

Staff Report
November 29, 2011

Licensing:

Transcript Reviews are currently 8 weeks, but should be getting shorter soon
Reinstatements are currently 2 weeks.

Initial and SLP/Auda applications processed within a week of arrival.

ROPA:

The team for the one - day visit on December 8, to Castleton State College for their new Health Ed is complete. Here is their contact information.

Patti Coultas as you know is Board member and I am sure you have her contact information.

PCoultas@vtc.edu

Jane Price is a Health Educator at Concord Graded and High School.

janeprice@concordk12vt.org.

The ROPA Design Team met on October 4 and November 2 to focus on aligning the new InTASC standards with the Level I Licensure Portfolio. The Team reviewed the standards and corresponding indicators to determine what would be reasonable to be met at a level of beginning educators. This work will continue at the next meeting on December 6.

L/RSB:

D. Giles visited one LSB in October and two in November. One of the November visits was a relicensure workshop for educators in that district. Deb, together with the DOE Education Technology Project Manager, Lynne Eyberg, hosted three sessions for L/RSB input in regards to the upcoming online Relicensing System in October. Attendance and input regarding the new system was both positive and enthusiastic. Along with ROPA Consultant Mary Beth Mc Nulty, Deb attended the first work session of the Administrator endorsement revision committee this month. She also continues to address questions/concerns from L/RSBs and individual educators.

Mentoring Update

This year, as part of Act 20 of 2011 (*An Act Relating to Providing Mentoring Supports for Teachers, New Principals, and New Technical Center Directors*), the Vermont Legislature has directed a committee to "study and evaluate the [teacher] induction and mentoring practices and programs currently in effect throughout Vermont." The committee is to submit a report to the Legislature by January 1, 2012. Since July, the

committee has reviewed research to identify best practices in mentoring, conducted a survey to determine current mentoring practices in Vermont schools, and considered recommendations to make to the state legislature in its report.

Vermont Task Force on Teacher/Leader Effectiveness

At its October meeting, the Task Force heard from four school districts who have implemented new evaluation systems. In addition, they reviewed and revised the purposes and outcome of their work as a result of the presentation made by Kathleen Skinner from the Massachusetts Teachers Association at the September meeting. The group felt the research contained the direction that should be used in developing the guidelines for Vermont school districts to use in their evaluation systems.

New Staff

Susan Yesalonia joined the Educator Quality Division in the Consultant I position on November 28, 2011. Her responsibilities will include transcript reviews, regulations checks prior to ROPA visits, and research. Susan was a physical education and health educator for many years primarily in schools in Central Vermont and most recently has been on the faculty at Norwich University. We are very pleased to have her among our ranks.