

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB)
Friday, December 7, 2018
PLSB Full Board Minutes

A meeting of the Professional Licensure Standards Board was held in the Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Conference Room at #4 Capitol Mall, Room 105-C, Little Rock, Arkansas on **December 7, 2018**. Voting members of the Board present were Ms. Kathy Howell, Chair, Dr. Greg Murry, Vice-Chair, Ms. Lisa Baker, Dr. Mary Jane Bradley, Ms. Brenda Brown, Ms. Lynne Gronseth, Dr. Victoria Groves-Scott via Zoom, Ms. Lillian Hemphill, Mr. John D. Keeling, Dr. Donny Lee, Dr. Sheena Williamson, Ms. Cindy Nations, and Mr. Dudley Webb, III. Non-voting members present were Dr. Suzanne Bailey. ADE staff members present were Eric James, Sarah Banker, Paula Thurmond, Cheri Rolett, Shannon Rostad-Hall, Shari Misener, Ashton Middleton, Simone´ Blagg, Joan Luneau, and Frank Servedio.

Members who were not present were Dr. Andrea Martin, Dr. Ellen Treadway, and Tonya Williams.

1. Call to Order – Kathy Howell, Chair

Ms. Kathy Howell called the meeting to order at 8:12 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes – Ms. Kathy Howell

Dr. Mary Jane Bradley brought before the board two corrections needing changed in the minutes. Motion made by Dr. Greg Murry to approve the September 7, 2018, minutes with corrections; seconded by Ms. Lisa Baker. Motion passed. None opposed.

4. Discussion and Reports

b. Educator Preparation Program Quality Report (EPPQR) Updates
– Dr. Frank Servedio

At the request of Dr. Scott, action item 4 (b) Discussion and Reports – Educator Preparation Program Quality Report (EPPQR), was the first item of discussion.

Dr. Frank Servedio presented the board with the updated EPPQR report and commented that it was for informational purposes only. Dr. Lee commented on the rating system and how the system measures Ed Prep Programs. Dr. Lee advised some of the quality indicators are not directly related to the quality of the teacher preparation program. Dr. Lee further discusses that all providers that are part of institutions of higher education are required to maintain accreditation with the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). Dr. Greg Murry questioned who comes up with the data information. Dr. Servedio commented that some of the data comes from Legislative rules, committee input, PLSB Board input, and Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) administration.

The Board also discussed that the rating system in the EPPQR report is based on a bell curve, standard deviation. Ms. Howell asked if there is another way to gather the data, other than standard deviation that could produce the information needed. Dr. Scott suggested focusing on the areas that are required in the current EPPQR draft before adding more criteria. Dr. Lee also commented that the committee is trying to clarify the three criteria the legislature requires.

Dr. Servedio stated that this is the first attempt at putting this information together; any recommendations or suggestions can be submitted to ADE administration. Ms. Howell asked if using only the three indicators required by rules be included in the EPPQR report. Dr. Scott also agreed that at this time, the three indicators within the rules be in the report.

Dr. Lee said that Arkansas is one of the few states that require CAEP accreditation.

Ms. Howell asked if the PLSB Board should make this suggestion. Ms. Howell said a motion was not required, but that the board should agree on this recommendation. Ms. Howell asked for a motion for the recommendation. Dr. Scott made a motion to use only the three indicators required by rules:

- 1) Licensure Assessments
- 2) Minority Graduation Report
- 3) Title II submission

Seconded by Dr. Lee. None opposed. Motion passed.

Dr. Servedio suggested to the board if they are going to make a recommendation, they should prepare a memorandum to upper administration. Dr. Scott suggested

the committee or subcommittee put together a memorandum and run it by the board electronically before January 2019. Ms. Howell asked who would develop the memorandum. Dr. Scott and Dr. Lee volunteered to put the memorandum together and get it submitted by January 2019.

Ms. Howell introduced Dr. Suzanne Bailey as the new Arkansas Department of Education's Assistant Commissioner of Educator Effectiveness and Licensure.

3. Action Agenda:

Assessments for Approval:

- a. Licensure Assessment for Online Learning Endorsement – Joan Luneau

Licensure has three new areas:

- 1) Alternative Learning
- 2) Online Teaching
- 3) An Advanced Area. (They are currently working on the testing for the advanced area).

Online Teaching is an optional area that is not required for teaching. Ms. Luneau asked the PLSB Board to approve the online licensure assessment, effective immediately. There are three universities currently using the online graduate certificate: Arkansas Tech, UCA, and U of A.

