

**Arkansas Department of Education
Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB)
Friday, March 11, 2011**

A meeting of the Professional Licensure Standards Board was held in the PLSB meeting room, located at #1 Capitol Mall, Little Rock, AR, on March 11, 2011. Members of the Board present were Brenda Brown, Mitch Holifield, Carolyn Odom, Kathy Howell, Don McGohan, Marion Sibert, Dale Query, Tom Smith, Jerry Guess, Evelyn Thrower, John Jones, Tony Finley, Sheila Jacobs and Beverly Williams. Guest in attendance was Jeanne Jones-ADHE and Donna Morey-AEA. ADE staff members in attendance were Michael Smith, Tameka Parker, Debra Farris, Tara Amuimuia, Katherine Donovan and Eric James.

There were thirteen (13) voting members present, representing a quorum and one non-voting member present.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dr. Holifield, chairman.
2. **Approval of the Previous Minutes: January 14, 2011:** After a brief discussion Mr. McGohan made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Ms. Howell, motion passed 12/0.
3. **Fund Balance Reports**–January: \$1,142,435.05 / February: \$1,121,662.30
 - a) Ms. Howell made a motion that adequate supplies (snacks, desk, refrigerator, etc.) be purchased for the PLSB meetings, seconded by Ms. Siebert, motion passed 13/0.
4. **PLSB Legislative-House Bill 1952:** Ms. Williams provided the board with a handout titled “*A Bill-House Bill 1952*”, for review and discussion.
 - a) After a brief discussion by board members Ms. Williams made a motion that when HB1952 is presented for legislation that the chair or his designee be available to testify on behalf of the PLSB, seconded by Dr. Jones, motion passed 13/0.
 - b) Ms. Donovan drafted questions and changes that the board had regarding HB1952. After discussion and changes Mr. McGohan made a motion to accept the suggested edits as discussed and for a letter to be drafted on PLSB letterhead and sent to Representative J. Roebuck by carrier today, seconded by Ms. Thrower, motion passed 13/0.
5. **Committee Reports:**
 - a) **Defining “Teacher Effectiveness”**-Table until next meeting
 - b) **Funding Labels**-Table until next meeting
 - c) **Ron Tolson regarding renewal of an Initial Administrator License**- Table until next meeting
6. **New AR Application for Educator’s License and Flier:** Ms. Williams provided the board with two handouts titled “*Application for Educator’s License* and *Want to be a*

Teacher”, for review and discussion. She provided the board with a brief overview of each.

7. Standards Setting Recommendation for New Praxis Test Cut Scores to become effective September 1, 2011.

- a) **ART: These two tests will replace the current exams – Art CK (0133), Art: Content, Traditions, Criticism and Aesthetics (0132) and Art Making (0131). The new tests being recommended are:**
 - i. **(0134) Art Content Knowledge – cut score of 158 in lieu of (0133).** Ms. Howell made a motion to accept the changes, seconded by Ms. Jacobs, motion passed 11/0.
 - ii. **(0135) Art Content and Analysis – cut score of 161 in lieu of (0131 and 0132).** Ms. Brown made a motion to accept the changes, seconded by Ms. Howell, motion passed 11/0.
- b) **Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT): These three tests will replace the current exams – PLT ECE (0521), PLT Grades 5-9 (0523), PLT Grades 7-12 (0524). The new tests being recommended are:**
 - i. **(0621) PLT: Early Childhood – cut score of 157 in lieu of (0521).** Ms. Howell made a motion to accept the changes, seconded by Ms. Brown, motion passed 12/0.
 - ii. **(0623) PLT: Grades 5-9 – cut score of 160 in lieu of (0523).** Ms. Howell made a motion to accept the changes, seconded by Ms. Brown, motion passed 12/0.
 - iii. **(0624) PLT: Grades 7-12 – cut score of 157 in lieu of (0524).** Ms. Howell made a motion to accept the changes, seconded by Ms. Brown, motion passed 11/0.

