

**MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
200 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201**

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TEACHER EDUCATION BOARD

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2015
Minutes**

The 398th meeting of the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) was held at the Maryland State Department of Education, 200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 on August 6, 2015. Mr. Darren Hornbeck called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

The following members were in attendance: Ms. Merlyn Bell, Ms. Jennifer Berkley, Ms. Louise DeJesu, Dr. Lisa Grillo, Mr. Charles Hagan, Dr. Kandace Hoppin, Mr. Darren Hornbeck, Dr. Alyssia James, Mr. Philip Kauffman, Ms. Kathleen Kelbaugh, Ms. Maleeta Kitchen, Dr. Mary Ellen Lewis, Dr. Donna Newcomer, Ms. Dawn Pipkin, Ms. Debra Poese, and Ms. Sarah Spross.

The following members were absent: Mr. Peter Baily, Dr. Lorraine Cornish-Harrison, Dr. Colleen Eisenbeiser, Mr. Christopher Lloyd, Dr. Barbara Martin-Palmer, Mr. Brian Powell, Dr. Karen Roe, and Dr. Jamey Tobery-Nystrom,

The following Maryland State Department of Education staff members were present: Ms. Alex Cambra, Ms. Michelle Dunkle, Ms. Kelly Meadows, Ms. Mary Voorhees, Ms. Ruth Downs (Recorder), and Derek Simmons, Esq., Attorney General's Office.

PRELIMINARY ITEMS

Recognition of Guests

Ms. Geraldine Duval, MSEA

Public Comment

None

State Board

No State Board report was presented.

Informational/Discussion

Follow Up Discussion of the Secondary Literacy workgroup, the Elementary Literacy workgroup, and the Elementary Math workgroup.

Ms. Michelle Dunkle gave an update and a brief history to the board members of why the three workgroups were formed. The Division of Instruction has developed a framework with the Maryland College and Career Ready standards from which curriculum can be developed. Systems are working diligently in order to meet the curriculum needs and in order to meet the needs of the PARCC assessments and the ongoing needs of the MCCRS. What follows naturally with that is, that teacher education programs must follow that lead so that they are prepared to prepare teachers in order to teach the way students have to be taught in this new MCCRS world in which we are living. It was quickly recognized that the mandated coursework in Education Preparation Programs were not in line with the requirements.

Eighteen months ago, a workgroup was assembled to begin working on the secondary reading courses. The 3 areas currently under review are Secondary Reading, Elementary Reading and Elementary and Elementary Mathematics. There are two required reading courses or better still there are 6 hours of required reading courses for secondary teachers. There are 12 hours for all teachers preparing to be elementary or early childhood teachers and in the curriculum for elementary teachers there are also 12 hours required of mathematics. When we present the recommendations of that workgroup, you will see listed the members of that workgroup. It was a very large workgroup of about 35 people, which included a broad representation of stakeholders from throughout the state. We are nearing completion of a framework for developers. On September 4, a small group met at McDaniel College for the second time and they have completed framework for what use to be Secondary Reading Part I, which is now Literacy in the Area Content Part I. We will meet on September 29 again to complete the framework on Literacy in the Area Content Part II. These frameworks will be sent back to the entire workgroup for approval and expect that it will be presented to the State Superintendent with recommendations and a report. The work should be finished by Thanksgiving time. This has taken some time but a decision was made that this major work and it impacts a lot of people and we all agreed that it is better to get it right the first time then it is to do it halfway.

Several preparations were done regarding the content of mathematics in Elementary School. The presentation showed the gap in what we have in teacher education in terms of mathematic instruction for potential elementary teachers and where we need to be in mathematics instruction. The block of 12 hours for reading can actually consist with 3 hours with a course in mathematics. The workgroup discovered that for elementary mathematics it is not 12 hours of mathematics for teachers but 9 hours of mathematics but include 3 hours of general education coursework. Debbie Ward and I put together a mathematic workgroup along with Dr. Skip Fennell from McDaniel College. What the workgroup really did not realize when they started the workgroup was where they are right now with mathematics and what is needed to be done to meet the requirements and to help children learn the way they need to learn in elementary and to get to get the foundational elements that they need in mathematics is a big gap. CAEP is undertaking the role of developing the curriculum for elementary education and that curriculum is being rolled out later in September at a CAEP meeting. Inside that curriculum is the recommended standards framework for elementary mathematics and Dr. Skip Fennell is a major writer. The workgroup backed off until the release to see what CAEP will hold our 4 year institutions accountable so that we could see what it looks like. We should see that framework this month and then we will reassemble our math workgroup and began to align.

Elementary Reading is the first place that Program Approval realized that some work needed to be done to align the 12 hour block of required reading in order to align with the MCCRS. MSDE has been very good, diligent and very productive for building the frameworks for all of the content required to the MCCRS, nationally the

Common Core. They are not curriculum, but the framework for the curriculum and they are standards based. Each individual school system can develop the curriculum as they see fit as long as it meets the standards. Inside each of those curriculum elements is already built a literacy component. The workgroup knew that they needed to do some redesign work building on what they already have, that was centrally reading research base that was out of the Reading First Program that was instituted in about 2002. The group needed to take what they had and the group needed to see what was needed to be done to align it with the Common Core. The General Assembly charged MSDE with looking at the reading programs and to assure that the programs do the best possible job of teaching all students, especially those students with special needs. Dr. Mary Ellen Lewis and Michelle Dunkle will be co-hosting a workgroup for this.

