

Professional Licensure Standards Board

Friday, June 3, 2022
PLSB Full Board Minutes

A meeting of the Professional Licensure Standards Board held its quarterly meeting via Zoom and in person for those who could attend on **June 3, 2022**. Voting members of the Board present were, Chair, Dr. Donny Lee, Vice-Chair, Dr. Joe Fisher, Luanne Baroni, Dr. Nita Bohannon, Hosea Born, Dr. Mary Jane Bradley, Lynne Gronseth, Kathy Howell, Dr. Harold Jeffcoat, Dr. Vicki Groves-Scott, Kathy Howell, Dr. Harold Jeffcoat, and Dudley Webb, III. ADE staff members present were Amy Douglas, Sarah Banker, Cheri Rolett, Shannon Rostad, Vikki Jennings, D.J. Hines, Joi Crawford, Melissa Hamric, Michael Rowland, and Joan Luneau. Guests were Tanya Gibson and Monica Porter.

Voting members not present: Brenda Brown, John D. Keeling, Karen Lasker, Dr. Andrea Martin, Wendy Peer, and Dr. Sheena Williamson

Non-voting members not present: Tonya Williams

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

Dr. Donny Lee called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

Dudley Webb made a motion to approve the March 4, 2022, PLSB Full Board minutes; seconded by Kathy Howell.

Motion passed. None opposed.

3. Action Items:

❖ **September Meeting Date: Proposed September 9, 2022, at 9 a.m.**

❖ **Board members reappointed for another three-year term are:**

- Dr. Donny Lee [ARACTE]
- Victoria Groves-Scott [ARACTE]
- Luane Baronie [APSRC]
- Karen Lasker [ARKASPA]

Waiting to hear from AEA for new appointment to replace Kathy Howell. These will go before the State Board on July 14, 2022.

❖ **Praxis Updates – Michael Rowland, Licensure Assessment Program Advisor**

- **Praxis® Russian: World Language (5671)**

Russian (K-12) is an endorsement area added to a standard license by testing

out. A new Praxis® Russian: World Language (5671) is available from Educational Testing Service (ETS).

For the licensure assessment to add the Russian (K-12) endorsement to a Standard Arkansas Educator License, the Department recommends adopting the Praxis® Russian: World Language (5671) with a cut score of 125, Effective September 1, 2022.

Kathy Howell made a motion to adopt the Praxis® Russian: World Language (5671) with a cut score of 125, effective September 1, 2022; seconded by Dudley Webb.

Motion passed. None opposed.

- **Praxis® Social Studies: Content Knowledge (5081)**

The current licensure test for Social Studies (7-12) is the Praxis® Social Studies: content and Interpretation (5086); however, the Department recommends replacing the 5086 with the Praxis® Social Studies: Content Knowledge (5081) because the 5081 is all multiple choice (no short answer), is \$26 cheaper, and is offered more frequently.

For the Social Studies (7-12) license, the Department recommends replacing the current Praxis® Social Studies: Content and Interpretation (5086) with the Praxis® Social Studies: Content Knowledge (5081) with a cut score of 155 (score average of thirty states), effective September 1, 2022.

Mary Jane Bradley made a motion to adopt the Praxis® Social Studies: Content and Interpretation (5081) with a cut score of 155 (score average of thirty states), effective September 1, 2022; seconded by Dudley Webb. Motion passed. None Opposed.

- **Praxis® English Language Arts: Content Knowledge (5038)**

The current licensure test for English Language Arts (7-12) is the Praxis® English Language Arts: Content and Analysis (5039); however, the Department recommends replacing the 5039 with the Praxis® English Language Arts: Content Knowledge (5038) because the 5038 is all multiple choice (no short answer), is \$26 cheaper, and is offered more frequently.

For the English Language Arts (7-12) license, the Department recommends replacing the current Praxis® English Language Arts: Content and Analysis (5039) with the Praxis® English Language Arts: Content Knowledge (5038) with a cut score of 162 (-1SEM), effective September 1, 2022.

Dudley Webb made a motion to adopt the Praxis® English Language Arts: Content Knowledge (5038) with a cut score of 162 (-SEM), effective September 1, 2022; seconded by Kathy Howell.

Motion passed. None oppose.

- **Praxis® Physical Education: Content Knowledge (5091)**

The current licensure test for Coaching (K-12) endorsement is the Praxis® Physical Education: Content and Design (5095); however, the Department recommends replacing the 5095 with the Praxis® Physical Education: Content Knowledge (5091) because the 5091 is all multiple choice (no short answer), is \$26 cheaper, and is offered more frequently.

For the Coaching (K-12) endorsement, the Department recommends replacing the current Praxis® Physical Education: Content and Design (5095) with the Praxis® Physical Education: Content Knowledge (5091) with a cut score of 149 (score average of thirty states), effective September 1, 2022.

