

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

A meeting of the Professional Licensure Standards Board met in the Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Conference Room at #4 Capitol Mall, Room 105-C, Little Rock, Arkansas on September 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, Ms. Lillian Hemphill, Mr. John D. Keeling, Dr. Donny Lee, Dr. Andrea Martin, Ms. Cindy Romeo (Nations), Dr. Ellen Treadway, and Mr. Dudley Webb, III. Non-voting members present were Dr. Jeremy Owoh, and Tonya Williams. ADE staff members present were Eric James, Sarah Banker, Paula Thurmond, Cheri Rolett, Daryl Taylor, Stephanie Johnson, Shannon Rostad-Hall, Shari Misener, Matthew Newcomb, Ashton Middleton, Joan Luneau, and Frank Servedio.

1. Call to Order – Kathy Howell, Chair

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

Ms. Howell introduced the following new board members:

Dr. Ellen Treadway ~ Arkansas Tech University
Dr. Mary Jane Bradley ~ Arkansas State University
Dr. Sheena Williamson ~ Searcy School District

2. Approval of Minutes – Kathy Howell, Chair

Motion made by Dr. Greg Murry to approve the June 1, 2018, minutes; seconded by Ms. Brenda Brown. None opposed. Motion passed.

3. Action Agenda

a. Approval of revised Sanction Matrix for Ethics Violations

Mr. James and Ms. Taylor discussed the new Sanction Matrix for Ethics Violations. Ms. Howell asked the Board to review the Sanction Matrix; to have their feedback to Mr. James or Ms. Taylor within 30 days of

this meeting so that she can address changes before the December 7, 2018, PLSB Full Board meeting. This will be voted on in the December 7, 2018, PLSB Full Board meeting.

For clarification purposes, Ms. Taylor explained the structure of the Sanction Matrix and its usefulness to the Board members when determining a sanction for a preponderance of evidence related to a case.

Several Board members voiced their thoughts and suggestions on the Sanction Matrix, of which were all very positive. There was also positive feedback from Board members that the Sanction Matrix will be a very helpful tool when making decisions for the PLSB Evidentiary Hearing Committee and the PLSB Ethics Subcommittee.

Mr. Webb asked if the Sanction Matrix could be a part of the educator training in the schools. The response was that it could be used for educator -training and the benefits of using it in the schools for this purpose would be most beneficial to educators in making them aware and giving them a level of notice prior to an offense.

Ms. Howell also commented that the Sanction Matrix would be very helpful to the State Board of Education in seeing all the factors and the reasoning behind decisions regarding the Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) cases when brought before them for their final recommendation.

4. Discussion and Reports

a. 2018 Code of Ethics Training Video (Eric James, Chief Investigator)

Mr. James discussed the Code of Ethics Training video and how this is, the proactive portion of what the PLSB does. There has been positive feedback on the Code of Ethics training video from Board members, Educators, Administrators, Superintendents, etc. There has been over 7000 YouTube hits on the training video to date. Mr. Webb reported that the consensus from Hot Springs School District was very positive. Mr. Webb and the students who participated in the video were very pleased with the outcome of the video and the parents of the students were very pleased with their children. Mr. Webb was very pleased that

PLSB involved students in the making of the training video. Mr. James asked each Board member to promote the training video in his or her school. He also suggested that they could lead the training, if they would like, in their school and/or school district.

Dr. Owoh reported to the Board that the training video was shared with all Superintendents and building managers. Dr. Owoh had received numerous telephone calls and positive feedback from many school districts. Comments were made by the Board members how good and helpful the training video is for the Educators. It is an “awareness” to Educators more than a deviant purpose. Ms. Gronseth asked if the Code of Ethics training is a requirement for all educators. Mr. James commented that it is not a requirement, but that the school district is responsible for contacting him to schedule training. School districts have begun scheduling training for 2019.