In all of these workgroups the Program Approval Branch is charged with the development and approval of these programs. CAEP is the developing body. You have to have state program approval before you get CAEP accreditation. You cannot get national accreditation with state approval. Is that we agree that we are not being specific enough and overt enough that all teachers can teach all students.

Sarah Spross and Michelle Dunkle both expressed to the Board that they will be coming back to the Board with updates as the workgroup progresses.

Break 10:30

Action Items

Approval of April 2, 2015 Minutes:

Mr. Darren Hornbeck entertained a motion to approve the minutes.

MOTION: Ms. Dawn Pipkin/Dr. Mary Ellen Lewis

To approve the April 2, 2015 minutes.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Approval of May 7, 2015 Minutes:

Mr. Darren Hornbeck entertained a motion to approve the minutes.

MOTION: Dr. Mary Ellen Lewis/Ms. Dawn Pipkin

To approve the May 7, 2015 minutes.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Approval of August 6, 2015 Minutes:

Mr. Darren Hornbeck entertained a motion to approve the minutes.

MOTION: Mr. Phil Kauffman/Dr. Lisa Grillo

To approve the August 6, 2015 minutes.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Approval of Proposed Agenda Items for October 1, 2015

- Approval of September Minutes
- State Board Report
- Follow Up Discussion Dual Certification Workgroup
Early Childhood/Special Education

Mr. Darren Hornbeck entertained a motion to approve the Proposed Agenda for the October 1, 2015 meeting.

MOTION: Dr. Lisa Grillo/Dr. Alyssa James

To approve the Proposed Agenda for
October 1, 2015.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Approval of the formation of workgroup in response to SB 251/HB 947 (Lauryn's Law)

Sarah Spross updated the Board on the charge that was given to them by the General Assembly Legislation. The Board was charged by July 1, 2016 to look at and improve ways that PSTEB can incorporate social/emotional renewal requirements for School Counselors in the schools. Ms. Amanda Conn gave a presentation in the spring in regards to SB 251/HB947. A law that was established because of the suicide of a young woman, whose mother advocated for a change in how school counselors deal with emotional/social issues. The belief is that the young woman reached out for assistance, but the school counselor was ill prepared or did not respond in a timely fashion to assist her.

Ms. Spross stated that this is actually a charge not for PSTEB to consider if they think it is necessary, but what is the Board going to add to the current requirements for renewal for school counselors to insure that they are aware of how to work with children in schools in regards to social/emotional issues.

Ms. Spross updated the members on the workgroup that was formed to review the requirements for renewal of school counselor certification. Mr. Michael Linkins has convened an unofficial workgroup to review the renewal requirements for the School Counselor. Ms. Spross is requesting that the Board officially give approval to form a workgroup for school counselor renewal requirements. The renewal requirements would match and parallel their certification licensing requirements, which are not called credits but CEUs. The workgroup would consist of representation from the School Systems, School Counselors, Certification and Higher Ed.

One member of the board stated, that school counselors are therapist. One counselor deals with several hundred students. No therapist has a caseload that high, as they are the ones who deal with suicide prevention. It is a real concern that the Board's name would go forth as advocating something that would merely address certification correction to save suicide.

Derek Simonsen stated that by June something should be in place to address what the General Assembly has put in place.

Mr. Hornbeck stated that let the workgroup be given the charge as they have been asked to do so by the General Assembly, but there is nothing preventing the Board from asking the workgroup to take a look at some additional things.

- # of caseloads that counselors have in this state (# of students).
- Adequate staffing/workload issues of counselors.

- What already exist in the requirements for School Counselors?
- Find out what degree if there are people slipping through the cracks.
- Renewal requirements for licensing and certification.
- Gather data on what the best recommendations should be and the adequate staffing of school counselors.
- Look at the current training for school counselors.

Mr. Darren Hornbeck entertained a motion to approve the formation of a workgroup in response to SB251/HB947 School Counselor renewal requirements, also known as Lauryn’s Law with the charge being as discussed.

MOTION: Ms. Maleeta Kitchen/Ms. Jennifer Berkley To approve to form a workgroup for SB251/HB247 (Lauryn’s Law).

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Approval of two PSTEB Board Members to participate in a workgroup in response to SB635: State Board of Education and the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board – Alternative Certification Program

Sarah Spross updated the Board on SBG635 Alternative Certification Program that was previously discussed in April. This bill originated out of Washington County and specifically that the Washington County alternative certification pathways not match the state certification requirements. The General Assembly authorized the State Board, PSTEB and 2 local agencies identified by the State Superintendent to consider and if appropriate develop an Alternative Teacher Certification Program for areas that the state is experiencing critical shortage. This charge is due by December 2015 and it is just a recommendation if whether there is a necessity to develop an alternative program.

Mr. Guthrie Smith and Ms. Linda Eberhart of the State Board were identified to represent the Board. The two local systems identified by the State Superintendent were Washington County and Prince Georges County. Ms. Spross stated that PSTEB needs to vote and identify 2 members to represent them so that they can pull the group together and look at all the requirements for Alternative Certification Programs and make a recommendation by December.

Dr. Alyssa James and Mr. Charles Hagan volunteer to represent PSTEB.

Mr. Darren Hornbeck entertained a motion to approve Dr. Alyssa James and Mr. Charles Hagan as PSTEB representatives to participate in a workgroup in response to SB635 – Alternative Certification Program.

MOTION: Mr. Philip Kaufman/Ms. Merlyn Bell To approve two members of PSTEB to participate in a workgroup in response to SB635.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Mr. Darren Hornbeck entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Philip Kaufman/Mr. Charles Hagan To approve the adjournment of the meeting.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Meeting adjourned 11:35.