

**Professional Licensure Standards Board
Friday, June 6, 2025
PLSB Full Board Minutes**

The Professional Licensure Standards Board held its quarterly meeting via Zoom and in person for those who could attend on **June 6, 2025**. Members of the Board present were: Brenda Brown, Dr. Charlotte White-Wright, Kathy Howell, Dr. Alicia Shaw, Dr. Harold Jeffcoat, Dr. Karen Lasker, Dr. Donny Lee, Dr. Luke Lovins, Melissa Speers, Dr. Phong Tran, Dudley Webb III, and Dr. Matthew Sutherlin.

ADE staff members present: Whitney James, Laura Shelton, Sarah Banker, Shannon Rostad, Stephanie Copeland, Sydney Austin, and Andy Sullivan.

Members not present: Hosea Born, Dr. Tiffany Bone, Dr. Kimberley Davis, Wendy Peer, Karli Saracini, and Kamicka Thompson.

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

Dr. Donny Lee called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

Dudley Webb III made a motion to approve March 7, 2025, PLSB Full Board minutes; seconded by Dr. Luke Lovins. None opposed. Motion passed.

3. Recognition of Kathy Howell, Brenda Brown, and J.D. Keeling for their service on the PLSB, Ethics Subcommittee, and Ethics Hearing Subcommittee

Presenter: Dr. Donny Lee, Chair

Dr. Donny Lee recognized board members Kathy Howell, Brenda Brown, and J.D. Keeling for their service on the PLSB, the Ethics Subcommittee, and the Ethics Hearing Subcommittee. Those present were presented with certificates of appreciation from the Division of Educator Effectiveness and Licensure. The PLSB also thanked Dr. Donny Lee for his service.

4. Action Items

a. Ethics Hearing Subcommittee – Proposed New Members

Presenter: Whitney James, PLSB Managing Attorney

Whitney James asked the board to approve the new list of volunteers to serve on the Ethics Hearing Subcommittee.

Dudley Webb III made a motion to approve the new list of volunteers to serve on the Ethics Hearing Subcommittee; Dr Harold Jeffcoat seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion passed

b. Election of Full Board Chair for July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 Term

Presenter: Whitney James, PLSB Managing Attorney

Whitney James asked the board to nominate a member to serve as the PLSB Chair for the July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, term.

Kathy Howell made a motion to nominate Dr. Harold Jeffcoat to serve as Chair for the PLSB; Dudley Webb III seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion passed.

c. Approval of Master Professional Designation Pathways

- i. National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET)**
- ii. Bailey Education Group (BEG)**

Presenter: Dr. Matthew Sutherlin, Director of Licensure and Educator Preparation, and Andy Sullivan, ADE Special Advisor

Dr. Matthew Sutherlin gave an overview of the applications from the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET) and the Bailey Education Group (BEG) as potential Master Professional Designation pathways for Arkansas educators.

Dr. Sutherlin asked the board to approve the BEG and NIET as Master Professional Designation Pathways.

Dr. Harold Jeffcoat made a motion to approve the BEG and NIET as Master Professional Designation Pathways; Kathy Howell seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion passed.

Dr. Luke Lovins made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Dudley Webb III. None opposed. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned. The next PLSB Full Board meeting will be on Friday, September 5, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.