

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB)
Monday, June 5, 2017
8:00 a.m.

A meeting of the Professional Licensure Standards Board was held in the Professional Licensure Standards Board Conference Room at #4 Capitol Mall, Room, 105-C, Little Rock, Arkansas on June 5, 2017. Members of the Board present were Ms. Kathy Howell, Chair; voting members: Dr. Shelly Albritton, Dr. Suzanne Bailey, Ms. Lisa Baker, Ms. Brenda Brown, Dr. Mary Gunter, Ms. Lillian Hemphill, Dr. Donny Lee, Dr. Zaidy MohdZain; ADE staff members in attendance were Eric James, Paul Thurmond, Cheri Rolett, Bilenda Harris-Ritter, Sarah Banker, Shannon Rostad-Hall, Shari Misener, Matthew Newcomb, Lesa Crowell, Joan Luneau, and Cheryl Reinhart.

1. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at by Kathy Howell, Chair at 8:08 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes – Kathy Howell, Chair

Motion made by Dr. Bailey to approve the March 3, 2017 minutes as submitted; seconded by Ms. Brenda Brown; Minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

3. Action Agenda

a) Recognition of outgoing members Dr. Suzanne Bailey, and Todd Sellers and incoming new members, and reappointment – Kathy Howell, Chair

Mr. Todd Sellers resigned from the PLSB Full Board due to taking a new position that would not allow him to continue his term. The AAML A submitted their nomination for Mr. John Keeling, Principal of Dardanelle Middle School. Mr. Keeling will be replacing Mr. Sellers starting September 1, 2017, at the next PLSB Full Board meeting.

Recognition of member Dr. Bailey from the Board. Ms. Bailey resigned from the Board due to taking a new position that would not allow her to continue serving in the capacity of an administrator on the PLSB Full Board.

The AAEA submitted their nomination for Dr. Andrea Martin, Superintendent, at Greenland School District. Dr. Martin will be replacing Dr. Bailey.

The AEA submitted their nomination for Ms. Lillian Hemphill. Ms. Hemphill will be representing the association and middle level educators on the PLSB Full Board. This will be Ms. Hemphill's second term.

b) Motion regarding name change for Evidentiary Hearing Panel – Kathy Howell, Chair
Discussion on training from the Attorney General's office

Ms. Howell discussed changing the name from Ethics Hearing Panel to Ethics Hearing Subcommittee and asked the PLSB Full Board for a motion to make this change.

A motion was made by Ms. Hemphill; seconded by Dr. Lee; Motion passed.

c) Motion regarding use of a hearing officer to assist the Evidentiary Hearing Panel – Kathy Howell, Chair

Discussion on having a representative from the Attorney General's office sit in on the Evidentiary Hearings to moderate, if needed. Ms. Ritter asked the Attorney General's office provide a representative to help orchestrate with the procedures. There is no charge for this service. The representative presence will relieve the chairman from being concerned with order of the proceedings.

A motion was made by Ms. Hemphill to have the Attorney General's officers to assist the Ethics Hearing Subcommittee with procedures; seconded by Ms. Brenda Brown. Motion passed.

d) Arkansas Professional Pathway to Educator Licensure (APPEL) Program; Review Report – Joan Luneau

Ms. Luneau discussed the audit that had been completed at Harding College. Harding is the only school that has completed a full audit. eStem will have its first audit this year for teachers.

Discussed APPEL versus MAT and the diversity of each one and how each one is specific to each teacher.

5 Year EPP Enrollment by Type – Title II data

Title II began as a pilot program in 1986 as a result of legislation.

Ms. Luneau asked for a motion to approve the Pathway Review Report. A motion was made by Ms. Brenda Brown to approve the Pathway Review Report; seconded by Ms. Lillian Hemphill; Motion passed.

The first class of 5 teachers completed 4 weeks of summer instruction.

*Ms. Luneau reviewed the following list of training facilities centrally located in Arkansas where everyone can attend APPEL or MAT training:

- Jacksonville No Pulaski SD*
- (Hendrix College – Late Cohort)
- Philander Smith*
- Rogers School District
- Searcy School District
- Southeast Arkansas ESC*
- Southwest Ark ESC *
- Van Buren School District
- Williams Baptist College*

- Northeast ESC

The first year of the APPEL program, which was 2016-2017, there were 375 teachers that attended the program. Also during the 2016-2017 school year, ProEthica was added to the curriculum. The 2015-2016 school year was the first year that edTPA submission was required as a copestone experience for completion of the APPEL program. The APPEL program pays the cost for the initial edTPA submission. Candidates with passing scores do not have to take a PLT test for licensure. For future reference, the APPEL date can be viewed on the EPPR.

e) eStem Residency Program Review Report – Joan Luneau

The eStem Residency Program began in 2013. This was a way for eStem to recruit, train, and develop non-traditional teachers. Non-traditional secondary teachers make up the faculty at eStem.

