

Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators

*VSBPE: Ensuring a Caring, Competent, Highly Effective
Educator in Every Vermont Classroom to Improve Student
Learning*

Draft Meeting Minutes

Meeting Place: Virtual Meeting | Microsoft Teams | Call-in # 802-828-7667 | Conference ID
232 606 214 # | Date: February 08, 2024

Members Present: Amy Flannery, Jennifer Clement, Christine Kurucz, Katie Revelle,
Brenda Seitz, Bill Clark, Kate Fay, Amanda Garces, Bernadette Cleland, Bill Lucci

Members Absent: Ellen Emery, Amy Minor, Amy Pickering

Staff Present: Ron Ryan, Andrew Prowten, Deb Giles, Cathy Wilkins, Jessica Monahan,
Katie Gagliardo, Michelle Farrington, Ryan McCormick

Others:

Brandy Bennick
Mary Kay Jurovcik
Joy Wilcox
Alicia Beth

Approval of Agenda:

C. Kurucz called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.
B. Clark moved to approve the 11/29/23 agenda.
B. Seitz seconded the motion.
The motion was approved.

Approval of Minutes:

B. Seitz moved to approve the minutes from 11/29/2023.
Seconded by B. Clark.
The motion was approved

Public to be heard:

None.

Board Member Updates:

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B. Clark provided an update on [Act 28](#), Advisory Council on Literacy.

Staff Report

R. Ryan and A. Prowten provided an update for the [Staff Report](#).

Waiver Requests

Educator Waiver Request: Mia Peterburs

B. Clark made a motion to approve a Level I License request by educator M. Peterburs seeking a middle school science endorsement limited to Grades 5-8, through Windham Southeast SU.

Seconded by A. Flannery.

Discussion: The Board discussed the unique case of M. Peterburs, who completed her education preparation program in Alaska, where that state defines Grades 6-8 as part of the elementary level, not middle grades.

Roll Call Vote was taken to grant middle school license restricted to Grades 5-8.

Yea: A. Flannery, J. Clement, K. Revelle, B. Clark, K. Fay, A. Garces, B. Cleland

Nay: None

Abstain: B. Seitz

Absent: E. Emery, A. Minor, A. Pickering, B. Lucci (joined the meeting at 11:00 a.m.)

The motion was approved.

Superintendent Waiver Request: Brandy Bennick

B. Clark made a motion to approve waiver request for B. Bennick, limited to Mill River Unified Union School District. The waiver seeks to waive a portion of rule 5924 (regarding the student teaching requirement) for B. Bennick and allow her to submit proof of completion of a 13-week/60-hour experience under the supervision of district licensed staff.

Seconded by B. Seitz.

Discussion: B. Bennick was present for the discussion and was able to answer questions and provide more context for her request to the Board.

Since B. Bennick's Provisional License (School Counselor) does not expire until 06/30/2025, B. Clark rescinded his original motion to approve the waiver request.

B. Seitz also rescinded her original second to approve the waiver.

B. Clark made a new motion to table the vote on this waiver and requested more documentation the next scheduled meeting.

B. Seitz seconded the motion to table the waiver.

Waiver tabled until the March VSBPE meeting.

Superintendent Waiver Request: Dawn Knight

No action was taken on this waiver request (extending D. Knight's Provisional License by one more year). The Agency of Education has determined a way forward towards licensure for this educator.

Sub Committee Composition and formation for Core Teaching and Leadership Standards Revisions

A. Garces and A. Prowten provided an update on the Subcommittee and its representation.

A. Flannery made a motion to appoint the new member list below of the subcommittee.

K. Revelle seconded the motion.

Motion approved.

A. Prowten provided the following names for members of the new group:

- Amanda Garces (VSBPE member)
- Ellen Emery (VSBPE member)
- Bill Clark (VSBPE member)
- Elijah Hawkes (UVEI)
- Natasha Eckart (NEA, Act 1 Working Group, School Board Member)
- Life LeGeros (School Board Member)
- Seat for Education Justice Coalition
- Seat for Vermont Principals Association

Letter – Provisional License for Special Educators in VT

A. Prowten provided background on the letter regarding [Provisional Licensure for Special Educators in Vermont](#).

Rule Revisions – Update

A. Prowten provided background on the rule revisions and [summary](#) of current proposed rule changes.

B. Clark made a motion to accept the summary of rule changes presented for submission to the Secretary of State.

Seconded by K. Fay.

The motion was approved.

Policy Q3: Policy on Special Education Endorsements – Provisional Licenses (First Reading)

A. Prowten provided background on [Policy Q3](#).

B. Seitz made a motion to approve the revision to Policy Q3 first reading to establish a process for approval of 1-year provisional licenses for Special Education endorsements.

Seconded by K. Fay.

The motion was approved.

The VSBPE took a break at 10:27 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:45 a.m.

VT-HEC Update

J. Wilcox and A. Beth gave a presentation on the [Special Education Program](#) within the Vermont Higher Education Collaborative.

Subcommittee Work

Licensing Committee

Renewal Update

D. Giles provided an update on current renewals.

Special Education Provisional License Update

R. Ryan provided an update on the Special Education Provisional Licenses.

Lifetime License Follow-Up: Survey

A. Prowten is still awaiting an update from NASDTEC on survey results.

Program Approval Committee

Peer Review Update

R. McCormick and M. Farrington gave an update on Peer Review.

Policy N11 Revision – Second Read/Adoption

A. Prowten provided background on the [Policy N11 Revision](#).

B. Seitz made a motion to adopt Policy N11 as written: to expand the flexibility of student teaching placements to meet the needs of the field.

Seconded by A. Garces.

The motion was approved.

TAP ROPA Review Team

A. Prowten provided background information on the [TAP ROPA Review Team](#).

B. Clark made a motion to approve the team for the ROPA review of TAP's teacher preparation program, which is scheduled for March 14-15.

Seconded by A. Flannery.

The motion was approved.

Norwich ROPA Review Team

A. Prowten provided background information on the [Norwich ROPA Review Team](#).

K. Fay made a motion to approve the team for the ROPA review of Norwich University's teacher preparation program, which is scheduled for April 2-3, 2024.

Seconded by A. Flannery.

The motion was approved.

Update on Vermont State University (VTSU) ROPA approved programs

A. Prowten provided an update on [VTSU ROPA approved programs](#).

Middlebury Out-of-State Student Teaching Request

A. Prowten provided background on [Middlebury's out-of-state teaching request](#): an educator wishes to complete her student teaching in her home city of Chicago.

B. Seitz moved to approve Middlebury's request to place one candidate out of state as requested, with the condition that they develop a policy to address any future out-of-state placements, as required by Policy N10.

Seconded by K. Fay.

The motion was approved.

March 2024 Agenda Items

The following topics will be on the March agenda:

- Revisit the waiver request for educator Brandy Bennick
- Second reading of Policy Q3
- Update on the subcommittee: Andrew & Amanda
- Rule Revisions
- Special Educator Provisional License waiver update
- Update on GYO - Potential presentation from [Vermont Rural Education Collaborative](#) (VREC) or [Vermont-National Education Association](#) (VT-NEA)

A. Garces made a motion to adjourn.

Seconded by C. Kurucz.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Katie Gagliardo.