropriations Committee and is expected to be in the budget bill in the upcoming legislative session.
- Andrea discussed and provided the updated National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) Interstate Agreement for Educator Licensure, which is updated every five years.
- There was significant news to report on the P20W SLDS. The Department of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) notified a few of the P20W SLDS stakeholders that "due to [their] inability to establish a sound agreement regarding governance for the P20W SLDS solution, ETS proposed reverting the appropriated funding back to the School Foundation fund. The Governor's Policy Office has now re-appropriated the funding to provide for the Community College Data Warehouse solution and [ETS is] no longer moving forward with developing the P20W SLDS." Unfortunately, ETS did not notify all stakeholder groups, but the information was passed along to PTSB via colleagues in other agencies. ETS received an appropriation of several million dollars for this project that has now been aborted, and much of that funding was expended over the past three and half years yet no product exists.
- The online Educator Credentialing, Assignment Validation, and Reporting System is not currently in use by PTSB or WDE.
  - The Assignment Validation portion is WDE's focus, and ETS is currently in the requirements gathering phase of this portion. ETS has set June 30<sup>th</sup> as a drop-dead deadline for this portion to be in production as the appropriated funding will expire on that date.
  - There is currently no reporting incorporated into the system despite ETS's report to the JEC in June of 2015 that it was already included; that was the first time PTSB had been introduced to the reporting portion. In July of 2015, ETS staff met with Andrea and Nick to obtain a list of reports needed for the system, but there has been no update or progress reported since that date.
  - For the educator credentialing portion, there are concerns of the functionality of the system compared to PTSB's current system and the industry standard for current systems. With this, PTSB will need to be mindful of managing this gap to allow for efficient productivity as well as user friendliness for stakeholders. Further, there is great concern regarding fake data compromising the system for user functionality as well as reporting. ETS has been unsuccessful in clearing the system completely of all fake data thus far.

### FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board had previously scheduled its next two Board Meetings for April 15, 2016, via WEN Video Conference from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm and for June 20-21, 2016 via Face-to-Face in Lander, WY.

### MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.