

## **MINUTES – ESPB Special Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 16, 2022**

Zoom Video Conference

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) special meeting video conference was called to order at 8:00am by Board chair Carly Retterath.

Board members present were Siri Coleman, Andrea Fox, Sonya Hansana, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, Cory Steiner, Brenda Tufte, and Superintendent Kirsten Baesler.

Members Ben Johnson, Kathy Lentz, and Joshua Standing Elk were absent.

Also present by video conference were Executive Director Rebecca Pitkin, Assistant Director Mari Riehl and Amy Bigelow from ESPB.

**CTE Praxis Testing** – This item has been on the agenda a number of times for Board consideration. Allowing CTE individuals who have a bachelor's degree and have completed Transition to Teaching to test into new content areas would require an administrative rule change. This will allow a few additional people to test into new content areas to fill open teaching positions. Ultimately, it will give districts more flexibility to fill open positions with qualified applicants.

Cory Steiner made a motion to move forward with allowing CTE licensed individuals who have a bachelor's degree and have completed Transition to Teaching to test into new content areas. Seconded by Siri Coleman. Board members who voted yes were Siri Coleman, Andrea Fox, Sonya Hansana, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, Cory Steiner, and Brenda Tuft. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Frontline Substitute Training** – Frontline is a company that provides absence management software for school districts and also offers training for substitute teachers. The Board was provided with materials at the last meeting and an overview of the Frontline substitute training. Becky would like the Board to address two things – does the Board want to allow Frontline training to lead to obtaining a substitute teaching license and if so, what would be the college credit requirement for obtaining that license, if any.

Patti Stedman has visited with stakeholders in her area, and they are very excited about this idea. Carly Retterath has also visited with stakeholders and has received feedback that attaching a credit requirement wouldn't open up the pipeline in the way it needs to be. Becky pointed out that restrictions would remain the same as the current interim substitute license, which is restricted to 30 consecutive day in the same classroom for individuals who obtain the interim substitute license with less than a bachelor's degree. A restriction could also added showing that an interim substitute license was obtained by completing Frontline training.

Patti Stedman made a motion to approve accepting Frontline training to obtain an interim substitute license with no college credit requirement. Motion seconded by Cory Steiner. Board members who voted yes were Siri Coleman, Andrea Fox, Sonya Hansana, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, Cory Steiner, and Brenda Tuft. None opposed. Motion carried.

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The issuance of the license would still require documentation of completing of a high school diploma or GED. Some stakeholders have expressed concern about the maturity level of individuals who may obtain a substitute license this way and pointed out that college credit completion doesn't determine maturity. Local districts would still have ability to make choices about if they want someone to substitute teach. Districts want quality educators and Frontline would help with that.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18am.

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Chair

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Secretary/Executive Director