Kathy Howell made a motion to adopt the Praxis® Physical Education: Content Knowledge (5091) with a cut score of 149 (score average of thirty states), effective September 1, 2022; seconded by Mary Jane Bradley. Motion Passed. None Opposed.

- **Updated Pre-K Special Education Endorsement and Assessment**

The Age 3-4 Special Education endorsement is currently available as a test out option for a Special Education (K-12) teacher to teach pre-Kindergarten special education. The current licensure test for the Age 3-4 Special Education endorsement is the Praxis® Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education (5023). This license has been renamed Early Childhood Special Education (Pre-K) and will continue to be a test out option for Special Education (K-12) teachers. It is now also available as an exception area endorsement for teachers licensed in Early Childhood Pre-K, Early Childhood Pre-4, and Elementary Education (K-6). Exception area endorsements require coursework and the content test.

For the licensure test to add the Early Childhood Special Education (Pre-K) endorsement to a Standard Arkansas Educator License, the Department recommends adopting the Praxis® Special Education: Early Childhood/Early Intervention (5692) with a cut score of 153, replacing the Praxis® Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education (5023), effective September 1, 2022.

Dudley Webb made a motion to adopt the Praxis® Special Education: Early Childhood/Early Intervention (5692) with a cut score of 153, replacing the Praxis® Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education (5023), effective September 1, 2022; seconded by Kathy Howell. Motion passed. None opposed.

❖ **Nomination and Election of LSB Chairperson and Co-Chairperson**

- Discussion to nominate Dr. Donny Lee as the PLSB Chairperson for a three-year term.

Kathy Howell made a motion to nominate Dr. Donny Lee as Chairperson for the Professional Licensure Standards Board for another three-year term starting July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025; seconded by Mary Jane Bradley.

Motion passed. None opposed.

- Discussion to nominate Dr. Joe Fisher as the PLSB Co-Chairperson for a three-year term.

Dudley Webb made a motion to nominate Dr. Joe Fisher as Co-Chairperson for the Professional Licensure Standards Board for another three-year term starting July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025; seconded by Kathy Howell

Motion passed. None opposed.

4. Discussion and Reports

Update from PLSB – Amy Douglas, Managing Attorney/Director PLSB

PLSB will be fully staffed as of June 13, 2022.

As of June 2, 2022, The Arkansas Department of Education, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, Rules Governing the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators, Licensure Rules, National Board for Professional Teachers Standards (NBPTS), Background Checks, and the Master Principal program are now on the DESE website.

A nomination by NASDTEC (National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification) was accepted by Amy Douglas, Sarah Banker, and Vikki Jennings to speak at the Professional Practices Institute conference in October 2022. They will be speaking on the Code of Ethics in Arkansas and will have a round table discussion on how to incorporate the model code with the Arkansas Code of Ethics.

The Arkansas Department of Education and PLSB has signed an eighteen-month agreement with ArkansasIdeas and AETN to put the PLSB Code of Ethics twelve-month module platform on their websites. The courses will begin as follows:

- August 31, 2022 – 2 courses
- December 2022 – 2 courses
- March 2023 – 2 courses
- July 2023 – 2 courses
- September 2023 – 2 courses
- November 2023 – 2 courses

Data Recap – Sarah Banker, Chief Investigator Data Management and Retention

Since the last update in February 2022, there were ninety- eight (98) cases. As of today, there are fifty-seven (57) new cases, making a total of 155 cases for the 2021-2022 fiscal school year. Of those fifty-seven (57) new cases, seventeen (17) authorized and twenty-one (21) are up for authorization. For the 2021-22 fiscal school year, twenty-two (22) cases are open of which four have a stipulated agreement, nine completed, and nine are under investigation. As of June 3, 2022, eleven allegations received with the rest of the month of June 2022 left to receive allegations. These authorizations will go before the Ethics Subcommittee in July.

Training on the Rise – Vikki Jennings, Chief Investigator Instructional Programs, and Investigations

Other trainings scheduled are the AAA training for coaches as well as the SRO (School Resource Officer) training. Vikki Jennings and Sarah Banker will be speaking at the Criminal Justice Institute, to the new SROs about what to expect among teachers, but to also speak at the intermediate sessions about how they can help or what they need to focus on with the data that PLSB has collected.

Trainings have been set up at the following universities and school districts. Below are the school districts and universities scheduled for trainings:

- ❖ Bauxite School District
- ❖ Jessievile School District
- ❖ Pulaski County School District
- ❖ Springdale School District
- ❖ Crawley’s Ridge
- ❖ North Central Coop
- ❖ Ark State University
- ❖ Henderson State University
- ❖ University of Arkansas
- ❖ University of Central Arkansas

There was discussion on the trainings and their content.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

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