



**PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS BOARD**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**GOOGLE HANGOUT - VIRTUAL**  
**APRIL 20, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER - 3:03 pm**

Present: Board: Sara Reed, Jon VanOverbeke, Jennifer Schultze, Liesl Sisson, Dixie Brackman, Ray Reutzler, Liann Brenneman, Tracey Ragland, Mike Hamel, Dan Mayer, Jenna Shim; Janice Marshall  
Staff: Nish Goicolea, Brendan O'Connor, Trisha Wright, Jillian Regan; Attorney General's Office: Randall Lockyear, MacKenzie Williams ; Guests: WEA: Kathy Vetter, InLumon: Brian

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by Janice Marshall and seconded by Liesl Sisson to accept and approve all items listed on the consent agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda:

1. Adoption of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes - January 27, 2020
3. License Ratification

**DISCIPLINARY**

3:20 PM - Executive Session moved by Liesl Sisson, seconded by Jennifer Schultze. Executive Session adjourns at 4:15PM.

1. Recommendation for Dismissal of Complaint: Docket # 2019-006 - Motioned by Mike Hamel and seconded by Dixie Brackman - Tracy Ragland and Liann Brenneman abstained from voting.
2. Recommendation of Dismissal of Complaint: Docket # 2019-028 - Motioned by Mike Hamel, seconded by Ray Reutzler - Liesl Sisson and Dan Mayer abstained from voting.
3. Approval of Settle Agreement: Docket # 2019-004 - Motioned by Dan Mayer, seconded by Jennifer Schultze

**COMPUTER SCIENCE UPDATE**

Brendan O'Connor gave a brief rundown of the Computer Science programs around the state. LCCC program is the 6th college with an approved accredited program.

Motioned by Janice Marshall to approve LCCC's program; seconded by Jon VanOverbeke.

**ETS PRAXIS**

The middle School Science Praxis will be replaced from 5540 to 5442

Motioned by Jon OverVanbeke, seconded by Ray Reutzler



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**NBCT**

Nish Giocolea gave a brief overview of the Nationally recognized teachers and how PTSB would like to count renewal of certification, or maintenance of certification to meet PTSB license renewal requirements.

Motioned by Ray Reutzler, seconded by Jon OverVanbeke

**INLUMON**

Nish explained there has been no new process with InLumon and with having to make budget cuts she is asking to cancel our contract and move on.

Motioned by Mike Hamel, seconded by Dixie Brackman.

**COVID-19 FLEXIBILITY**

Nish Giocolea gave a brief overview of what many college students are having issues with such as student teaching, testing, and receiving pass/fail grades rather than a letter grade. Nish mentions that the University of Wyoming graduates were able to complete their ten (10) weeks so they meet all the PTSB requirements but many other universities were not so fortunate. Nish is recommending that PTSB accept letter grades, passing or satisfactory grades as noted on transcripts for the Spring 2020 semester for all candidates who have met the state's requirements even if modified due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Motioned by Janice Marshall, seconded by Dan Meyer.

**RULE CHANGES EMERGENCY AND REGULAR**

Nish Giocolea discussed why we need both regular and emergency rule changes. PTSB is in need of the Emergency changes due to the Speech Language Pathology changes along with the pandemic we are currently experiencing.

**Chapter 4**

Speech-Language Pathologists will no longer be licensed with us as of July 1, 2020. PTSB currently has two hundred and twenty two (222) licensed. Twenty-two (22) of them are under the equivalency program and will need to be reviewed by the SLP Board's ARC but PTSB is working closely with them to ensure a smooth transition.

Nish also gives an overview of the the strikethroughs in Chapter 4 and practicum experience for individuals wishing to add an endorsement at a grade level they currently do not hold, giving two options to obtain this endorsement would be to complete a practicum course or



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having a supervisor verifying the completion of supervised experience at the new grade level.

