



**PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
GOOGLE HANGOUT - VIRTUAL
JUNE 7, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER -9:05 AM

This meeting was called to order by President Liesl Sisson at 9:05 AM.

Present: **Board:** Liesl Sisson, Dixie Brackman, Mariah Learned, Jancie Marshall, Dr. Liann Brenneman, Brian Brisko, Proxy Jenna Shim; **Staff:** Brendan O'Connor, Michelle Vigil, Trisha Wright, Jillian Reagan; **Attorney General's Office:** Catherine Reeves; **Guests:** Shelley Hamel (WDE), Laurel Ballard (WDE), Wanda Maloney (WDE) and Tiffany Hunt (UW).

BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

Liesl Sisson stated PTSB needs a Secretary as Jennifer Schultze will be coming off the board this month.

- Janice Marshall moved to nominate Mariah Learned as the Secretary
 - Seconded by Liann Brenneman
 - Motion passed

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda

1. Adoption of Agenda
 2. Approval of Minutes - March 7, 2022
 3. License Ratification
- Moved by Janice Marshall to accept and approve all items listed on the consent agenda as presented
 - Seconded by Dixie Brackman
 - Motion passed

DISCIPLINARY

- Docket 2022-002 - Moved to approve the Dismissal by Dixie Brackman
 - Seconded by Mariah Learned
 - Recused from voting - Mike Hamel and Brian Brisko
 - Motion passed

- Docket 2022-015 Moved to approve the Dismissal by Mariah Learned
 - Seconded by Liann Brenneman
 - Recused from voting - Mike Hamel and Brian Brisko
 - Motion passed

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Laurel Ballard, WDE, provided an update on Micro-credentialing pilot(s).

- Dr. Ballard explained the demand of Computer Science Micro-credentials and the progress of establishing an Elementary CS pilot has been completed and being utilized. Dr. Laurel Ballard shared that thirty-nine (39) individuals are working this pilot currently.
- Dr. Ballard provided data that Wyoming currently has sixty-six (66) teachers actively teaching Computer Science under various ways of licensing, most currently being under an Exception Authorization with PTSB.
- Dr. Ballard gave recognition to her leadership team; WDE, PTSB, Carbon #1, Fremont #14, Unita #1, NCAR, Marzano Research, UW, YET Consulting, and Data Driven Enterprises. Dr. Ballard explained her leadership team has established the definition of high quality micro-credentialing during their monthly meetings. The leadership team has also established seventeen micro-credentialing within six stacks.
- Dr. Ballard stated that within the year of her previous presentation with PTSB she has also established an advisory board to oversee the work the leadership team has created as well as offer insight and suggestions for any changes, they are currently meeting on a monthly basis.
- Dr. Ballard provided a video of teachers that have completed all seventeen (17) micro-credentials of their thoughts on the program and how in-depth the information is, as well as making them a better teacher in their classroom.

Dr. Ballard requested a one year approval for educators to add the Computer Science endorsement through completion of the WDE pilots, and mentioned Director O'Connor would go over this later in the meeting.

TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP

Dr. Ballard explained that she and Director O'Connor are hearing from districts across the state that the State of Wyoming is struggling with getting teachers into open positions within their districts and staying within their communities. The State of Tennessee has designed a "Grow your Own Program" as a recognized apprenticeship model to get their community members in the class as they are completing their Bachelor's programs. This was explained as a great opportunity for long term substitute teachers or paraprofessionals. WDE and PTSB are collaborating with the Department of Labor to develop a similar program.

Dr. Ballard explained that Wyoming is looking at establishing a program with a three stage approach: 1) starting with long term substitute teachers and paraprofessionals so the district won't have to create a new position or look to hire additional staff; 2) looking for individuals within the district beyond paras and subs, such as cooks, custodians, and bus drivers that may be interested in the progra; and. 3) looking at students interested in becoming teachers and setting them up in a pre-apprenticeship program.

O'Connor stressed the importance of knowing this isn't decreasing the expectations in getting the license. The individuals within this program will be mentored with a Standard Licensed teacher as they are working on completing their BA degree in Education. Once they have completed the apprenticeship the individual will come out licensed with PTSB, and given a certificate from the Department of Labor for completion.

There was robust conversation of the opportunities this will allow for our state and our districts, especially in aspects for the paraprofessionals. There was a little pushback on the funding and the structure of the program having the apprentice leading the classroom.

PROGRAM APPROVALS

Elementary Education/Special Education Dual Program

Dr. Tiffany Hunt provided history on the dual major Elementary Education/Special Education. Until the development of this undergraduate program, UW's only avenue for Special Education was a Master's degree program. Dr. Hunt spoke of the collaboration between UW and districts to develop this program to allow for flexibility and accessibility. The dual major program is fully online. Dr. Hunt explained that Spring 2023 will be the first graduating class with this new dual program.

