

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

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TEACHER EDUCATION BOARD**

**September 13, 2018  
Minutes**

The 426<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) was held at the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), 200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 on September 13, 2018. Dr. Alyssia James called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

**The following members were in attendance:** Dr. Mae Alfree, Ms. Jennifer Berkley, Ms. Linda Chinnia, Mr. Charles Hagan, Mr. Darren Hornbeck, Dr. Alyssia James, Ms. Maleeta Kitchen, Mr. Christopher Lloyd, Dr. Kristine McGee, Dr. Kindel Nash, Ms. Karen Saar, Ms. Sandra Skordalos, Ms. Sarah Spross, Ms. Geralda Thompson, and Dr. Jamey Tobery-Nystrom.

**The following members were absent:** Mr. Peter Baily, Dr. Kandace Hoppin, Dr. John Mayo, Ms. Kelli Midgley, and Ms. Debra Poese.

**The following Maryland State Department of Education staff members were present:** Ms. Kelly Meadows, Ms. Ruth Downs (Recorder), Ms. Jessica Bancroft, and Mr. Derek Simmons, Esq., Attorney General's Office.

**PRELIMINARY ITEMS**

**Recognition of Guests**

Ms. Tina Dove, MSEA  
Ms. Geraldine Duval, MSEA  
Ms. Lisa Hedrick, ETS  
Ms. Marlene Riva, Delegate Gutierrez Staff  
Mr. Tim Lawrence, Delegate Gutierrez Staff

**Public Comment**

Delegate Ana Sol Gutierrez  
Mr. Anthony Seda

**Delegate Gutierrez** presented a request to the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) to show favor to a report on legislation that she sponsors, House Bill (HB) 1154, which seeks to establish a certification program for training bi-lingual teachers to work in dual language or two – way immersion programs in Maryland.

House Bill 1154 would require the PSTEB to establish a certification program to provide proper preparation for educators in the unique and growing field of dual language immersion classrooms. Moreover, the bill urges the PSTEB to take action in the creation of standards for teacher preparation programs in Maryland. Once established, any Maryland higher education program would be able to offer a certificated program for bi-lingual teacher preparation.

**Mr. Anthony Seda**, retired from the military and currently a long-term and day-to-day substitute, presented his case in regards to the Praxis Test. He felt that since he had passed the Armed Services

Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test in the military that he should not need to take the Praxis. He stated that Praxis I only proves that you can take and pass a test.

### **Announcements**

Dr. Alyssia James presented a letter to the PSTEB from Dr. Justin Hartings and Ms. Stephanie Iszard extending greetings on behalf of the State Board of Education (SBOE). In the letter, the SBOE invited the PSTEB to share any perspective that they might have on the State's education priorities, the State Board's work, or how both Boards can effectively work together. Dr. Hartings stated in the letter, that the SBOE welcomed an opportunity to meet with Dr. James or members of the PSTEB to discuss how both Boards have a shared investment in education.

Dr. James asked Ms. Spross to assist her with drafting a letter to the SBOE thanking them for reaching out to the PSTEB in regards to working together for Maryland education. Dr. James also stated that the PSTEB should establish a subcommittee to work with the SBOE. The PSTEB members were told to email any questions to Ms. Spross.

Dr. Alyssia James entertained a motion to ask the State Board of Education for a joint meeting.

### **MOTION:**

Mr. Christopher Lloyd/Ms. Jennifer Berkley to approve to ask the State Board for a joint meeting.

### **State Board Update**

Dr. Miya Simpson presented a summary of the July 24, 2018 (Attachment I) and August 28, 2018 (Attachment II) State Board of Education Meetings.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Comments from Secretary James Fielder**

Dr. James D. Fielder, Secretary of the Maryland Higher Education Committee, addressed the Board regarding teacher certification and accreditation standards, and the need for urgency to move forward. Specifically, he identified the need for the SBOE and the PSTEB to finalize the specific standards to be used for educator preparation program approval. He presented the same concern to the State Board of Education in June.

Dr. Fielder gave a brief update regarding the need for Educator preparation programs to know if Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) standards will be recognized by the State because some have upcoming accreditation visits. He stated that there are eight institutions of higher education that are up for accreditation in 2019. He recommended that an interim policy be established so that CAEP could be recognized for the interim. Dr. Fielder requested that institutions of higher education be held harmless during this period of transition. He told the PSTEB that Dr. Emily Dow and Higher Ed are available to work with them, just say where and when. Dr. Fielder expressed that this is important for institutions of higher education to plan out their future and know where to go.

#### **Approval of June Minutes**

Dr. Alyssia James entertained a motion to approve the June minutes.

### **MOTION:**

Ms. Geraldina Thompson/Ms. Linda Chinnia to approve the June 7 minutes.

## **Approval of Proposed Agenda Items for October**

- Approval of Minutes
- State Board Update
- Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education Update
- Elections
- Regulations (Superintendent)
- Response Letter from Delegate Luedtke

Dr. Alyssia James entertained a motion to approve the Agenda for the October meeting.

### **MOTION:**

Ms. Maleeta Kitchen/Mr. Charles Hagan to approve Agenda for the October meeting.

### **13A.12.01.08-1 Adjunct Certificate – Permission to Publish**

#### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this item is to request permission to publish new COMAR 13A.12.01.08-1 Adjunct Certificate (Attachment III). New regulatory language is being introduced to provide LEAs the ability to request an adjunct certificate for individuals with highly specialized content expertise (e.g., engineers, physicists, medical providers, artists) interested in teaching on a part-time basis in the classroom as a teacher of record.

