



PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS BOARD

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Date: March 2022

From: Brendan O'Connor, PTSB Executive Director

RE: Director's Memo

APPLICATIONS

The PTSB office processed over 6,300 applications in 2021. That is the highest number of applications this agency has handled in a year. We have received over 1000 applications so far in 2022.

PTSB processed nearly 400 initial (first time) Coaching permits in 2021 – a record number for a year, and also set a record for initial Substitute permits at over 1,300. Additionally, we processed over 300 Exception Authorization applications in 2021. Hopefully your districts are finding these options helpful to meet your needs.

Our goal is to keep our processing time to four weeks as much as we can. The summer swell in application volume always extends our processing time, and we're committed to working as efficiently as possible to make sure all applicants are taken care of as soon as possible.

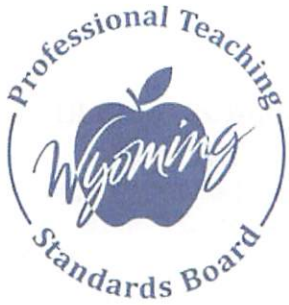
HIRING

Spring is the hiring season. Please remind your successful job candidates they need to be licensed with PTSB in order to be paid. We'll be happy to help them through the process.

Suggestion: For the end-of-school year check out in the district have your staff write down when their license / permit expires. This suggestion may help some educators realize their expiration date is coming up and they'll be able to renew their license before it lapses, saving themselves and the district a lot of heartburn. PTSB reminds educators that their license is their responsibility, but we realize many rely on their district to remind them of expiration dates. Please direct your staff to PTSB to answer questions about their expiration date or any other questions they may have about their license /permit.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

The 2022-2023 school year is when Computer Science courses need to be taught by educators holding a Computer Science endorsement. PTSB has approved seven CS programs at UW and six of the seven community colleges. Districts can use Exception Authorization Option #2 - Program Completion to get candidates enrolled into one of these 15-18 credit programs (or from other institutions if we have information on the program).



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The attached SCED Codes for WY Computer Science Courses lists the courses by SCED Code that are considered Computer Science. The left column A denotes YES = Computer Science requiring a Computer Science endorsement, or NO = may allow a different CTE teacher to teach. Hopefully this will help in your planning and staffing.

PTSB continues to partner with WDE on their Computer Science micro-credential pilot. At this time these micro-credentials count for renewal credits, but they do not lead to adding a Computer Science endorsement.

BIRTHDAY PROJECT

For the past few years, PTSB has been transitioning expiration dates to align with the educator's birthday. This spreads renewals throughout the year, instead of having all licenses expire August 31st as it was in years past. All renewals (and new applications) we've received over the past few years will note this change. We are proactively changing expiration dates for the coming months and years, and it is a priority for completing this project this year.

All licensees receive an email from our office notifying them of the change in their expiration date. As a reminder, all certificates are now in PDF format with the validity dates on the front; the educator can print you a copy for their personnel file if needed.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Tuesday, June 7, 2022 – Board Retreat/Regular Board Meeting- Cheyenne, WY

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS/CONCERNS

We are available and open to **all discussions that fall within the agency parameters of program approval, discipline, and licensure**. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you would like to share with PTSB, please do not hesitate to contact our office. The PTSB is actively working to improve **dialogue**, implement changes **proactively**, be a **resource**, and **plan for the future** to meet 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!

Becerra R/O Carson