

MINUTES – Board Meeting
Thursday, December 10, 2020
Teams Meeting

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 8:01am by Chair Carly Retterath. Board members present by video conference were Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Joshua Standing Elk, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, Bob Toso, Brenda Tufte, and Superintendent Kirsten Baesler. Andrea Fox joined at 8:17am.

Board members Ben Johnson and Jessica Rush were absent.

Also present were ESPB Executive Director Rebecca Pitkin, Amy Bigelow from ESPB, Tracy Becker from CTE as tech support, Allyson Hicks from Attorney General's Office, Amy Flicek from NDUnited, Jen Wallender from Western Governor's University, Amy Jacobson and Michelle Griffin from UND, Katherine Terras from Certification Central and Nicole Skifton.

Joshua Standing Elk left the meeting at 8:19am.

Introductions were held.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda – Patti Stedman made a motion to accept the agenda as amended, with the addition of Board cases for Nicole Skifton and Katyn Bennett. Motion seconded by Bob Toso. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion to Ratify November Licensure List – Brenda Tufte moved to ratify the November 2020 licensure list. Seconded by Kraig Steinhoff. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

CASES

Skifton, Nicole – Ms. Skifton's file was reviewed by the Board for teaching without a valid North Dakota license. Brenda Tufte made motion for Becky to write Ms. Skifton a letter of reprimand with no fine. Motion seconded by Patti Stedman. Board members who voted in favor were Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Joshua Standing Elk, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Bennett, Katyn – Ms. Bennett's file was reviewed due to self-disclosed background offenses. Kathy Lentz made a motion to issue Ms. Bennette a license for one year with a new background check at that time. Ms. Bennett is also required to self-report any subsequent offenses. Motion seconded by Kraig Steinhoff. Board members who voted in favor were Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Joshua Standing Elk, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

November Minutes, License and Financial Reports – The November 2020 financial report showed \$62,216.94 in total income received, \$62,295.85 in total expenses, with a net income of minus \$78.91. The November 2020 licensure report documented 938 items issued. This number includes background checks, endorsements, late fees, and application fees.

Bob Toso moved to accept the November minutes, license, and financial reports. Seconded by Patti Stedman. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Disability Waiver Requests – Rachael Ritzke – Bob Toso motioned to grant the disability waiver for Rachael Ritzke. Motion seconded by Kathy Lentz. Board members who voted in favor were Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Certification Central – Katherine Terras from Certification Central presented to give an update on the program. Certification Central has been approved by PAAC and ESPB and started accepting students Fall 2020. They are now working to submit their application to CAEP to become a nationally accredited program.

Director’s Report – Becky thanked the Board members who presented at NDCEL conference. She will be meeting with Superintendent Baesler on Friday about National Board, as the Governor’s proposed budget is out for this.

Report on Common Metrics – Brenda Tufte reported on the Common Metrics, data that is used by each teacher preparation program in North Dakota to meet CAEP and state program approval standards. Common metrics data is based on surveys that are developed and administered to students, supervisors, and program completers. In the past, ESPB has provided a grant to NDSU for a graduate assistant to work on compiling data.

Board Member Reports

NDACTE – Have not met since last ESPB meeting.

Association of Non-Public Schools – Not present.

Association of School Administrators – A number of districts across the state are participating in rapid Covid testing. Kraig Steinhoff reported that he has been told it’s going well. Attendance rules for athletic events have new guidelines based on facility capacity. He will be meeting with a group that would develop a bill draft for a personalized graduation option. He will provide more updates as that evolves.

School Boards Association – School Boards Association held their virtual conference and it was well attended.

NDUnited – Nothing to report.

DPI – DPI continues to support schools during the pandemic. DPI just completed a report as required by the Governor in his executive order that allowed distance learning to continue and for schools to continue to receive foundation aid if an appropriate distance learning plan was approved. This required an audit of a sampling of districts and was submitted to the Governor this week.

Superintendent Baesler also stated that funding for Teacher Support System was in the Governor’s proposed budget for \$3 million. This would continue to fully fund TSS programs that are already in place and would help to extend the program to more teachers so they do not need to be turned away. Additional funding would also allow for a 2nd year of mentorship.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47am.

Chair

Secretary/Executive Director