#### **Summary:**

New regulatory language, COMAR 13A.12.01.08-1, is being proposed to address the LEA's continuing need to hire individuals with highly specialized content expertise and interest in teaching on a part-time basis as a teacher of record. Specific regulatory language establishes the eligibility criteria for the issuance of the certificate, requires the LEAs to provide specific support and professional development to an individual who holds an adjunct certificate, and establishes the limitations of the certificate.

#### **Action:**

Ms. Kelly Meadows requested permission to publish the promulgation of new COMAR 13A.12.01.08-1 *Adjunct Certificate*.

Dr. Alyssia James entertained a motion to grant permission to publish the promulgation of new COMAR 13A.12.01.08-1 *Adjunct Certificate*.

### **MOTION:**

Dr. C. Mae Alfree/Ms. Karen Saar to grant permission to publish the promulgation of new COMAR 13A.12.01.08-1 *Adjunct Certificate*.

### **13A.12.01.05 General Requirements for Professional Certificates – Permission to Publish**

#### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this item is to request permission to publish the amendments to COMAR 13A.12.01.05 General Requirements for Professional Certificates (Attachment IV). Amendments are being proposed

to eliminate the basic skills test requirement for those individuals seeking certification who do not hold a bachelor degree (i.e., specialized professional areas and professional technical education).

**Summary:**

Proposed amendments to COMAR 13A.12.01.05 eliminate the basic skills test requirement for those individuals seeking certification in specialized and professional technical education who do not hold a bachelor's degree.

**Action:**

Ms. Kelly Meadows requested permission to publish amendments to COMAR 13A.12.01.05 *General Requirements for Professional Certificates*.

Dr. Alyssia James entertained a motion to grant permission to publish amendments to COMAR 13A.12.01.05 *General Requirements for Professional Certificates*.

**MOTION:**

Mr. Charles Hagan/Mr. Darren Hornbeck to grant permission to publish  
(Dr. Kindel Nash abstained from the vote.)

amendments to COMAR  
13A.12.01.05 *General Requirements  
for Professional Certificates*.

**DISCUSSION**

**13A.12.04 Options for Obtaining Initial Maryland Certification – Adoption Update**

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this item is to provide an update regarding the adoption of the proposed amendments to COMAR 13A.12.01.04 *Options for Obtaining Initial Maryland Certification*. Amendments were proposed to provide both a direct pathway to initial certification for those individuals who have achieved National Board Certification, as well as, those content experts seeking an adjunct teacher certificate.

**Summary:**

Proposed amendments to COMAR 13A.12.01.04 provide a direct pathway for initial certification for those individuals who have achieved National Board Certification, as well as, those content experts seeking an adjunct teacher certificate.

On June 20, 2018, the State Board of Education adopted the proposed changes to COMAR 13A.12.01.04 *Options for Obtaining Initial Maryland Certification*.

**Action:**

For informational purposes only.

**13A.12.03.04 Pupil Personnel Worker – Adoption Update**

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this item is to provide an update regarding the adoption of the proposed amendments to COMAR 13A.12.03.04 *Pupil Personnel Worker* (Attachment V). Amendments were proposed to clarify regulatory language and align it with current MSDE policy.

**Purposed Amendments:**

The proposed amendment allows pupil personnel candidates the ability to use their experience as a specialist (e.g., school counseling, social worker) in lieu of teaching experience.

**Summary:**

Code of Maryland Regulation 13A.12.03.04 requires revision to clarify regulatory language and align it with current MSDE practice.

On June 20, 2018, the State Board of Education adopted the proposed changes to COMAR 13A.12.03.04 *Pupil Personnel Worker*.

**Action:**

For informational purposes only.

**COMAR 13A.12.04.03 Superintendents**

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this item is to provide additional information pertaining to superintendent certification requirement that was requested at the May 2018 meeting of the State Board of Education (SBOE).

**Summary:**

A workgroup, comprised of multiple constituent organizations, recommended proposed amendments to COMAR 13A.12.04.03 Superintendents, to establish two distinct superintendent certificates, as well as provide multiple pathways to certification. The MSDE provided additional draft regulatory language regarding the certification requirements for superintendent for the SBOE discussion.

**Action:**

For discussion only.

**DISCUSSION:**

The PSTEB members did not agree with all the options that were presented to them on “qualifying to become a superintendent, especially letter “C” under Superintendent II, (Extraordinary Career Leadership Certification).

Members voiced concern that the option letter “C” does not require that the applicant have teaching experience. The members felt that teaching experience is very important, noting it is hard to have confidence in a leader, knowing that the leader does not have experience in teaching. One member of the Board stated that it is very dangerous to compare what happens in a business to what happens in education. All the members agreed that letters “A and B” are very important and should be approved, but letter “C” should be put aside for further discussion.

Ms. Spross asked Mr. Derek Simmons to clarify for the Board next steps in the regulation review process. Mr. Simmons reiterated that this is just for informational purposes. He explained if this regulation is presented formally to the SBOE at their next meeting, Ms. Spross would be able to summarize the discussion that the PSTEB had, and the SBOE would have the input and know what the PSTEB is thinking.

Dr. James noted the meeting was over its allotted time and needed to be adjourned, even though the PSTEB did not get to two discussion items or finalize who will be on the subcommittee with the SBOE.

**Meeting Adjourned**

Dr. Alyssia James entertained a motion to adjourn the September meeting. Since the PSTEB did not get a chance to discuss two discussion items or finalize the members of the subcommittee, those items will be moved to the October meeting.

**MOTION:**

Ms. Jennifer Berkley/Ms. Sandra Skordalos to adjourn the meeting and move the discussion items to the October meeting.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

**Meeting adjourned 12:45 p.m.**