

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB)
Friday, March 1, 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 **March 1, 2019**. Voting members of the Board present were Kathy Howell, Chair, Dr. Greg Murry, Vice-Chair, Lisa Baker, Dr. Mary Jane Bradley, Brenda Brown, Lillian Hemphill, John D. Keeling, Dr. Donny Lee, Cindy Nations, Scott Shirey, Dr. Ellen Treadway, Dudley Webb, III, and Dr. Sheena Williamson. Non-voting members present were Dr. Suzanne Bailey, Joan Luneau, Frank Servedio, and Tonya Williams. 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. Guest Kathy Koehler with AEA.

Members who were not present were Lynne Gronseth and Dr. Victoria Groves-Scott.

1. Call to Order – Kathy Howell, Chair

Ms. Kathy Howell called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes – Ms. Kathy Howell

Motion made by Dr. Greg Murry to approve the December 7, 2018, minutes; seconded by Dr. Donny Lee. Motion passed. None opposed.

3. Discussion and Reports

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

Dr. Frank Servedio presented the board with the updated EPPQR report data updates and stated that they were in the final stages of getting the EPPQR report completed with the design and format. He shared a mock version of the report with the Board. He reported on removing a factor that was requested to change the completion rate.

At this time, the completion rate will not be a factor in this report as part of the evaluation.

Section I of the EPPQR Report: Evaluation

This section will need to be specific so that the reader will know exactly how to read the report and what they are getting. The criteria that goes into this report is very critical.

Section II of the EPPQR Report: Workforce Data

This section will include enrollment numbers and completer numbers. Race and ethnicity data for students and teachers as well as the retention rate for teachers in Arkansas public schools.

Section III of the EPPQR Report: Quality Factors

This section will focus on how EPP is accredited, licensure pass rates with the Title II report, novice teacher survey reports, and survey supervisors.

Section IV of the EPPQR Report: CAEP Accreditation and Title II Reports

This section will address EPP shortage areas. EPP will also address minorities as well as the partnerships with the school districts, and what they are doing about them.

Section V of the EPPQR Report: Ancillary information

This section will be incorporated later along with PLC's. In addition, the growth of students who are being taught by these teachers, who are coming out of the EPPs, will be added to the EPPQR report.

Dr. Servedio opened the floor for suggestions on how to improve the EPPQR report.

Ms. Howell asked if the non-traditional groups were required to participate in Title II and if their information is included in the EPPQR report. Dr. Servedio confirmed that they do participate in the Title II reporting. Dr. Servedio thanked the Board for their time and the committee for their participation in helping design, collect data to put the EPPQR report together, and finalized.

b. Legislative Updates - Dr. Suzanne Bailey, Assistant Commissioner/Licensure & Educator Effectiveness

Dr. Bailey thanked the Board members for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend the PLSB meetings. Dr. Bailey shared that she was a former member on the PLSB Full Board, PLSB Ethics Subcommittee, and the PLSB Evidentiary Panel.

Dr. Bailey discussed several legislative bills that were coming up for vote by the Legislature. She discussed the information Mr. James sent to the Board on Senate Bill 382. Senate Bill 382 involves the revocation of an educator's license to be reinstated after 10 years if they make a request to the Arkansas State Board of Education. The bill would disqualify an educator from requesting the reinstatement of their license for certain offenses involving sexual abuse and physical abuse. The bill allows the ADE to create rules. Dr. Bailey stated that ADE would create rules and they will be brought before the PLSB Board for review. Ms. Howell asked if an educator surrenders their license, would they be able to reinstate their license. Dr. Bailey was not sure about this, but would check into it further for the Board.

Ms. Blagg stated to the Board that a licensure action based on a disqualifying offense, a guilty plea, is used to keep them from reinstating their license. If an educator is on the Child Maltreatment List, they have to prove they have been rehabilitated to receive a second chance for their license to be reinstated. Ms. Williams stated that Senate Bill 382 left out age's birth to Pre-K.