b. EPPQR Subcommittee – Dr. Jeremy Owoh

Dr. Owoh told the Board that the next phase is designing a quality review process. Dr. Servedio and Ms. Luneau will lead the quality review process. Dr. Owoh told the Board the EPPQR format would be finalized in March 2019 or April 2019. Dr. Lee asked about the awareness of the EPP ratings. Dr. Owoh responded that they have looked at what the law requires regarding the EPP ratings. Dr. Lee asked that the EPPQR Subcommittee and the Deans Counsel communicate during this process.

c. Educator Preparation Updates – Joan Luneau & Frank Servedio
Ms. Luneau discussed the following timelines for program revisions and implementations to take place in the fall of 2019 and 2020.

i. Timelines for Program Revisions

- Fall 2019 Implementation
Special Education (K-12) and Elementary Education (K-6)
- Fall 2020 Implementation
Educational Leadership (P-12)
Middle School (4-8) – All Areas
Computer Science (4-12)

Reading Specialist (K-12)
Dyslexia (K-12)
English (7-12)

ii. Progress on New Licensure Areas

Ms. Luneau discussed the new Licensure areas and they are currently working on competencies and assessments.

- Dance (K-12), Online Teaching (K-12), Alternative Learning (K-12)

New Ancillary Licenses

- Dyslexia (K-12) and English to Speakers of Other Languages (K-12) now available

iii. Licensure Test Fee Reimbursements

Teach Arkansas Initiatives

- Licensure Assessment Supports

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/riuld2kuipf7eq1/AACPMhpOBJdAY>

- 14 sessions conducted

iv. Fee Reimbursements for Adding Chronically Critical Shortage Areas

- <http://www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/EducatorEffectiveness/EducatorLicensure/LicensureEndorsementTestReimbursementGUIDANCE090118.pdf>

v. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and Educator Preparation Programs (EPP)

The following locations will be holding PLCs and EPPs:

Salt Lake City, UT ~ October 8 – 10, 2018

Des Moines, IA ~ October 24 – 26, 2018

Atlanta GA ~ November 12 – 14, 2018

CAEP Visits scheduled:

Crowley's Ridge College ~ December 2 – 4, 2018

University of Ozarks ~ December 9 – 11, 2018

The CAEP conference is the week of September 10, 2018. Dr. Lee said he would be attending.

j. Other Business

Mr. Webb discussed the Child Hotline and his concerns getting through to them to report a child maltreatment problem. He asked if PLSB would be able to step in and help the process improve. Ms. Howell stated that the Child Hotline is a State agency and this may take legislative action in order to facilitate more availability to the Child Hotline division. The issue of having only one call-in station for the State of Arkansas has become a problem. Several members said that it is faster to send a facsimile than to hold the line to speak to a person.

Mr. James suggested documenting each time a call goes to the Child Hotline so that you have documentation on what transpired during the attempt to contact the Child Hotline. Mr. James also stated that this documentation would be helpful to an investigator should this become a PLSB investigation.

Ms. Williams, with the Department of Human Services (DHS), stated that there were connections between the Child Hotline, Family Services, DHS, and the State Police. Ms. Williams offered her help to the Board should they request it.

Mr. Webb will be researching this issue and will report to the Board at the December 7, 2018 meeting, per Ms. Howell's request.

Mr. Webb also shared with the Board a program called BOOST. BOOST is a program that evaluates children for their mental capacity. Dr. Seth Hickerson, who is retired from the military, designed this program in an effort to help prevent active shooters from going into schools. He travels the country presenting BOOST to school districts. A curriculum-based program that consists of nine weeks. There is training available for educators as well. The

school district can purchase a course packet at a cost of \$100 per packet per child.

Mr. Webb asked if PLSB or ADE could collaborate with this program. Ms. Howell commented she does not see that PLSB is the organization to take on this project. It was suggested that Mr. Webb contact AAEA to get their thoughts on this program.

Ms. Howell made the Board aware that the new Licensure Rules went into effect on August 31, 2018.

Ms. Howell asked the Board to think about the fines connected with the sanctions on the matrix in order to vote on them at the December 7, 2018 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

The next PLSB Full Board meeting will be on December 7, 2018, at 8:00 a.m.