



Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators

VERMONT STANDARDS BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS

March 31, 2016 AOE Offices, Barre

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

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steven John, Charlie Phillips, Roberta Baker, Donald Tinney, Thomas Young, Luisa Millington, Steve Owens, Jennifer Fribush, Eric Remmers, Helen Lanthier, Amy McMullen.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Patti Coultas, Claudine Bedell.

STAFF/OTHERS PRESENT: Debora Price, Patrick Halladay, Susan Yesalonia, Deborah Giles, Rebecca Plude.

CALL TO ORDER: S. John called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Approval of minutes

S. John asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the February 10, 2016 meeting.

R. Baker **moved that the VSBE accept the minutes of the February 10, 2016 meeting.**
H. Lanthier seconded. **Motion passed.**

State Board of Education Report

R. Plude updated the Board on the most recent meeting of the SBE on March 15, 2016 at Spaulding High School.

Staff Report

D. Price gave a brief update on recent staff changes.

Waiver Requests

The Board spoke with Catherine Oliverio regarding her request for a waiver of VSBE *Rule 5421 B Level II Professional Educator's License*.

The Board spoke with Heather Zobel and Coordinator of Early Childhood, Diane Nichols-Fleming from the North Country Supervisory Union, regarding their request for a waiver of the Math Core Praxis test.

The Board broke into committees at 10:50 a.m. and reconvened after lunch at 12:45 a.m.

Rule Series 5100: VSBPE reviewed public comment

The Board reviewed all public comments that were received. All comments pertaining to the Drivers Education and School Nurse endorsements will be forward to the Professional Standards Committee. These will be considered alongside the Endorsement Revision schedule with appropriate recommendations for Rule changes in the next cycle as needed.

H. Lanthier **moved that the VSBPE reconfirm approval of Rule Series 5100 after consideration of public comment, and approve S. John to sign the LCAR filing documents.** R. Baker seconded. **Motion passed.**

Executive Session - Waiver Requests

J. Fribush **moved to enter into executive session at 1:10 p.m. to discuss the waiver requests. The Board invited D. Price to join them and provide input.** R. Baker seconded. **Motion passed.**

The Board unanimously agreed to conclude executive session at 1:30 p.m.

J. Fribush **moved that the VSBPE grant a waiver of Rule 5351, to Heather Zobel. She may now apply for the Peer Review process and then upon successful completion apply for her initial license. The license when issued will be restricted to the North Country Supervisory Union.** C. Philips seconded. **Motion passed.**

Having withdrawn her waiver request, the Board directed Agency staff to contact Catherine Oliverio to explain the reinstatement requirements.

Licensure Committee - R. Baker reporting

The committee discussed: a recent plan the Licensing Office will implement regarding monitoring of the Educator Provisional and Initial License Plans; they also discussed the 2016 Renewal roll-out plan. They also discussed the Professional Learning requirement and a clarification regarding new learning vs. repeated yearly professional development. They also discussed and clarified office policy regarding Restricted Level I licenses moving to Level II; an Educator may move to a Level II after three successful years, the Level II license will still be a restricted license.

R. Baker **moved that the VSBPE accept the cut scores of the alternative tests used in the past for the Praxis I series for the Praxis Core tests until the ETS publishes new cut scores for the Praxis Core tests (i.e., GRE, ACT, and SAT's). Implementation Date: July 1, 2016.** C. Phillips seconded. **Motion passed.**

Professional Standards Committee – S. Owens reporting

The committee reviewed and supported posting the following endorsements for public comment: Middle Grades, Middle Grades Math and Physical Education. They also discussed the ETS National Observation Teaching Exam (NOTES) pilot assessment. The Agency will share information with elementary teachers if they would like to participate in the pilot. The VSBPE and the Agency of Education are not endorsing this product.

S. Owens moved that the VSBPE adopt the following policy to address candidates entering a Master's Degree program leading to educator licensure who do not have a 3.0 GPA from their undergraduate studies:

- The criteria for admittance to a graduate program is determined solely by the institution.
- All candidates who do not have a cumulative 3.0 undergraduate GPA must achieve a passing score on the Praxis Core or an approved alternate test before commencement of student teaching.
- Candidates who do not have a 3.0 undergraduate GPA in their undergraduate major and are seeking an endorsement in the same field as their undergraduate major must either take additional coursework in their major until reaching a cumulative 3.0 GPA (between their undergraduate major and subsequent coursework) or achieve a passing score in the relevant Praxis II exam before commencement of student teaching.

E. Remmers seconded. Motion passed.

Program Approval Committee – L. Millington reporting

L. Millington moved that the VSBPE approve the proposed new Lyndon State College Early Childhood Education program. As a new program, it will automatically receive conditional status and will have a Two Year Review in March of 2018. D. Tinney seconded. Motion passed.

L. Millington moved that the VSBPE accept Middlebury College's proposal to move their next full ROPA visit from the fall of 2016 to the fall of 2017. D. Tinney seconded. Motion passed.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed a letter to S. John, VSBPE Chair, from Matt Martyn regarding the Peer Review Process and recommendation for licensure as Principal and Superintendent. The Board identified a discrepancy regarding requirements to move to a Superintendent based on current VSBPE rule. The VSBPE directed D. Price to discuss identified discrepancy with AOE general

counsel, and develop a draft for review by D. Tinney, Vice Chair (S. John recused himself). AOE will then send to the educator.

VSBEPE reviewed letter from Secretary Holcombe in response to Campaign for Vermont article.

The Board reviewed Chair John's letter sent to Senator White and members of the Government Operations Committee, regarding Bill S. 217. S. Owens expressed concern in Board's involvement in reaching consensus. L. Millington, C. Philips, and E. Remmers expressed their support and appreciation for Chair John's letter which speaks on behalf of the Board. The Board decided to discuss the Board chair's ability/authority to take action as needed when gathering a quorum is not able; at a future meeting.

L. Millington and S. John shared their concerns regarding the political tone that this Board has been moving towards.

Agenda Items - May 4, 2016

The Board discussed potential agenda items for their next meeting.

At 2:30 p.m., Chair John declared the March 31, 2016 meeting of the Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators adjourned.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Rebecca Gile