

MINUTES – Board Meeting
Thursday, February 11, 2021
Teams Meeting

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 8:00am by Chair Carly Retterath. Board members present by video conference were Carly Retterath, Andrea Fox, Ben Johnson, Kathy Lentz, Jessica Rush, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, and Bob Toso. Joshua Standing Elk and Superintendent Kirsten Baesler joined at 8:10.

Board member Brenda Tufte was absent.

Also present were ESPB Executive Director Rebecca Pitkin, Assistant Director Mari Riehl, Tracy Becker from CTE as tech support, Allyson Hicks from Attorney General's Office, Katherine Terras from Certification Central, and Jennifer Wallender from Western Governor's University.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda and approval of Special Meeting Minutes –

Items to be added to the agenda include Graham Schmidt. Patti Stedman motioned to accept the agenda as amended, Andrea Fox seconded. All voted in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Motion to Ratify January Licensure List –Kraig Steinhoff motioned to accept the January licensure list. Motion seconded by Kathy Lentz. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

CASES

Stieg, Brenda – Ms. Stieg's file was reviewed by the Board due to her revoked license in Minnesota. She did not disclose this on her last renewal application in ND. Her full response was not provided to the Board last month, so the Board motioned to review it this month once the full response was made available to them.

Bob Toso motioned by revoke Ms. Stieg's license. Motion was seconded by Andrea Fox. Board members who voted in favor were Andrea Fox, Ben Johnson, Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Joshua Standing Elk, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Langemo, Jessalyn –The next item on the agenda is the file for Jessalyn Langemo. This item must be discussed in executive session. Legal authority for closing this portion of the meeting is NDCC 44-04-19.1 (2). The topic or purpose of this executive session is criminal history record check. Executive session began at 8:28am and was attended by Andrea Fox, Ben Johnson, Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Joshua Standing Elk, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, Bob Toso, Superintendent Kirsten Baesler, Rebecca Pitkin, and Mari Riehl. The Executive session ended at 8:38am.

Ben Johnson made a motion to grant a two-year Interim Substitute License to Ms. Langemo and requested documentation of positive support/treatment with the expectation that when she reapplies/renews she will again provide continued evidence of support/treatment. Bob Toso seconded the motion. Board members who voted in favor were Andrea Fox, Ben Johnson, Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Joshua Standing Elk, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

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Meyer, Amber – Ms. Meyer’s file was reviewed by the Board for teaching without a valid license. Patti Stedman made a motion to issue Ms. Meyer a letter of warning from ESPB noting the consequences of teaching without a license. Seconded by Ben Johnson. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Ben Johnson, Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Joshua Standing Elk, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Lech, Emily – Ms. Lech’s file was reviewed by the Board for teaching without a valid license. Kraig Steinhoff made a motion to issue Ms. Lech a letter of warning from ESPB noting the consequences of teaching without a license. Seconded by Ben Johnson. Board members who voted in favor were Andrea Fox, Ben Johnson, Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Joshua Standing Elk, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Schmidt, Graham – Mr. Graham’s file was reviewed by the Board after he self-disclosed background offenses on his application for an Interim Substitute License. Bob Toso made motion to issue Mr. Schmidt’s license. Motion seconded by Patti Stedman. Board members who voted in favor were Andrea Fox, Ben Johnson, Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Joshua Standing Elk, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

The regular ESPB meeting was adjourned at 8:44

Ben Johnson Administrative Subcommittee Chair, called the meeting of the Administrative Subcommittee to order at 8:44

ADMINISTRATIVE CASES – Reviewed by the Administrative Subcommittee of the Education Standards and Practices Board. Administrative Subcommittee members present were Kathy Lentz, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, Bob Toso, and Carly Retterath.

Louters, Jill – Ms. Louters file was reviewed by the Board following a Request for Inquiry. Both Bob Toso and Kraig Steinhoff disclosed they may have a conflict of interest. Both were unanimously voted by the subcommittee to be allowed to vote on this case.

