

Professional Licensure Standards Board

Friday, December 3, 2021

PLSB Full Board Minutes

A meeting of the Professional Licensure Standards Board was held via Zoom and in person for those who could attend on **December 3, 2021**. Voting members of the Board present were Dr. Donny Lee, Chair, Vice-Chair, Dr. Joe Fisher, Luanne Baroni, Hosea Born, Dr. Mary Jane Bradley, Brenda Brown, Lynne Gronseth, Kathy Howell, Dr. Harold Jeffcoat, Dr. Andrea Martin, Wendy Peer, Dr. Vicki Groves-Scott, Dudley Webb, III, Dr. Sheena Williamson. ADE staff members present were Amy Douglas, Sarah Banker, Cheri Rolett, Brittany Felix, Maria Lockhart, Shannon Rostad-Hall, Vikki Jennings, Joi Crawford, Karli Saracini and Andy Sullivan.

Voting members not present: Dr. Nita Bohannon and John D. Keeling

Non-voting members not present: Tonya Williams

1. Call to Order – Dr. Donny Lee, Chair

Dr. Lee called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

Dudley Webb made a motion to approve the September 3, 2021, PLSB Full Board minutes; seconded by Dr. Vicki Groves-Scott. Motion passed; none opposed.

3. Action Items:

- a. Adoption of PLSB Quarterly Meeting Dates

Kathy Howell made a motion to approve the 2022 PLSB Quarterly meeting dates except for July and September. These dates will be determined later; seconded by Dudley Webb. Motion passed; none opposed.

4. Discussion and Reports:

- a. Introduce the PLSB Staff – Amy Douglas

The PLSB staff was introduced to the Board so that the new board members could meet them.

- b. Licensure Updates – Andy Sullivan

Licensure Assessment Ready program is to:

1. Improve the pass rates
2. Over six hundred students participated in online sessions for licensure assessments

3. Licensure Assessment Ready also offers a number of self-paced online courses
4. There is also an alternate assessment test

Higher Ed Webinars

1. School districts and graduates attended the Higher Ed Webinars; there were 128 graduates and sixty school districts.
 2. Licensure is working to improve and streamline designations
- c. Educator Program Provider Quality Report (EPPQR) – Karli Saracini, Assist. Commissioner
1. The EPPQR has been finalized and is online for review
 2. The next meeting for EPPQR committee is Wednesday, December 8, 2021
- d. Updates from Office of Educator Effectiveness and Licensure – Karli Saracini, Asst. Commissioner
- i. Waivers
 - ii. 1240 – Paying interns – class size and load – MOU IHE/District support
 - There is a need for long-term subs
 - There are currently over four hundred long-term subs for one semester
 - On average, there are 169 SpEd subs
 - The reason for the shortage of SpEd teachers is lack of interest in teaching SpEd classes; the amount of paperwork required for SpEd students; lack of support within the district; need additional support from the district to help with the paperwork; more compensation for SpEd teachers; and stress related to compliance.

It was suggested that Matt Sewell, State SpEd Director, be asked to attend the March 4, 2022, full board meeting to discuss SpEd.

Academics for teachers will still be in place where they are needed:

- a. \$2,000 will be used for SpEd, Language Arts, and Math
 - b. ESA – Enhancement School Assessment
 - c. SEM – Super Enhancement Mentor
- From June 27, 2021, to December 3, 2021, there are 169 ALP's
Breakdown:

- 4 - SpEd Visual ALP's
- 8 - SpEd Language Art Resource ALP's
- 7 - SpEd Math Resource ALP's
- 2 - SpEd Science Resource ALP's
- 29 -SpEd Elementary Resource ALP's

- The Arkansas Teacher Residency Model will help address teacher shortages by providing an affordable, work-based pathway to licensure to prospective teachers. The residency provides an opportunity to work while gaining qualifications for teacher licensure and to receive preparation based on authentic, quality student-facing experiences.
- There are three levels in which a graduate can receive an Arkansas Teacher Residency. These can be found in the Arkansas Teacher Residency (ATR) model brochure.

iii. MAT program issues – tests/licensing/waivers/long term sub

iv. State Review Update – Karli Saracini, Asst. Commissioner

A taskforce is in place, in which K-12 is represented and 2 year and 4 years are represented. The meeting will be held Wednesday, December 8, 2021.

e. Ethics Updates – Amy Douglas

PLSB currently has seven cases open which are not in FY22. As of July 22, 2021, PLSB has received fifty-three allegations of which twenty-six have been authorized through November 2021.

PLSB has twenty-six allegations for the December 10, 2021, Ethics Subcommittee. Of these cases, eighteen have been resolved and eight are pending final report.

The average age of an educator is 40 years old with thirteen years' experience.

Authorization to Final Report is 36 days; Final Report to ESC is 29 days.

f. Committee for collaboration – [Code of Ethics – MCEE]

ProEthica is no longer available. A committee is needed to collaborate the Code of Ethics with MCEE for training purposes for pre-service.

Volunteers for the committee are:

1. Dr. Donny Lee, Dean at Harding University; Private Institutions of Higher Education and Arkansas Assoc. of Colleges of Teacher Education
2. Kathy Howell, Classroom Teacher – K-Grade 6 – AEA, Clarksville School District
3. Dudley Webb, 8th ELA Teacher, 9th Critical Reading Teacher, Asst Coach Jr. High Football at Lake Hamilton School District
4. Wendy Peer, AEA Representative, Ft. Smith, AR
5. Mary Jane Bailey, Assoc. Professor & Program Director, ASU
6. Tracy Ann Nelson, AEA Representative, Little Rock, AR
7. Karen Lasker, Director of Personnel, Conway Public Schools; ASPA (The Arkansas Assoc. of School Personnel Administrators)
8. Vikki Jennings, PLSB Investigator – Arkansas Department of Education

Dr. Lee asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:53 a.m. Dudley Webb made a motion, to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Luanne Baroni. Motion passed. None opposed.

The next PLSB Full Board meeting will be on Friday, March 4, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.