

**Arkansas Department of Education
Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB)
Friday, October 08, 2010**

A meeting of the Professional Licensure Standards Board was held in the PLSB meeting room, located at 1 Capitol Mall, Little Rock, AR, on October 08, 2010. Members of the Board present were Dr. John Jones, Brenda Brown, Carolyn Odom, Sheila Jacobs, Dr. Mitch Holifield, Kathy Howell, Don McGohan, Evelyn Thrower, Marion Sibert, Dale Query, Dr. Tony Finley, Dr. Jerry Guess and Beverly Williams. Tom Smith was unable to attend. Guests in attendance were Jeanne Jones-ADHE and Donna Morey-AEA. ADE staff members in attendance were Judy Mason, Tameka Parker, Eric James, Michael Smith, Debra Farris, Katherine Donovan, Ron Tolson and Mike Lucas.

There were twelve (12) voting members present, representing a quorum and two non-voting members present.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dr. Holifield.
2. **Approval of the Previous Minutes: August 13, 2010:** After a brief discussion Mr. Query made a motion to approve the minutes with an addendum (graphic representation of Non-Traditional Licensure Rules from the previous meeting presented by Ms. Williams), seconded by Ms. Odom; motion passed unanimously 12/0.
3. **Fund Balance Reports–** August: \$839,712.00 September: \$1,009,077.00
4. **Non-Traditional Licensure:** Dr. Guess made a motion that the PLSB make a public statement for public comment regarding Teach for America and Non-Traditional Licensure, seconded by Ms. Howell; motion passed unanimously 12/0. **Dr. Jones, Ms. Jacobs, Ms. Sibert, Mr. Query, and Dr. Guess will prepare a comment and will send an electronic draft copy to Dr. Holifield to share with other PLSB members for review.*
5. **University Program Audits:** Mike Lucas with the agency gave a handout and a brief history of the audit program and answered questions from board members.
6. **Licensure Task Force:** Ms. Williams informed the board members that the ADE commissioner (Tom Kimbrell) would be putting together a taskforce and asked the board to hold off on theirs. The board agreed to go ahead and start their taskforce as planned. The board will define procedure on how members will be named at next meeting. **11/12/2010*
7. **Website:** The board discussed the various changes to the website and how difficult it is to find information. After a brief discussion Mr. McGohan made a motion that they send a recommendation from the PLSB board to Julie Thompson that they add links in the quick link section to more conveniently direct people to the PLSB website and to the appropriate pages for an ethics complaint and for the ADE Rules and Regs., seconded by Mr. Query, motion passed unanimously 12/0
 - a) **Addition to drop-down menu**

- b) **Addition of PLSB Recommendations Regarding the Educational Applications of Social-Networking**
- c) **Addition of a Final Version of the Code of Ethics**
- d) **Addition of the Code of Ethics Handbook**
- e) **Ethics Form**

8. **Ethics Handbook:** Will be completed by next month.
9. **Update on Administrator Licensure Rules/Regulations.:** Mr. McGohan made a motion that the board make a response for public comment on Administrator Licensure Rules and Regs and change from 4 years to 3 years, seconded by Dr. Guess, motion failed 3/9. After further discussion by the board Ms. Jacobs made a motion that the board make a public comment representing the board and the years of experience remain as is , in the current rules, seconded by Ms. Howell, motion passed 10/2.
10. **Math Specialist Endorsement:** Ms. Williams gave a brief discussion regarding the math specialist and what their job role will consist of. They will be P-4 licensed first and then they will be endorsed.
11. **Welcome:** Dr. Holifield welcomed Ron Tolson back to the board. He had retired in June and has since returned back to the board.
12. **NBPTS Waiver of repayment**
- a) **Carol Foshe:** Ms. Foshe asked the board that her repayment obligations to the NBPTS (\$2,680) be waived due to her inability to complete the requirements of the National Board Candidacy. She withdrew during her second year of candidacy. After a brief discussion Dr. Guess made a motion to deny the waiver request and direct that Ms. Foshe repay the funds by June 30, 2011, or her teaching license will be suspended, seconded by Mr. McGohan; motion passed unanimously 12/0.
 - b) **Robin Carraway:** has filed for bankruptcy and her NBPTS funds (past due since 2004) are listed on her bankruptcy request. File is currently in legal for review.
13. **PRAXIS Program Update – Social Studies:** Mr. Query made a motion to eliminate old test # 0081 and 0082, replace with new test #0086 and set cut score to 153 that will take effect July 1, 2011, seconded by Dr. Finley; motion passed unanimously 12/0.
14. **Paths to Licensure Chart:** Ms. Williams gave the board members a chart to review and discuss.
15. **Inactive Teacher Licensure – Shawn Key:** Mr. Key would like for his teaching license to be in an inactive status while he works on his law practice. After a brief discussion the board decided to hold his request for the licensure taskforce. Dr. Holifield delegated Ms. Williams send a letter of correspondence to Mr. Key explaining their decision.

- 16. Licensure Issues – Kelly Hayes (Special Licensure Request):** The board was given a written request from Kelly Hayes for consideration. Mr. McGohan made a motion to deny his request, seconded by Dr. Guess; motion passed unanimously 12/0. Dr. Holifield delegated Ms. Williams send a letter of correspondence to Mr. Hayes explaining their decision.
- 17. AR Teacher of the Year Program:** Dr. Guess made a motion that the board authorizes Ms. Williams to purchase tickets for those members of the board that would like to attend, contingent upon her discover that we can use the PLSB funds for that purpose, seconded by Dr. Jones; motion passed 11/1.
- 18. Licensure Background Check:** Ms. Williams gave the board a brief explanation why we need a contract service for background checks. Dr. Jones made a motion to approve the authorization to go out for bids a request for a contract service to complete background checks on potential educators. If the bid is accepted the PLSB funds will pay for the monthly service, seconded by Ms. Odom; motion passed unanimously 12/0.

Mr. McGohan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Holifield; motion passed unanimously 12/0.

***Next meeting date: November 12, 2010 in the PLSB Conference Room**