

VSBPE

Date: August 13, 2024

Item: VTSU-Castleton Leadership Program ROPA Review Team

ITEM: Shall the VSBPE approve the team for the ROPA review of VTSU's Principal preparation program which is scheduled for October 28-30, 2024?

AGENCY RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the VSBPE approve the team for the ROPA review of VTSU's Principal preparation program which is scheduled for October 28-30, 2024.

BACKGROUND:

Castleton University's Leadership Program which leads to the Principal endorsement was first approved in 2015. They had a one-year delay in getting up and running, and then an additional delay in submitting their Two-Year Report, which was approved in May of 2018. Last year, Castleton submitted a request for a one-year extension of the review of this program due to the merger with NVU. That request was approved by the VSBPE, and thus it is time for VTSU to have the review of their Leadership program this fall.

PROPOSED TEAM:

Elijah Hawkes is currently the Director of Leadership Programs and a Teacher Program faculty member at Upper Valley Educators Institute, as well as an adjunct professor at St. Michael's College. Elijah received his B.A. in English from Wesleyan University and his M.S. in School Administration from Baruch College, CUNY.

Pam Reed is the Director of Special Education for Rutland City School District. Prior to that role, she served as the assistant principal for Rutland City High School. Pam holds a Level II license in Special Education, Principal, and Director of Special Education. Pam earned her B.S. from College of St. Joseph and her M.A. in Special Education with a recommendation for the Special Ed Director endorsement from Castleton. As she attended Castleton twenty years ago, we do not find there to be a conflict of interest for her to serve on this review team.

Alicia Beth is the Director of Licensing Programs for Vermont Higher Education Collaborative. She is responsible for the implementation of all pathways to initial licensure and endorsement. Prior to her work with the VT-HEC, Alicia was a faculty member in the Core Education department at Landmark College and evaluation

specialist for North Country Supervisory Union. Before moving to Vermont, she worked for the UTeach Institute at The University of Texas at Austin, supporting 50 universities nationwide to implement high quality STEM educator preparation programs. Alicia began her career as a middle grades special educator; she maintains licenses in both Texas and Vermont

Bill Clark will represent the VSBPE.

Ellen Cairns will represent the Agency of Education.