Ms. Luneau asked for a motion to approve the eStem Residency Program Review Report.

A motion was made by Ms. Brenda Brown to accept the eStem Residency Program Review Report; seconded by Dr. Albritton; Motion passed.

f) Praxis Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge (5511) for K-12 Special Education Licensure - Joan Luneau

In November 2016, Education Testing Service (ETS) provided a test review for Higher Education, SpEd faculty, and ADE SpEd specialists. The tests review were the Praxis Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge (5511) and the Praxis Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications (5354). The Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) determined the following:

- The SpEd (5354) contains enough pedagogy, so a Principles of Learning and Teaching test is no longer necessary for SpEd (K-12) licensure.
- For Special Education (K-12) licensure, the Arkansas Department of Education recommends removing the requirement for a Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching test effective Sept. 1, 2017.

g) Replacement of Principles of Learning and Teaching (PTL) for K-12 Special Education Licensure with Praxis Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications (5354) – Joan Luneau

Ms. Luneau asked for a motion to add Praxis Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge (5511) as a licensure requirement to for all SpEd teachers. The cut score will continue to be used.

A motion was made by Dr. Lee to accept the Praxis Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge (5511) as a licensure requirement to for all SpEd teachers; seconded by Ms. Gunter. Motion passed.

- The SpEd (5354) contains enough pedagogy, so a Principles of Learning and Teaching is no longer necessary for SpEd (K-12) licensure.

Ms. Luneau asked for a motion to remove the Principals of Learning and Teaching for K-12 Special Ed Licensure and replace it with Praxis SpEd: Core Knowledge and Applications (5354).

A motion was made by Dr. Lee to accept the Principals of Learning and Teaching for K-12 Special Ed Licensure and replace it with Praxis SpEd: Core Knowledge and Applications (5354); seconded by Ms. Baker; Motion passed.

h) Stand Alone Reading Test – Joan Luneau

Act 416 of 2017 requires a person who applies for an Elementary Education (K-6) or a SpEd (K-12) license to successfully pass a stand-alone teaching reading test. The legislation requires a test that:

- Provides an extensive practice test;
- Includes an adequate number of assessment items (questions) to ensure instructional knowledge of reading that is based on evidence-based practices related to the science of reading;
- Ensures that at least fifty percent (50%) of the items assess instructional knowledge for beginning reading and are based on evidence-based practices related to the science of reading;
- Includes at least one (1) open-rezones question so test takers can indicate how well they can demonstrate in writing their diagnostic interpretation of student reading errors; and
- Includes a clear distinction between reading elements in and skills needed for literary and informational texts in order to address the English Language arts standards as determined by the State Board of Education (SBOE).

The legislation mandates that the State Board of Education (SBOE) will adopt a cut score for the stand-alone reading assessment with strong consideration based on the national mean, if the national mean is not less than seventy percent (70%) of correct answers.

The Department assembled a panel of reading content stakeholders comprised of classroom teachers, higher education faculty, and literacy specialists. Representatives from Educational Testing Service (ETS) facilitated the two Praxis Teaching Reading test reviews, and representatives from Pearson Education, Inc. facilitated the Foundations of Reading review. The panel reviewed three teaching reading tests:

- 1) Praxis Teaching Reading: Elementary Education (5203) for K-6 (ETS), on Monday, April 10, 2017
- 2) Praxis Teaching Reading (5204) for K-12 (ETS), on Monday, April 10, 2017

- 3) Foundations of Reading for K-12 (Pearson Education, Inc.), on Thursday, April 27, 2017

From discussion and feedback during the test reviews, as well as, a follow-up survey, the recommended test is the *Foundations of Reading*. To satisfy licensure test requirements of Act 416, the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) recommends using the *Foundations of Reading* with a cut score of 229 effective September 1, 2017.

Ms. Luneau asked for a motion to accept the Pearson and cut score of 229.

Ms. Baker made a motion to accept the Pearson and cut score of 229; Ms. Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Moving Forward

- 1.) Approve a passing score for 2017-2018
- 2.) Meeting with IHE faculty on June 29, 2017, to review competencies and programs of study
- 3.) Review of scores August, 2019
- 4.) First candidates completing program in which they are prepared will be in spring, 2018

The Board took a short break at 9:40 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 9:50 a.m.

Added to the agenda – Task Force Meeting on June 2, 2017 – Cheryl Reinhart

Ms. Reinhart discussed the proposed changes in teacher licensure fees.

Form: List of Application Fees (proposed fee amounts)

*See form for list of changes in fees

Ms. Reinhart asked for a motion to accept the changes in application fees.

A motion was made by Ms. Baker to accept the changes in application fees by; seconded by Ms. Hemphill. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Ms. Baker to accept the Allegation of Violation form for the PLSB; seconded by Ms. Brown. Motion passed.

