

Educator Quality Team

Staff Report for June 16, 2017

From the Educator Quality Division Director, Debi Price

Public comment on the proposed VSBPE rule revisions is complete. At this final meeting of the 2016-17 academic year, the Board will be making final determination on the revisions that include: clarifying language in current rules, CTE licensure, and Modern and Classical Languages, School Nurse, Associate School Nurse and Driver and Traffic Safety Education endorsements for submission to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (LCAR). The new rules will go in to effect 15 days following anticipated approval by LCAR in July.

The Educator Quality Division continues recruitment efforts for a Licensing Specialist and an Administrative Assistant. Kara Mayo was promoted to a new position in the Division with responsibilities for processing licensing applications and the management and technical support for the online licensing system in coordination with Rebecca Gile. Posting of the position for Kara's replacement as the Director's Administrative Assistant and VSBPE Liaison has occurred.

New faces joining the Division includes Ron Ryan, Program Manager for the In-service Team. Ron has been in education for 37 years, for the last 20 years as Superintendent of Schools for the Addison Rutland Supervisory Union. Ron is retiring at the end of June and is excited about a "second" career here at the Agency of Education. As a consumer of the VSBPE and Educator Quality Division "products" for many years, we look forward to Ron's perspective and thoughts for improvement in the licensing processes for Vermont educators. Ron begins with the Agency on July 17. Additionally, we are excited to welcome Joshua McCormick, Licensing Specialist who will begin on June 26. Josh is no stranger to processing applications and providing technical support. Josh's previous experiences include the Department of Children & Families and the Vermont Treasurers Office.

The Educator Quality Division staff will be completing the processing of 3,400 renewal applications in the next few months. Renewal applications opened on January 2, 2017 however, the majority of renewals are submitted between May and June. Since the beginning of May, just shy of 2,000 renewals have been approved. Initial applications are also peak at this time of year following commencement ceremonies and currently 300 applications are in process. Summer is also the time for Provisional license applications. Based on previous application data we are anticipating up to 200 applications for provisional licenses between now and August. I would like to recognize our In-service Team staff of Deb Giles and Lisa Pierson and Pre-Service Team staff Linda McSweeney and Terry Reilly for their work in processing applications as timely as possible given our current restraints. Your evening and weekend hours spent processing applications is greatly appreciated!

From the In-service Educator Quality Team

Deb Giles has distributed to Local/Regional Standards Boards (L/RSB) their Annual Reports along with conference dates and the online registration link. Responses to both the Annual Survey and Summer Conferences are being submitted to the AOE. We continue to provide updated information and licensing tips via email blasts and technical support to both L/RSB members and independent educators. In addition to supporting L/RSB members in the renewal process Deb is processing renewal, reinstatement and retired educator applications.

From the Pre-service Educator Quality Team

Terry Reilly, Pre-Service Programs Coordinator has picked up the duties of a licensing specialist first processing license renewal applications and now processing initial Level I license applications. Due to this, endorsement revision work has been limited to the formation of focus groups and tentative rescheduling of focus group meeting times. Terry attended the annual Driver and Traffic Safety Education conference in May and reviewed with attendees the proposed revision to the Driver and Traffic Safety Education endorsement.

PEER REVIEW

- Candidates continue to be accepted however, panels will not be scheduled until after July to allow for recruitment of panelists and the new contract period to begin.
- We continue to investigate electronic means for saving candidate portfolios including the Agency's internal drive network.
- In collaboration with Division, staff tutorial materials for the application process have been updated. The application process has been revised so that passing test scores must be submitted for acceptance effect July 1st.

ROPA

- Along with her ROPA consultant responsibilities, Linda McSweeney has been increasing her processing of Transcript Review applications.
- The TAP Report is in final edits with Page Tompkins, Chair of the ROPA Review Team
- Review of St. Michael's 2-year Report for Director of Curriculum has begun