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 | 1 National Life Drive, Montpelier, VT

# Date: January 12, 2022

# Members Present:

Brenda Seitz, Bill Clark, Amy Minor, Ric Reardon, Jennifer Clement, Christine Kurucz, Amanda Garces, Bernadette Cleland, Ellen Emery, Shelby Quinn

# Members Absent:

Amy Flannery, Christie Martin

# Staff Present:

Patrick Halladay, Andrew Prowten, Deb Giles, Amy Scalabrini, Ellen Cairns, Cathy Wilkins

# Members of the Public:

Juliette Longchamp, James Chartrand, Janice Boulbol, Meaghan Morgan-Puglisi, Rebecca Chartrand

# Call to Order:

A. Minor called the meeting to order at 9:03am

# Approval of Agenda:

R. Reardon moved to approve the agenda with additions of waiver for R. Chartrand and HEC Draft ROPA Report Review.

Seconded by C. Kurucz.

Motion approved.

# Approval of Minutes:

R. Reardon moved to approve the minutes.

Seconded by C. Kurucz.

Motion approved.

# Public to be heard:

J. Longchamp spoke to the Board and cautioned them to keep the educator licensing standards high.

J. Boulbol is seeking guidance from the Board regarding a program in Woodstock Union High School that does not align with general licensing requirements. The Chair suggested the educator work with her Superintendent on a waiver process.

# Board Member Updates:

B. Clark gave the Board an overview of the Legislative Report that was submitted in December. The Committee will meet again in January.

# Staff Report:

Highlights of the staff report were brought to the attention of the Board.

# Praxis Core Proposal:

B. Clark moved that the VSBPE amend their rules to offer a broader range of options for educators to demonstrate basic academic competency.

Seconded by R. Reardon.

Motion approved with one opposition.

Praxis Core policy revision will be presented as a draft for first reading at the March meeting.

# New York State Reciprocity:

B. Clark moved the VSBPE amend their rules to issue educators with a valid professional New York, South Dakota or New Mexico state educator license a comparable Vermont license and issue a Vermont license to candidates with a recommendation from an approved New York, New Mexico or South Dakota state Educator Preparation Program.

Seconded by C. Kurucz.

Motion approved.

The Board gave the Office authority to implement approved changes to the Praxis Core and reciprocity while waiting for the Rule changes to go through the administrative process.

The Board took a break at 10:20am.

# Educator Waiver Request: C. Toleno

Due to changes around reciprocity with New York this waiver request is no longer needed. EQ Licensing staff will contact her.

# Educator Waiver Request: T. Thibodeau

B. Clark moved to approve the waiver request for T. Thibodeau to apply for a Principal endorsement with two years of teaching experience.

Seconded by E. Emery.

Motion approved with an abstention from R. Reardon.

# Educator Waiver Request: C. Izzo

AOE to follow up with C. Izzo to confirm she has passed the New York Teaching exam.

# Educator Waiver Request: N. Ginsberg

P. Halladay suggested contacting Noah to ask if he can demonstrate that the Praxis Core competencies through existing college coursework have been met.

# Educator Waiver Request: R. Chartrand

B. Clark moved to accept R. Chartrand’s Praxis II score of 167 in lieu of the passing score of 168.

Seconded by E. Emery.

Motion approved.

# Committee Reports and Motions

# **Licensing Committee, J. Clement, Chair, Reporting**

J. Clement moved the VSBPE accept changes to Policies D2, D3, E1, G3, H1, H2, H4 to revise said Policies to reflect current practices and Rules. A second reading will be presented to the Board for vote in March.

**Program Approval Committee, R. Reardon, Chair, Reporting**

R. Reardon moves that the VSBPE approve the proposed team for the ROPA review of UVM’s ELL program.

Seconded by A. Minor.

Motion approved.

PAC recommends the VSBPE not take any action on the UVM proposal for an alternate licensure program and the AOE contact UVM for answers to questions and report back to the VSBPE at a later time.

R. Reardon moves that the VSBPE accept the recommendation of the ROPA review team and approve of Vermont Higher Education Collaborative’s Program to recommend candidates for initial licensure in Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education, and Special Education at the postbac level.

Seconded by A. Minor.

Motion approved.

# New Policy: Unlicensed teaching experience for an administrative endorsement

P. Halladay gave the Board an overview of proposed Policy G4, Teaching Experience for Administrative Endorsements. This policy will allow educators with three or more years of unlicensed teaching experience to apply for an administrative license. This policy will be presented for a second reading and vote during the March meeting. The Board directed the Office to include language on what constitutes a school setting.

# 3.0 GPA Alternative:

P. Halladay gave the Board an overview of proposed Policy G5, Alternative Demonstration of Academic Competence. This policy will allow educators who do not meet the 3.0 GPA as required by rule to demonstrate academic competency by an alternative manner. This policy will be presented for a second reading and vote during the March meeting.

# March Agenda Items

* Special Education Provisional License waiver update and extension request
* UVM Proposal for Alternate Program
* Second Reading: Policy G4: Unlicensed teaching experience for an administrative endorsement
* Second Reading: Policy G5: 3.0 GPA Alternative
* Second Reading of Policies D2, D3, E1, G3, H1, H2 and H4
* Paraeducator Standards Proposal
* HEC ROPA Report Review
* SMC Two Year ROPA Report Review
* Scheduling of a brief July meeting to address potential waiver requests
* Renewal Update

B. Clark motioned to adjourn.

Seconded by R. Reardon.

Meeting adjourned by consensus at 1:42

Minutes recorded by Amy Scalabrini.