Mr. Shirey made a motion to accept this recommendation; seconded by Mr. Webb. None opposed. Motion passed.

- b. Licensure Assessment for Alternative Learning Endorsement – Joan Luneau

This course is not required, but optional. It will help teachers currently teaching an ALE class. Coursework and a test is required if an educator is already an ALE teacher. Ms. Luneau asked the PLSB Board to recommend that the ADE adopt the fundamental subjects with a cut score of 148 for Licensure Alternative Learning, effective immediately. This will go before the State Board in January 2019.

Mr. Keeling made a motion to accept the recommendation; seconded by Ms. Hemphill. None opposed. Motion passed.

4. Discussion and Reports

a. CAEP Accreditation Quarterly Report – Joan Luneau

In the spring of 2018, Henderson and SAU were visited and accredited for seven years and met all standards. They may or may not have areas of improvements.

John Brown University received accreditation for seven years with improvement in Standard 5. Standard 5 is just their system for improvement. They have two years to submit a report to CAEP to show that they have their system in place.

Ms. Luneau visited Crowley's Ridge in November 2018

Ms. Luneau will visit the University of Clarksville on December 8, 2018, for CAEP accreditation decisions.

CAEP accreditations are available at CAEP Net.

The board took a break at this time.

3. Action Agenda:

Assessments for Approval:

c. Sanction Matrix Approval and Fines – Kathy Howell/Eric James

Ms. Howell told the Board that there has been some changes in the Matrix since the last handout. She also said it has been very helpful in the Subcommittees' decision-making. Dr. Lee also commented how helpful it will be for the Evidentiary Hearing Committee.

Mr. Shirey made a motion to approve the Sanction Matrix; seconded by Dr. Greg Murry. None opposed. Motion passed.

4. Discussion and Reports:

c. PLSB Budget Review – Kathy Howell

Ms. Howell began by stating that as a Board, they have the responsibility to review the budget periodically so that PLSB has the funds to operate effectively. She asked that the Board review the budget. Ms. Howell asked Lisa Baker to chair a subcommittee to review this budget periodically and work with the PLSB office on requests along with Cindy Nations, Dr. Mary Jane Bradley, Dr. Andrea Martin, and Brenda Brown. The subcommittee is to forward any questions or concerns to Lisa Baker. Ms. Howell would like the subcommittee to meet and report to the Board at the next meeting.

d. Child Abuse Hotline Report – Dudley Webb/Tonya Williams

Mr. Webb brought before the Board the importance of the Child abuse Hotline and being a mandated reporter. There are approximately 30,000 certified teachers in Arkansas. Any Educator and/or any adult that are involved with children, that suspect child abuse or maltreatment, are mandated by law to report it to the Child Abuse Hotline.

There are two ways to report an incident: 1) by telephone and 2) by fax.

The concern is the wait time being so long. There are eleven operators per shift with a thirty-three minute wait time, which is unacceptable. There are those incidents that are faxed to the Arkansas State Police (ASP), which takes extra people to respond. The ASP are responsible for training the operators who take the calls.

Over the past four years, 67,000 incidents were reported, 2,000 of those were sent in by fax. There is one location, which is at the Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock. There are 27 operators on staff at this time and 67 investigators.

Mr. Webb and Tonya Williams are working together with state representatives and legislators to improve this system and employ more operators. The ASP asked legislature for ten new positions and were granted the ten positions, although funding was not granted at that time. In November 2018, funding was approved for five new operators. Their salary is approximately \$30,000 per year, which includes training. The five operators will have offices at the ASP headquarters.

Ms. Howell asked Mr. Webb for an update and progress in 2020 when there has been a years' worth of data to report on once the five new operators begin in January 2019.

5. Other Business

Mr. James introduced the new PLSB Code of Ethics informational brochure for Arkansas Educators to the Board. The PLSB investigative staff designed the new brochure. This brochure is for the use of all Arkansas Educators. The PLSB brochure is available on the ADE website, which is accessible for printing.

Ms. Howell asked for a motion to approve the new PLSB brochure for Arkansas Educators. Ms. Hemphill made a motion to approve the new PLSB brochure for Arkansas Educators; seconded by Lisa Baker. None opposed. Motion passed.

The next PLSB Full Board meeting will be on March 1, 2019, at 8:00 a.m.