



# PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS BOARD

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Date: November 2018

To: Superintendents, Directors (HR, Special Education, Curriculum, Business Services, Other Educational Entities), and Principals

From: Nish Goicolea, PTSB Executive Director

RE: PTSB Quarterly Update

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

My goal as the Executive Director is to always have open communication and transparency within the agency, with my staff, my supervising Board of Directors, and all stakeholders. This is a quarterly update regarding our recent board meeting, changes, and projects. Please contact me, or any member of the team for questions or more information.

Staff Member	Position	Responsibilities	Contact Information
Nish Goicolea	Executive Director	Leadership and oversight of agency operations, Board representative to legislature and public	(307) 777-6256 <a href="mailto:nish.goicolea@wyo.gov">nish.goicolea@wyo.gov</a>
Brendan O'Connor	Assistant Director	Leadership, agency operations, professional development, program review	(307) 777-1926 <a href="mailto:brendan.oconnor1@wyo.gov">brendan.oconnor1@wyo.gov</a>
Ashley Graham	Discipline Specialist	DCI Background checks, investigations, and Board logistics	(307) 777-6222 <a href="mailto:ashley.graham@wyo.gov">ashley.graham@wyo.gov</a>
Trisha Wright	Lead Licensing Specialist	Applicants whose Last Name begins with L-Z and educator credentialing system management	(307) 777-2486 <a href="mailto:trisha.wright@wyo.gov">trisha.wright@wyo.gov</a>
Nannette Tardif	Licensing Specialist	Applicants whose Last Name begins with A-K	(307) 777-7294 <a href="mailto:nannette.tardif@wyo.gov">nannette.tardif@wyo.gov</a>
Allie Leitza	Professional Development Specialist	Oversee professional development, coordinate approval, and research internal and external initiatives	(307) 777-7295 <a href="mailto:allie.leitza@wyo.gov">allie.leitza@wyo.gov</a>
Nicole Donbraska	Administrative Assistant	Application intake, general information, US & WY Constitution Exams, application fees, and special projects	(307) 777-7291 <a href="mailto:nicole.donbraska@wyo.gov">nicole.donbraska@wyo.gov</a>

More resources for our stakeholders are the PTSB Board Members who each represent different areas of the Wyoming education community. Our current Board Members are:

Board Member	Position
Sara Reed	Elementary Teacher
Shawn Peck	Elementary Teacher
Jennifer Schultze	Secondary Teacher
Liesl Sisson	Secondary Teacher
Jason Wheeler	Secondary Teacher
Dan Mayer	Auxiliary Professional Services
Jenna Shim	Approved Programs Faculty
Ray Reutzel	College of Education Dean
Aaron Jensen	Community College Faculty
Liann Brenneman	Elementary Principal
Tracy Ragland	Secondary Principal (Board Chair)
Mike Hamel	Central Office Administrator
Janice Marshall	School Board Member

### **COMPLETION OF DIGITIZING PROJECT**

PTSB has completed digitizing all records and as of October 2018 agency staff has scanned over 33,000 files. Once the new Educator Credentialing System is in place we hope to become a fully paperless agency. According to Shred-It we have saved 126,445 trees.

### **ONLINE SYSTEM: EDUCATOR CREDENTIALING, ASSIGNMENT VALIDATION, AND REPORTING SYSTEM**

We are pleased to announce that we are doing a soft launch of the new ECS system, with the goal of a full external launch in early 2019. The new system will allow educators and school districts to view the application process through each step and have the educator certificate available at any time. The new system will also send reminders and have the capability to send bulk emails for notifications, job vacancies, and any changes in licensing requirements.

### **MICRO-CREDENTIALING**

Micro-credentialing is being researched by PTSB as a possible way to recognize professional development programs by awarding a badge to educator certificates. Micro-credentialing is focused on competency-based learning to acquire skills. UW is working on implementing pilot-programs focused in special education, computer science, and literacy. PTSB has contacted numerous other states and organizations that have begun utilizing micro-credentialing models to ensure we have a framework for approving these professional development opportunities, while understanding the potential challenges to ensure quality and rigor.

### **SCIENCE GENERALIST ENDORSEMENT**

The science generalist endorsement has been officially approved through the rules changes process and the Governor. This allows an educator to teach multiple disciplines of science. For more information, please contact our office.