**Emergency** - Motioned by Liann Brenneman, seconded by Ray Reutzel

**Regular** - Motioned by Liesl Sisson, seconded by Jennifer Schultze.

**Chapter 5**

Nish Giocolea explains the changes PTSB would like to see happen with the Out-of-Field Endorsement route. Nish explains that with this new pathway teachers able to pass the Praxis would get endorsed within that subject. The district would have to request this, not the individual, they must have their district sign off on this endorsement for PTSB to approve. This route would be helpful in the rural areas of Wyoming. If the teacher with an endorsement like this were to move to another district, their new district would have to request this exception within their district.

With Covid-19 PTSB is asking to add a new EA to help with both initial licensure and/or renewal/reinstatements. This EA would help applicants gain more time to complete anything missing to make their application complete, anything from their credits missing for renewal or reinstatement or a course that was required from their initial license. The applicant would be required to provide a written statement explaining how Covid-19 impacted them from completing the requirements, a plan of action and a timeframe to getting it all completed. This EA would be good for two (2) years.

**Emergency** Motioned by Mike Hamel, seconded by Dixie Brackman

**Regular** Motioned by Liesl Sisson, seconded by Jennifer Schultze

**Chapter 6**

Nish Giocolea gives a brief overview of the Professional, Industry, and Career Permit (PIC). As mentioned in January's meeting PTSB would like to offer licensure with a PIC of more than ten(10) years to be able obtain an initial license. For those currently holding a PIC permit but do not have ten(10) years of experience they can still obtain the Standard License but would need to complete these seven (7) mandatory courses before applying for a Standard.

- Foundations of development and learning,
- Introduction to school law,
- Introduction to special education,
- Methods of instruction to include classroom management,
- Introduction to Psychology, and
- Development Psychology.

A member of the board was concerned about the teachers that have held a PIC permit for more than ten (10) years not having to take the courses above because they may be some of the teachers that may need refresher training.



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**Emergency** Motioned by Liesl Sisson, seconded by Jenna Shim  
**Regular** Motioned by Jon VanOverbeke, seconded by Janice Marshall

#### **MIRCO-CREDENTIALS**

Nish Geocolea provided a brief overview of what PTSB staff has been working on. We are looking into what other states are doing with Micro-credentialing, especially the bill that was just passed in Texas. More information will be presented in the June board meeting.

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Staff Update:** Nish gave a brief update on the staff and what they have been working on. Nish explained that the agency's at-will employee was no longer with us and the position will not be filled due to cuts as well as being instructed by the Governor.

**Applications & Workshops:** Nish updated the members on our application process, all of our applications are now online. The US/WY constitution test is now offered online, and we have been getting positive feedback from applicants and educators on this transformation.

**Background Checks:** We are looking closely with DCI and the FBI to figure out the best way to do background checks until more Sheriff Departments open back up nationwide. PTSB has checked statewide and only a handful are doing them by appointment only. DCI and the FBI are looking into a plan to do a name check process but do not have a solid date or plan thus far.

**Workshops:** 92 workshops have been canceled due to Covid-19 making it difficult for renewals.

**UW dues:** Executive counsel is discussing the amount in their meeting this summer but Nish proposed it go to \$1000 to \$3000.

**NASDTEC Updates:** Nish presented a brief overview of the changes NASDTEC has done. They have opened up their database to colleges for background information on licenses.

**Board Training:** Nish gave an update on the training stating it has been cancelled for the May 1st date but will update once she receives a new date.

Districts are expressing their concerns about teacher shortages due to the pandemic and having to virtually teach. Some educators are stating they are contemplating an early retirement due to the pandemic. Nish expressed this as it was so important to get the Emergency Rules in place as well as the Covid-19 EA so there are multiple avenues for new educators.

#### **FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS**



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**June Board Retreat:** June 8-10th. We are still hoping to have it face-to-face in the new training complex in the Capitol building but this will be determined by the phases the Governor provides to the state regarding Covid.

**Fall Board Meeting** will be held in October, PTSB will be looking at the calendar to determine some dates. These dates will be discussed in the June meeting.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at **5:26pm**