Education Quality Team Staff Report for 8 of February 2024

Updates:

Andrew Prowten is happy to report that we now have a full staff in place. Ryan McCormick has been hired as the Pre-Service Coordinator and started on December 4, 2023, and Michelle Farrington has been hired as the Peer Review Coordinator and started on December 11, 2023. We are also moving forward with a new 1-year limited-service Emerging Pathways Coordinator position, which will be grant funded. We will be posting that position once approved by HR.

Andrew Prowten will share an early draft of the AOE's report to the Vermont legislature with an update on the Emerging pathways Grant Program. This report includes data from Title II state reports and licensure applications and provides several visuals on the state of licensure in Vermont. This data will be referenced and discussed during various VSBPE agenda items over the next several meetings.

Joining the Licensing Team for the 2024 renewal cycle will be Gary Moreau. Gary is a retired music educator (30+ years of service) from Essex Westford. Gary has years of experience serving on an LSB. He was the former Co-Chair of Chittenden Central (now part of Essex Westford) before becoming the Chair of the Chittenden Central LSB. When Chittenden Central and Essex Town merged, Gary continued to serve as Chair of the merged Boards ensuring a smooth transition from two LSBs to one. Gary has attended all LSB training courses and is very knowledgeable regarding the relicensure process. He will be assisting and reviewing renewing educators not associated with an L/RSB. Gary is looking forward to joining the Licensing Team.

Approved Substitute Rule 5382 long-term sub 30 student days for Morgan Newland in the Preschool classroom at Burke Twon School, in the Kingdom East School District through 1-2-2024.

Approved Substitute Rule 5382 long-term sub for an additional 30 student days for Elizabeth Switzer in the Preschool classroom at Lyndon Town School, in the Kingdom East School District as they continue to search for a more permanent replacement.

Approved Internal waivers: Praxis.

Angela Apicelli Maple Hill School

Amy DeBenedicts Harwood Unified Union School District

Naomi Vincent Caledonia Central Supervisory Union

Beret Halverson Caledonia Central Supervisory Union

Jessica Penwarden Slate Valley Unified School District

Special Education Provisional Waivers:

Currently we have 88 applications that were initiated for the 2023-2024 school year.

That represents about 32 SU'S/SD'S/Private schools who have submitted applications. The breakdown of instructional levels is below:

87 Special Education Waiver Provisional applications submitted.

53 of the applications represent Grades K through Age 21 Special Education

17 of the applications represent Grades K through 8 Special Education

11 of the applications represent Grades 7 through Age 21 Special Education

2 of the applications represent Birth through Age 6 Early Childhood Education.

5 applications closed.

Deb Giles February 2024:

L/RSBs: A December reminder was emailed to the remaining LSB which has yet to submit an Annual Report for 2022-2023. The missing LSB Annual Report was submitted in late January.

Online meetings are being scheduled with individual Boards.

The Grants Management System (the new process for L/RSB Grants) went live in December 2023. Since December, 46 L/RSB Grants have been successfully submitted. Two reminders for Grants were emailed during January with Business Managers included on the reminder emails.

There are currently two outstanding 2023 renewals. All renewals have been reviewed and the status of the remaining renewals is currently under review (on hold while waiting for a Criminal Record Check Report).

All Plans of Operation, along with Appendix A (Board Procedures) and Agreements of Support were emailed to Boards in December. All Boards must complete Appendix A and Agreements of Support have also been requested for comparison. Boards are starting to submit the requested documents.

A January 2024 L/RSB Newsletter was emailed to all Boards. Topics included information regarding the 2024 Renewals, Renewal Reminders, Winter Meeting Dates, Grants, Plans, and AOE Updates.

Along with other members of the Licensing Team, Deb participates in a weekly meeting with the new vendor towards development of the new online licensing system. She continues to address L/RSB and SU/SD questions and concerns, along with questions from individual educators.

Current Work Queue per application type as of 2-1-2024: Applications in the work queue are in various stages of processing from just received to waiting for payment from applicant.

Application Type	Total
Initial	93
Reinstatement	25
Renewal	2
Retired	0
Temporary	98
1 Yr. Temporary – extenuating circumstance	0
Transcript Review – Initial	42
Transcript Review – Add endorsement	28
Peer Review - Initial	98
Peer Review – Add endorsement	27

The AOE Licensing Office is collaborating with Vermont Department of Labor, Addison Central Supervisory District, Vermont Principals Association, University of Vermont Department of Education, Champlain College and Teacher Apprenticeship Program, and Vermont School Human Resources Professionals to coordinate the 1st Annual Vermont Educator Job Fair, tentatively scheduled for March 22nd at Middlebury Union High School from 1-5 PM. More information to follow.