### **DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION (DLI) EXCEPTION AUTHORIZATION**

The DLI exception authorization has been officially approved through the rules changes process and the Governor. Districts and applicants interested in this option should contact our office for more information.

### **PROFESSIONAL INDUSTRY & CAREER PERMIT (PIC)**

The modification to the PIC permit has been officially approved through the rules changes process and the Governor. This change will allow career technical education (CTE) courses to be taught by individuals who meet industry standards, with the exception of Business, Agriculture, and Family & Consumer Science. These last three areas still require a bachelor's degree, whereas others need only meet industry standards of certification. Districts and applicants interested in this option should contact our office for more information.

### **CONSULTANT SPECIALIST PERMIT**

According to PTSB Chapter 6, Section 2(c) rules, PTSB has the ability to grant a Consultant Specialist Permit to districts requesting the need for an applicant that is "highly and uniquely qualified". The districts may utilize this option if they find an instance that is outside of the normal licensing parameters. This permit will also be used to replace the Rural Waivers and all requests will go before a Board appointed Application Review Committee for approval.

### **RESEARCH PROJECTS**

Per Board mandate at the recent October Board meeting the PTSB staff is conducting research in the following areas: micro-credentialing, agricultural education, career technical education (CTE), veteran licensing fees, and alternative routes to licensure in other states. If you or your district are interested in these topics or have other areas related to education and licensure you would like the PTSB staff to investigate please contact our office.

### **EDUCATOR DISCIPLINE**

One of the three main pillars of PTSB is educator discipline. We ask that the districts please notify PTSB if disciplinary action is taken on a Wyoming licensed educator so that we can at least document and potentially take action on the license and/or notify NASDTEC so that other districts and states are aware. If you have questions or concerns related to this area please contact us. Part of the PTSB mission is to ensure competent ethical educators are in Wyoming classrooms.

### **BOARD/COMMITTEE SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The PTSB Board approved to accept service hours spent on education committees or boards as professional development hours. These hours must be documented, related to education, and approved by PTSB. If you have questions regarding this topic please contact Allie Leitza at [allie.leitza@wyo.gov](mailto:allie.leitza@wyo.gov) for more information.

### **AGENCY CHANGES AND RESTRUCTURING**

In an effort for continuous quality improvement PTSB has undergone restructuring in anticipation of the new Educator Credentialing System. We have hired a new Assistant Director. We have moved from 3 licensing specialists to 2, created a Professional Development Specialist position, a Discipline Specialist position, and have one Administrative Assistant. We have also absorbed a position in order to cut costs and be more efficient.

### **RENEWAL DEADLINE CHANGES**

Beginning in January 2019 all license renewals will now fall on the applicant's birthday (similar to a driver's license) rather than a random date. PTSB anticipates this will spread the renewals throughout the year, lower the summer intake, and speed up the application process time. Also, applicants should have an easier time remembering their renewal date.

### **PTSB STAKEHOLDER VISITS**

The staff members at PTSB are always available as a resource for your district needs. If you see us at an event please feel free to pose any questions or challenges you have for educator licensure and discipline. If your district would like to schedule PTSB Staff to visit in person or virtually, please contact the PTSB office at 307-777-7291 or at [wyoptsb@wyo.gov](mailto:wyoptsb@wyo.gov).

### **UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS**

The following PTSB Meetings have been scheduled. Other meetings may be scheduled as necessary to conduct Board business. To receive notice of Board Meetings and agendas, contact Ashley Graham at [ashley.graham@wyo.gov](mailto:ashley.graham@wyo.gov).

- **Regular Board Meeting – Monday, January 7, 2019 at 3:30 pm (virtual)**
- **Regular Board Meeting – Monday, March 11, 2019 at 3:30 pm (virtual)**

### **QUESTIONS/COMMENTS/CONCERNS**

We are available and open to all discussions that fall within the agency parameters of program approval, discipline, and licensure. The PTSB is actively working to improve dialogue, implement changes, be a resource, and plan for the future to continue meeting our mission “to ensure that every student is served by competent, ethical educators, who meet rigorous performance standards” in Wyoming. Thank you for your continued support and partnership.