Sanction Guidelines for Ethical Violations (approved by PLSB on June 5, 2017)

This will be in the PLSB Code of Ethics Revision of Rules by the Subcommittee.

Ms. Reinhart asked for a motion to accept the Sanction Guidelines for Ethical Violations (approved by PLSB on June 5, 2017).

A motion was made by Dr. Lee to approve the Sanction Guidelines for Ethical Violations; seconded by Ms. Gunter. Motion passed.

4. Discussion and Reports

a) CAEP Accreditation Visit Schedule – Joan Luneau

Ms. Luneau discussed the vacancies with the Coop to report back to Higher Ed. Ms. Luneau discussed the three CAEP visits which were in the spring, 2017. All the visits went well. There will also be three in the fall, 2017.

Ms. Howell asked for volunteers for a sub-committee to meet during the summer to report back in the fall on fees. Brenda Brown, Mary Gunter, Lisa Baker volunteered.

b) Statistical Ethical Data Report – Eric James

Mr. James provided the board with July 2016 through April 2017 data on allegations and discussed the statistics and percentages of cases authorized.

Standard 1 Breakdown: Bullying, social media sexual dialogue/content

Standard 2 Breakdown: Maintains competence in professional practice & organizational position

Standard 3 Breakdown: Reporting

Standard 4 Breakdown: School district property

Standard 5 Breakdown: Least investigated standard; gratuities and gifts received

Standard 6 Breakdown: Testing

Standard 7 Breakdown: Confidentiality of student information

Standard 8 Breakdown: Alcohol, drugs, fire arms, tobacco

Mr. James discussed the percentage of cases authorized for investigation by university. Mr. James also discussed the following topics:

- 1) Authorized allegations by Educators respective universities
- 2) Database coming soon on gathering more information
- 3) Upcoming presentations – discussion on schools to be visited in the fall
- 4) Three year snapshot on received and authorized cases
- 5) Discussion on percentages' of reasonable and no-reasonable beliefs

Dr. Bailey commented that she felt that the (classified) administrators should be reprimanded just the same as the educators.

Ms. Howell discussed enlarging the board, hearing from educators who are not licensed, and needing an unlicensed educator on the committee meeting in September, 2017.

c) Introduce new investigative staff – Eric James

Mr. James introduced the investigative staff to the board which included Lesa Crowell, the newest investigator to join PLSB.

d) Discussion on Rules – Cheryl Reinhart

The PLSB Taskforce met on June 2, 2017, to go over the proposed rules.

Ms. Howell told the board that these are not to be approved today. Ms. Howell mentioned the possibility of meeting in September or by conference call to vote on the proposed rules. Today the PLSB Board is providing their ideas and suggestions for the proposed rules brought to the PLSB Board by Ms. Reinhart. Ms. Reinhart is discussing the major rules that need to be addressed today.

Ms. Reinhart asked for a motion to approve recommending a person without a license with a Level 3 sanction be denied from being able to apply for a license, as well as, a person with a Level 4 sanction be denied from being able to apply for a license.

A motion was made by Dr. Gunter to approve a person without a license with a level 3 sanction be denied from being able to apply license, as well as, a person with a level 4 sanction be denied from being able to apply for a license; seconded by Dr. Lee. Motion passed.

The rules need to be approved before June 23, 2017, before going to the State Board in July, 2017. Ms. Reinhart suggested the rules go on the August State Board agenda. The PLSB Board would have to meet before July 21, 2017, to submit the rules for approval.

The consensus made was that the Ethics Subcommittee will meet on July 10, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. instead of July 7, 2017. The changes in rules will be voted on at this meeting. This will give the PLSB board time to review all the changes discussed at the June 5, 2017, PLSB full board meeting.

e) ESSA Draft – Cheryl Reinhart

Ms. Reinhart brought before the board discussion on GPA and if it is needed as a part of licensure.

Ms. Reinhart asked for a motion to remove the GPA requirement from licensure due to the standards we currently have with CAEP.

A motion was made by Dr. Lee to remove the GPA requirement from licensure due to the standards we currently have with CAEP; seconded by Dr. Gunter. Motion passed.

Ms. Reinhart discussed the Website: <https://www.arkansasessa.org/>

Ms. Reinhart encouraged the PLSB board to look at this website and make suggestions and feedback. These suggestions will be submitted to Governor Asa Hutchinson for review.

f) PLSB Board Nominations

- 1) Nomination from AAMLA – Mr. John David Keeling, Principal, Dardanelle Middle School; Replacing Todd Sellers
- 2) Nomination from AEA - Ms. Lillian Hemphill; Watson Chapel School District will serve another term
- 3) Nomination from AAEA - Dr. Andrea Martin, Superintendent, Greenland School District; Replacing Dr. Suzanne Bailey

g) Update regarding Pre-School Initiatives – Tonya Williams (did not attend)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m. The next meeting will be September 1, 2017, at 8:00 a.m.