

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

Date: September 8, 2021

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Amy Flannery, Shelby Quinn, Cheryl Niedzwiecki

Staff Present:

Patrick Halladay, Ron Ryan, Andrew Prowten, Deb Giles, Amy Scalabrini, Ellen Cairns, Emily Simmons, Wendy Scott, Kate Rogers, Chris Case, Jacqui Kelleher

Members of the Public:

Juliette Longchamp, Meaghan Morgan-Pugliese, Randi Lowe

Call to Order:

A. Minor called the meeting to order at 9:04am.

Approval of Agenda:

P. Halladay made a request to amend the agenda to include two waiver requests.

B. Clark moved to approve the agenda with the added waiver requests.

Seconded by C. Kurucz.

Motion approved.

Approval of Minutes:

B. Cleland moves to approve the minutes from August 5, 2021 with the following changes: Add B. Cleland as present and change the word “practicum” to “internship” in the following motion:

“B. Cleland moves that the VSBPE accept UVM’s request for the AOE to accept working as a School Librarian under a Provisional license in lieu of traditional Student Teaching when a candidate applies for initial licensure as a School Librarian through Transcript Review if the candidate has completed a minimum of thirteen weeks of teaching under a practicum”.

Seconded by J. Clement.

Motion approved.

Board Member Updates:

E. Emery contacted the President of EPIC to begin the conversation of adopting language of Standard 5 into the portfolio.

Staff Report:

The Pre-Service Education Quality Coordinator position has been posted.

Superintendent Waiver Request: Z. Zarfati

R. Reardon moved to provide a one-year provisional license with a special educator endorsement for Z. Zarfati.

Seconded by A. Minor.

Motion approved.

Superintendent Waiver Request: A. Collins

E. Emery moved to approve the one-year provisional license in Special Education for A. Collins.

Seconded by B. Clark.

Motion approved.

Superintendent Waiver Request: A. Pigeon Myott

E. Emery moved to approve an additional one-year provisional license for A. Pigeon Myott in Elementary Education.

Seconded by B. Clark.

Motion approved.

Educator Request: K. Sweatt

E. Emery moved to waive the limitation within Transcript Review for initial licensure for a School Counselor endorsement when there is an existing approved program for K. Sweatt. This application will be limited to confirming the core teaching standards, additionally asking for a recommendation from her supervisor in the Essex North Supervisory Union.

Seconded by B. Cleland.

Motion approved.

Superintendent Waiver Request: W. Mitchel

B. Clark moved to approve a one-year provisional license for W. Mitchel in Special Education. The license is limited to the requesting school district and contingent on a detailed plan for mentoring and supervision submitted to the AOE.

Seconded by B. Cleland.

Motion approved.

New Board Member Orientation

E. Simmons [presented open meeting laws](#).

Non Transcribed Internship

For a very limited number of cases for a very limited number of endorsements, an internship is not included as a course on a transcript. Therefore, educators who have met all of the coursework requirements and been the teacher of record for at least a year, still have to apply to Peer Review for their license. P. Halladay presented potential solutions to the Board. A request was made to add a contingency for out of state and/or out of country applicants and bring back next month for discussion. This may require a rule change.

The board took a 10-minute break.

2021/2022 Agenda Building

P. Halladay presented the results of the survey to discuss proposed low and high priority [agenda items for future meetings](#).

The board broke for lunch until 12:45 p.m.

Committee Reports and Motions

Licensing Committee, J. Clement, Chair, Reporting

D. Giles gave an update of the 2021 renewal cycle. Approximately 70% of licensed educators renewed their licenses.

R. Ryan spoke about the new temporary special education waiver. As of the report date, there were nine applications: Four K-8, Four – K-Age 21 and one birth through age six. The licensing office anticipates more applications to be submitted.

J. Clement moved that the VSBPE accept the Office’s proposed revision to Policy F2, Policy on Recency of Study, to require consistent recent coursework among all applications for licensure. Seconded by A. Minor.
Motion approved.

Program Approval Committee, R. Reardon, Chair, Reporting

A. Minor moved that the VSBPE approve the proposed team for the ROPA review of VT-HEC. Seconded by B. Cleland.
Motion approved.

B. Clark moved that the VSBPE approve the ROPA Report from the team that reviewed Castleton’s new ECE/ECSE program and grant Two-Year Conditional Approval to Castleton for that program. Seconded by B. Cleland.
Motion approved with one recusal.

E. Cairns spoke about the annual ROPA Report Review. The purpose of the annual report is a way for EPPs to stay informed of endorsement revisions and stay current with their preidentified goals.

Special Education Workforce Development

The AOE is working on a systemic approach to address the shortage of special educators. The Board directed the Office not to address shortage issues by endorsement revision into multiple tiers.

October Agenda Items

- Second Reading ECE Provisional Policy
- Paraeducator Standards— Advanced and Special Education
- Anti-bias Standards
- 3.0 GPA
- Student teaching with COVID
- Special Education Survey Results

B. Clark motioned to adjourn.
Seconded by B. Cleland.
Motion approved.

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Amy Scalabrini.

DRAFT