8. Instructional Facilitator (IF) tests waived for the AR teachers who helped in the development of the Praxis examination. Rationale:

- a) **Validity of the decision applied to a person’s test score**
 - b) **Fairness**
- Per ETS, both of these issues weaken the defensibility of the licensure decision.** Ms. Howell made a motion to accept the changes, seconded by Ms. Siebert, motion passed 12/0.

9. Sample Screens from APLS regarding Revocation, Suspensions and Probations for AR Educators: Ms. Williams provide the board with three handouts titled *“Professional Licensure Limited View Screen”* and gave a brief explanation of each one. These screens show the licensure actions by the State Board for probation, suspension or revocation of a license. It also states the effective dates for the action.

10. Licensure Taskforce – Update: Dr. Holifield gave a brief summary on the status of the taskforce. The first meeting will be held on April 6-7, 2011 at Lake Point in Russellville.

11. Repayment from eight (8) NBPTS candidates: Ms. Williams provided a handout containing a list of educators that have not paid back NBPTS funds for review and discussion by the board.

a) Thames	\$2,300 from 2004	Employed in AR SD
b) Garrett	\$2,668 from 2007	Moved to TX
c) Miller	\$2,435 from 2003	License expired
d) Holcomb	\$2,444 from 2001	License expired
e) Formby	\$2,300 from 2004	License expired
f) Davis	\$2,450 from 2005	Employment unknown
g) Cottrell	\$2,300 from 1999	Employment unknown
h) Clampet	\$2,550 from 2006	Employment unknown

After a brief discussion Dr. Guess made a motion to suspend all the licenses listed above, seconded by Ms. Thrower, motion passed 13/0.

12. Praxis Cut Score Data – AR, longitudinal data last five (5) years and vs Other States: Ms. Williams provided the board with two handouts titled “*Praxis Series Testing and Praxis Cut Scores and Arkansas Mean Scores*” and gave a brief explanation of its purpose.

13. Requirement for Professional Education Programs – Report from meeting with Deans in September 2010: Ms. Williams provided the board with handout titled “*Requirements for Professional Education Programs at Arkansas Colleges and Universities for the Licensure of Teachers and Other School Personnel*” and gave a brief overview of its purpose. It will be put on next months agenda.

14. Book by John Pijanowski (UA) – Professional Responsibility for Educators and the Arkansas Code of Ethics, Omni Publishers 2011: Ms. Williams provided the board with information that is in the book listed above. It was presented just as information. Most of the board members have a copy or have seen a copy. Ms. Williams also informed the board that the information in the book had two parts: The first section tackles the concept and understanding of Ethics in a global sense and is good information. The second section is specific to Arkansas and address the Code of Ethics for AR Educators. While this is still good information, unfortunately it is already outdated, because of changes in Rules that have occurred.

15. Minor Revision PLSB Internal Handbook for Conducting Ethics Investigations: Michael Smith along with Katherine Donovan gave a brief description of changes that were needed regarding the PLSB procedures handbook. After a brief discussion Mr. Query made a motion to adopt the changes to the PLSB procedures, seconded by Dr. Smith, motion passed 12/0.

16. Reviewing PLSB Social-Networking Technology Guidance with new data. Mr. McGohan provide the board with a handout titled “*Social Networking: Considerations for Education*” and led a brief discussion regarding social-networking with the board. Mr. Query made a motion that staff and Mr. McGohan review social-networking rules and

involve whom he feels to have expertise and bring back a recommendation to the board for discussion, seconded by Ms. Thrower, motion passed 13/0.

17. Questions from two teachers regarding Code of Ethics:

a) Modeling

b) Prostitution

The board had a brief discussion regarding the two items listed above. After comments, questions and examples the board decided that the two items were not ethical violations.

18. Issue on How to License an AR Teacher Graduate; (2 in last month): Ms. Williams gave a brief summary on two issues regarding How to License an AR Teacher Graduate.

Mr. McGohan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Brown; motion passed unanimously 13/0.

***Next meeting date: April 8, 2011 in the PLSB Conference Room**