Kathy Lentz made a motion to dismiss the case. Seconded by Patti Stedman. Subcommittee members who voted in favor were Ben Johnson, Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, and Bob Toso.

The ESPB meeting reconvened at 8:55

Ben Johnson left meeting at 8:56

HB 1166 – Allyson elaborated more on this bill because ESPB has many questions. Allyson agreed that many questions exist and many terms need to be defined. There are questions on what it means to be a resident of the state. No clarification on this yet. Allyson recommends someone testifies on Senate side asks questions for this clarification. Written testimony is not getting same weight at session. Allyson recommends Becky appears with her questions. Kraig Steinhoff motioned for Becky to provide neutral testimony and to try to ask for clarification. If answers can be found prior to testimony, Becky can then testify in opposition if needed. Seconded by Andrea Fox. Members voting in support were: Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Joshua Standing Elk, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion passed.

January Minutes, License and Financial Reports – The January 2021 financial report showed \$83,727.74 in total income received, \$65,247.18 in total expenses, with a net income of \$18,480.56. The January 2021 licensure report documented 1036 items issued. This number includes background checks, endorsements, late fees, and application fees.

Andrea moved to accept the January minutes, license, and financial reports. Seconded by Jessica. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

ED Evaluation – Carly will send summative assessment to Board Members and a Survey Monkey link. A link will also be sent to ESPB office staff. Perhaps this summer at retreat, they will revisit the evaluation process as it has been 5 years since it was developed.

Board Education – Mari Riehl presented information and review of license types used in ND.

Director's Report – Updated misuse form for FBI and BCI needed for some members.

Ethics Course: NASDTEC regional meeting yesterday and several states are looking to require the Ethics Prevention and Correction course for all initial licenses. The course is currently used a possible board sanction. NASCTEC would give a discounted rate for states.

NASDTEC has submitted an RFP to the Department of Defense for development of an Interstate Compact.

Science of Reading (SOR) – a group in the state who is looking at how we teach reading. Higher ed will meet with them in a few weeks.

EL teachers – We do have some teachers who are not native English speakers who are struggling with passing Praxis tests due to language barriers. There is currently not a waiver for the language barriers and they wouldn't qualify for a waiver.

Elisa Ratliff – Letter to the board asking for exemption from student teaching. She has experience teaching but doesn't hold a license in another state. We have recommended American Board or clinical experience through a college.

Legislative Update –

HB 1432 relates to OSEL license and the fees associated with the license. They will let ESPB handle it in our admin rules. We will make the changes in rules after session is over.

SB 2332 relates to licensure and alternative certification. The committee asked for more details on Certification Central and American Board. Certification Central has been through program approval with ESPB. American Board has not and this was noted. Special education was added initially to this bill as a content area offered by American Board for ND licensure. Last week special education was removed and program approval was added to be required for American Board.

SB2229 relates to scholarships for rural student teaching – amendments are ongoing.

Teacher Support System – Erin Jacobson updated board on new teacher grants and how they are connecting with the grantees. First year teacher course has met with Melanie Carvel. Focusing on real ideas on how to take good care of yourself – goal setting, meditation, and tools to bring that into the classroom. Coaches academy is closed for this year. Looking for ways to improve it for next year. How to get more time to allow coaches to network with each other. Marzano reached out to them to see about a second-year program. Teacher Support System is also looking at how to better collect and store their retention data.

Journal of Higher Education also asked them to write another article on retention. Dr. Marijke Leibel, teacher support assistant coordinator, is taking the lead on this writing.

Board Member Reports

NDACTE – They have been invited to participate in the Science of Reading group.

Association of Non-Public Schools – No updates to report

Association of School Administrators – No updates not already covered

School Boards Association – No updates

NDUnited – Not present

DPI – Superintendent Baesler thanked Becky and Erin for being so responsive to requests for additional information on mentoring program. HB 1114 has additional 3 million dollars. Superintendent Baesler has spent 15 hours answering questions in front of appropriations committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 am.

Chair

Secretary/Executive Director