

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB)
Friday, June 7, 2019
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 **June 7, 2019**. Voting members of the Board present were Kathy Howell, Chair, Dr. Greg Murry, Vice-Chair (by phone), Lisa Baker, John D. Keeling, Dr. Andrea Martin (by Zoom) Cindy Nations, Dr. Ellen Treadway, Dudley Webb, III, and Dr. Sheena Williamson (by Zoom). Non-voting members present were Dr. Suzanne Bailey, Joan Luneau, Michael Rowland, and Tonya Williams. ADE staff members present were Eric James, Sarah Banker, Paula Thurmond, Cheri Rolett, Shannon Rostad-Hall, Shari Misener, Ashton Middleton, Brittany Felix, Taylor Dugan, and Daisy Reyes.

Members who were not present were Dr. Mary Jane Bradley, Brenda Brown, Lynne Gronseth, Dr. Vicki Groves-Scott, Lillian Hemphill, Dr. Donny Lee, and Scott Shirey,

1. Call to Order – Kathy Howell, Chair

Ms. Kathy Howell called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

****Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Minutes was moved to 10:00 a.m. in order to have a quorum.**

3. Discussion and Reports

**A. Educator Preparation Program Quality Report (EPPQR) Updates
– Michael Rowland**

Michael Rowland presented the board with an update on the EPPQR report. Mr. Rowland indicated that they are not getting a response from some of the EPP's. There was discussion on Dr. Bailey notifying the EPP's by letter; secondly, having PLSB contact them if there was no response. Mr. Rowland also stated that the EPPQR Committee has not responded to the questions that were submitted to them due to the unavailability of committee members.

Ms. Tonya Williams requested that the Science and Literacy program be encouraged to begin at birth to four years old for the future. Ms. Luneau stated that Early Childhood educators would have competencies instead of a proficiency pathway.

**B. Arkansas Professional Pathway to Educator Licensure (APPEL)
Report – Joan Luneau**

Ms. Luneau stated that classes started the week of May 31, 2019, with ten sites around the state. On June 2, 2019, there were 163 year one's and 161 year two's in attendance with a total of 324. In July 2019, late hires will begin at Hendrix with an expectancy of sixty (60) in attendance with another eighty (80) to be added later in the summer. There should be approximately 400 people attending the program. From this program, 175 people will move to a standard license; processing around 600 every year.

Ms. Luneau stated that half of the attendees already had jobs lined up. APPEL piloted a micro-credential program in 2018 on culturally responsive teaching. APPEL wrote the curriculum for this program. Educators from the year one's that completed the curriculum totaled 205. Out of these, 143 educators earned it, which is approximately 70 percent of those who completed the program. If they met the standard and earned the badge, that badge stays with them.

In 2015, the first year Ed TPA was piloted (performance assessment); there was a 52 percent pass rate. This year's Ed TPA pass rate was 70 percent, which is a good pass rate on a national level. Ed TPA is embedded in the year two program. They have to submit a portfolio that scores and if they pass, it counts as their pedagogy assessment.

Arkansas State University is using Ed TPA next year. UA Fort Smith has been using for several years but with a different scoring. It has helped them with CAEP accreditation.

Ms. Howell asked if the districts are aware of the students going through the APPEL program. Ms. Luneau commented that the districts could contact them for information.

C. Fall 2018 CAEP Accreditation Decisions – Joan Luneau

University of the Ozarks received two CAEP site visits this year as well as Crowley's Ridge College. University of the Ozarks received full accreditation level. The next CAEP visit will be in the spring of 2024.

Crowley's Ridge College received their first CAEP site visit and received probationary accreditation for Standard 2 – Clinical Partnerships and Practices, which was not in place. In one year, they will submit a report to CAEP; their next site visit will be in 2020. This will determine if they will be denied or accepted for CAEP. Fall CAEP visits will include University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and Philander Smith College.

D. Rules being drafted from legislation concerning PLSB – Taylor Dugan

Ms. Howell introduced Taylor Dugan to the Board as the current PLSB attorney standing in for Daryl Taylor until her return from military leave.

Mr. Dugan discussed the rules that are currently being drafted by the legislation concerning PLSB. The reviewing process starts with the legal department, proceeds to Dr. Bailey, to the Governor, and then to the public for review for thirty (30) days. Ms. Howell stated that PLSB could not vote on the drafted rules today due to not having a quorum. Mr. Dugan agreed to email a drafted form of the rules to each board member for voting purposes.

Mr. Dugan discussed Item 5.07 – The meaning of Educator in the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators as well as Section 18 – Applicants for Reinstatement of a Revoked License. Mr. Dugan will also email the licensure rules to the board for their input.

The agenda order changed due to items that needed a vote and a quorum. Three board members will be calling in at 10:00 a.m. to vote on the two action items on the agenda, therefore, Item 5 – Other Business, is the next order of business.

5. Other Business:

Dr. Bailey gave the board a handout on the overview of the legislative session and new laws.