- Moved to grant conditional approval to the University of Wyoming Elementary Education and Special Education dual major program until the 2026-2027 academic year by Janice Marshall
 - Seconded by Liann Brenneman
 - Motion passed

WDE - Computer Science Micro - Credential

Board members directed PTSB staff to draft proposed rules to allow educators to earn add-on endorsements to existing licenses through the completion of PTSB-approved micro-credentials.

CWC - Early Childhood Special Education

Mariah Learned - seconded by Janice Marshall - Motion passed.

DIRECTOR REPORT

- Director O'Connor provided an update on our approved budget, including making our temp. Position to become permanent. As well as giving us approval to shop for our credentialing software.
- O'Connor provided an update on the Maxient system, mentioning we are in the negotiation stage and once an agreement has been made we should get the system up and running quickly. Brendan reminded the board members that this system will help provide more structure for our disciplinary cases and meetings.
- O'Connor went over PTSB's financials and workshops, pointing out that our overall numbers are up and as we stand now we may exceed our 6,000 applications from last year. We are seeing an increase in substitute permits and coaching permits.
- O'Connor went over PTSB's recent staff presentations across the state.
- O'Connor explained what Digilearn is and what the committee works to improve and work on. They are looking at getting national standards for micro credentialing.
- O'Connor mentioned that he and board chair, Liesl Sisson, will be heading to Boston for the NASDTEC conference June 11, 2022 for their annual conference.
- O'Connor mentioned that PTSB will be hosting a Title IX training in July with a few surrounding districts. If it is successful we will look at taking more of a lead on getting the training across the board.
- O'Connor mentioned that the advanced board training will be held from in person and virtually August 8, 2022

NEW PROPOSED CHAPTERS FOR APPLICATIONS AND DUE PROCESS/DISCIPLINE

Assistant AG Catherine Reeves explained the process of the new proposed chapters for applications and due process/discipline. Ms. Reeves explained that they mirror both civil and criminal processes so they are more standardized. Catherine provided differences in what our current rules and the model rules the Attorney General's office have drafted. Ms. Reeves explained that our current rules do not have wording for Summary Suspension, which she explained is okay but it would be important to ensure we are protecting the licensee and the vulnerable party, children.

Director O'Connor mentioned that we would like a committee to finalize what we want to incorporate in our Chapter 9 rules. Member Janice Marshall would serve on this committee. It was also recommended that Trisha Wright and Jillian Reagan serve on this committee as they know what our board really needs and what will work and not work.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Director O'Connor discussed the struggles with the clarification of Related Services and the responsibilities. What license do these individuals need to hold and who licenses them, whether it is PTSB or another board. Liann Brenneman volunteered to help with this committee

O'Connor reminded the board we approved the Early Childhood endorsement program in our March board meeting. Brendan explained that he is working on getting the community college and the university to work hand in hand on getting the Early Childhood and Early Childhood SPED. It was explained that they may not have a relationship now because Early Childhood is funded differently. More districts are adding Pre-K to the public schools but most teachers in our K-6 schools cannot teach Pre-K because of the routes to get the endorsements. Trisha Wright explained we have our re-evaluation app so that we can get the endorsement added to their certificate. Trisha Wright also explained that there has been some disconnect from PTSB and UW with observing hours but this has improved over the years.

O'Connor provided an update on coaching, the Governor signed and approved the change and the office is working on the transition. PTSB has received several phone calls regarding the Care and Prevention piece to our requirements. O'Connor explained that districts need a little more time for this class as districts are limited to getting this training throughout the year. O'Connor mentioned the board may think about giving the individuals a year to obtain the Care and Prevention. Board member Brian Brisko mentioned that allowing up to a year is a good idea only because there are only a few trainers in the state and they only come once or twice a year. O'Connor provided an update on the credits and what the board would like the community members as coaches to be held accountable for. O'Connor suggested lessening the credit requirement to two (2) credits: a half-credit for First Aid/CPR and one-and-a-half credits for Care and Prevention training. The board members agreed that two (2) credits is appropriate. The PTSB staff will get the certificates updated to reflect the two (2) hours.

LITERACY K-3

Director O'Connor explained this is a hot topic within the state and we will be watching this more closely, along with working with UW as they have a program. Mariah Learned and Liann Brenneman volunteered for this committee and will keep the board updated. Jenna Shim mentioned that she would be happy to update any updates coming UW.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

PTSB's next regular Board Meeting will be held on October 17, 2022.

- Moved by Mariah Learned to accept the proposed date of October 17th, 2022, for the next board meeting.

- Seconded by: Liann Brenneman
- Motion passed

ADJOURN

Liesl Sisson adjourned the meeting at **1:27 PM.**