There were questions to follow that Ms. Blagg answered for the Board.

1.) How a school district would know ten years later if an educator had a prior offense?

Ms. Blagg stated that this information would be in AELS and NASDTEC.

2.) How do sealed records fit into Senate Bill 382?

Ms. Blagg stated that we are able to view sealed records for these particular instances.

The lunch bill and funding was discussed and explained. It is separate from the NLS funding which has to do with food and poverty.

Ms. Brown asked about the Senate Recess Bill 409. She asked if the teachers would be compensated for their time if recess were to be extended. Ms. Koehler, the AEA President, spoke on this topic of extra recess time. She stated that this time is “unassigned” at this time in Senate Bill 409. There needs to be more clarification on the word “unassigned.” Dr. Bailey will look into Senate Bill 409 and will keep the Board abreast of its progress.

There was discussion on Senate Bill 1638. If the bill were to pass, it would remove a pedagogy assessment or test.

Ms. Koehler also spoke on the teacher retirement bill to remove the COLA portion. Ms. Koehler stated that there would be regional meetings for retirement planning for all State employees.

The Board took a break at 10:15 a.m.

The meeting resumed at 10:21 a.m.

Mrs. Howell asked Dr. Bailey to send out an email to the Board on the legislative bills related to licensure and education.

c. PLSB Budget Review – Lisa Baker and Committee

Ms. Baker discussed the PLSB budget. The budget committee received a request for one or two more PLSB vehicles for the investigators. Ms. Baker reported that the budget supports this request. This request is to support the travel for the investigative team. Jacki Stafford, ADE Central Support, will process this request.

d. PLSB Members Terms Expiring June 30, 2019:

- Kathy Howell
- Cindy Nations
- Lisa Baker
- Dr. Donny Lee
- Dr. Vicki Groves-Scott

Ms. Lisa Baker will not be returning for another term. Ms. Howell, Ms. Nations, Dr. Donny Lee, and Dr. Scott will be returning for another three-year term, which will expire June 30, 2022.

Dr. Bailey advised the Board that Ms. Daryl Taylor, managing attorney for PLSB, would be out on military leave until August 2019, due to extended military orders. Dr. Bailey thanked Simoné Blagg for stepping in during this time to fill Ms. Taylor's position until she returns. Dr. Bailey also asked for the Board's understanding during this time due to the number of evidentiary hearings on the schedule. Ms. Blagg updated the Board that there are currently twenty-one hearing requests and twenty, which are scheduled, which takes the hearing schedule to October 2019. Dr. Bailey updated the Board that a third evidentiary hearing committee has been organized. Ms. Blagg will be conducting the training on March 7, 2019. The third panel will be utilized to substitute for the other panels when circumstances arise, or as needed.

4. Other Business

Mr. James introduced Brittany Felix, PLSB's newest educational investigator and team member.

Ms. Williams updated the Board on a new grant awarded to DHS. This grant will fund training on trauma care for age's birth to five years old. Examples of trauma children experience are: 1) military deployment, 2) poverty, 3) abuse, 4) death, and 5) divorce just to name a few.

Different types of training will be available such as online courses through AETN, classroom training, and training in the community. The grant will roll out in the fall of 2019 or as early as July 2019.

Mr. Webb advised the Board he would be participating in the IMPACT program in the next seven months. Mr. Webb also talked about utilizing teachers who are knowledgeable, to use their training in the classroom instead of outsourcing this training.

Ms. Blagg spoke to the Board regarding settlements in connection with PLSB cases. Ms. Blagg said that settlements would no longer be a part of the determination process while she was in charge of the evidentiary hearings. Ms. Blagg told the Board she is committed to keeping the evidentiary hearings on schedule since they are behind schedule.

Ms. Blagg explained the purpose of the hearing officer from the Attorney General's Office being present at the evidentiary hearings. His purpose is to answer questions according to the Administrator's Procedures Act.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

The next PLSB Full Board meeting will be on June 7, 2019, at 8:00 a.m.