Discussion on Act 1082 – Lunch Bill

Dr. Bailey discussed what levels of action ADE puts into place when a school district is in fiscal distress to prevent them from being taken over by the Arkansas Department of Education and to support the district by putting these measures into place to help the district improve.

Ms. Howell commented on different levels of support. She spoke on behalf of Ms. Brown, a current board member, who has been a part of a district that needed the ADE's support. She received the support she needed from ADE without feeling that the State was there to take over the district but to implement changes to help the district.

Mr. Keeling spoke on how the ADE has been helpful and supportive when he has called for help or questions.

Ms. Howell announced to the Board that Mr. Eric James was selected to the NASDTEC Professional Practices Committee. He will be representing Arkansas and the southern region of NASDTEC on a national level.

Ms. Howell recognized Ms. Lisa Baker for her service of six years to the PLSB Ethics Subcommittee. Ms. Baker was presented with a framed certificate on behalf of the PLSB Full Board for her service. Mr. James commended her for the knowledge, dedication, and commitment she brought to PLSB. All her efforts and continued support for education will leave a legacy for other PLSB members to follow.

Tonya Williams discussed the Teacher Education and Compensation Helps (TEACH) Early Childhood Arkansas scholarships. TEACH is a comprehensive national strategy helping address the need for a well-qualified, compensated and stable workforce. The Arkansas Early Childhood Association (AECA) was selected by competitive bid to implement the TEACH Program in Arkansas, and the organization is licensed by The TEACH Early Childhood National

Center. The DHS Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education financially supports the initiative and will monitor the program's progress. TEACH Early Childhood® Scholarships:

- Tie education, compensation and retention together
- Pay for most of the cost of tuition, books and travel
- Often require and support paid release time
- Award increased compensation upon attainment of a prescribed number of college credit hours
- Provide every participant with access to a scholarship counselor who 1) supplies all of the information and materials scholarship recipients and sponsoring centers need to get started; and 2) helps the recipient negotiate the higher education system including academic and career advising, financial aid and textbook acquisition.

To be eligible to receive this scholarship, an applicant must be currently working in a licensed child care setting (center or family home) for a minimum of 30 hours or more per week and must have worked in the program for a minimum of one year with above-average performance evaluations.

Scholarship participants will be expected to enter into a contract with T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Arkansas and agree to contribute a percentage of the cost of tuition and books. The candidate must agree to complete the credential, certificate or degree and maintain continued employment in their current care setting for a minimum period of two years following the awarding of the degree, credential or certificate.

For more information, please contact:

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Taylor Dugan asked Ms. Howell how the members would be voting on the Rules Governing the Code of Ethics. Ms. Howell said she would email the Board members for their vote. She asked that they respond within one week from today's meeting. The Reinstatement of a Revoked License draft will also

be emailed to the members for review. The members are to send comments directly to Taylor Dugan for feedback at Taylor.Dugan@arkansas.gov.

Mr. Webb asked if the email could be transparent for all members to reply all so that all members can see other's responses, which will help with duplication of responses. Mr. Dugan was open to this suggestion.

The Board took a fifteen-minute break at 9:45 a.m.

The meeting resumed at 10:00 a.m. Dr. Greg Murry called in, Dr. Andrea Martin, and Dr. Sheena Williamson joined the meeting by Zoom.

2. Approval of Minutes – Ms. Kathy Howell

***Approval of Minutes moved to 10:00 a.m. in order to have a quorum.**

Motion made by Dudley Webb to approve the March 1, 2019, minutes; seconded by Dr. Ellen Treadway. Motion passed. None opposed.

4. Action Items:

- **School Superintendent Assessment (SSA) with a cut score of 157 will replace the current SSA (6021) – Joan Luneau**

This is the Building Level effective September 2020 with a cut score of 157 minus one standard error.

Motion by Ms. Nations to accept the new cut score of 157 for School Superintendent Assessment (SSA); seconded by Mr. Webb. Motion passed. None opposed.

- **Election of Subcommittees**

Ms. Howell read off the current Evidentiary Hearing Committee Members:

Panel 1

Brenda Brown

Dr. Talisha Givan

Dr. Greg Murry

Karli Saracini

Dudley Webb, III

Panel 2

Leilani Dallas
Nathan Morris
Dr. Donny Lee, Jr.
Cindy Nations
Scott Shirey

Panel 3

Lincoln Daniels
Sunny Styles-Foster
Karen Norton
Brenda Robinson

- Election of new PLSB Subcommittee Member to replace Lisa Baker:

J. D. Keeling

Motion made by Mr. Webb to accept the Evidentiary Hearing Subcommittee Panel members as stated and Mr. Keeling to the PLSB Subcommittee; seconded by Dr. Treadway. Motion passed. None opposed.

The next PLSB Full Board meeting will be on September 6, 2019, at 8:00 a.m.

ADDENDUM

On June 17, 2019, Ms. Howell responded by email to Mr. Dugan regarding the email vote from the PLSB Full Board members in reference to the proposed rules for reinstatement of a revoked license.

The vote was unanimous to approve the proposed rules to continue through the rules process.