

MINUTES

Thursday, March 8, 2018

Fort Totten Room, State Capitol, Bismarck

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 9:04am by Chair Carly Retterath. Board members present were Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Karen Christensen, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, Kim Belgarde, Brenda Tufte, Ben Johnson, Superintendent Kirsten Baesler, and Carly Retterath.

Also present were Lacey Hinsz, Amy Folkestad, and Becky Pitkin from ESPB, Patty Barrette from NDUnited, Gail Schauer from DPI, Dr. Sarah Anderson from Mayville State University, Dr. Katherine Terras from UND, Dr. Holly Peterson from Minot State, Chris Redmann from Redmann Law P.C., Brad Besette, Edward Erickson from Attorney General's Office and Blair Emerson from Bismarck Tribune.

Introductions were held.

Jessica Rush left the meeting at noon.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda – Dr. Steve Johnson is unable attend today's meeting, so subcommittee reports will be reviewed at that time. All Board members voted in favor of accepting agenda as amended. None opposed. Motion carried.

February Minutes, License, and Financial Report –

The February 2018 financial report showed \$56,208.87 in total income received, \$59,585.94 in total expenses, with a net income of minus \$3,377.07. The February 2018 licensure report showed 763 total licenses issued. All Board member voted to accept the February minutes, license, and financial reports. Motion carried.

Budget subcommittee will be meeting before the April meeting to look at budget options for the next fiscal year. Becky outlined some budget items to note for the board and where ESPB currently stands with the overall budget.

Executive Director Evaluation – Carly Retterath proposed that the Executive Director Evaluation be accepted at this time, with one board member's response not yet included. When additions are made, Carly will bring back to the Board as a discussion item. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to accept the Executive Director Evaluation as written. Seconded by Brenda Tufte. Board member who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Grant Request: Student Teacher Observation Tool (STOT) – . Student Teacher Observation Tool (STOT) was developed by Stacy Duffield at NDSU and is used by all teacher preparation programs in North Dakota for CAEP and state accreditation. In the past, ESPB has provided a grant for the project to continue. Bob Toso made a motion to grant the request for funding for the Student Teacher Observation Tool. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board member who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly

Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Subcommittee Reports –

Alternate Access – Many different options have been discussed including conversations on related degrees, narrow licenses so a person could only teach one specific area, concern from university group about special education minors, and allowing teachers to test into special education. Subcommittee will meet more to develop ideas for flexibility. The state early childhood group has brought up the idea of allowing field experience in a daycare setting for the early childhood license.

Model Code of Ethics (MCEE) – Stakeholder group was formed that included members from NDCEL, NDSBA, DPI, NDUnited, and ESPB. ESPB's existing Code of Conduct and MCEE has been reviewed. The group has learned what some other states are doing regarding the MCEE. At the subcommittee meeting, Aimee Copas made a motion to adopt the MCEE in its entirety and to also review the current Code of Conduct for redundancy and make modifications as needed. Seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. The subcommittee passed the motion.

Dinah Goldenberg made the same motion to the Board. Seconded by Karen Christensen. All Board members voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

PAAC – PAAC made motions to recommend going forward with DSU's Master of Arts in Teaching, TMCC's science coursework, and online teaching endorsement coursework from Mayville State University. PAAC also reviewed information presented by UND to show how they are addressing the Native American studies requirement in their master's level licensure program for special education. This has been tabled until the next PAAC meeting.

Special Education Presentation – Dr. Katherine Terras from UND, Dr. Holly Pedersen from Minot State, and Dr. Sarah Anderson from Mayville State presented their report "Implications of Alternate Access Pathway to Special Education Licensure," to the Board. They represent faculty from special education departments at Mayville State, Minot State, University of Mary, and University of North Dakota.

The group has concerns about allowing individuals who hold a minor in special education or those who complete a Praxis test to teach special education. The report provided recommendations and other ideas for the Board to consider. An immediate recommendation is to rescind the teachable minor in special education or require a plan on file to meet endorsement requirements.

CASES

Ehrmantraut, Benjamin – Mr. Ehrmantraut's file was reviewed by the Board in December 2017. At that time, it was stipulated that he was to self-report any new offenses. It was brought to the Board's attention that Mr. Ehrmantraut has had a

subsequent offense, however, when the offense occurred he had not yet received notification that he was to self-report. Kim Belgarde made a motion to table the case until the charges have been settled in court. Motion seconded by Brenda Tufte. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Grey Day, Donald – Mr. Grey Day's file was reviewed by the Board for teaching without a valid license. He has since renewed and paid the \$100 late fee. Bob Toso made a motion to dismiss. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board member who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Bigwood, Susan – Ms. Bigwood's file was reviewed by the Board for teaching without a valid license. She has since renewed and paid the \$100 late fee. Mike McNeff made a motion to dismiss. Seconded by Karen Christensen. Board members who voted yes were Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Kim Belgarde voted no. Motion carried.

Schweitzer, Luke – Mr. Schweitzer's file was reviewed by Board due to his background check and because he marked no on the licensure application when asked if he had ever been arrested, charged, or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony other than a minor traffic offense. Karen Christensen made a motion to table the case and ask for Mr. Schweitzer's response as to why he marked no on the application in response to this question. Motion seconded by Bob Toso. Board member who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Kittelson, Miranda –

Bob Toso made a motion to move into executive session, motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board members who voted yes were Toso. Board member who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried. The topic/purpose for the executive session was for attorney consultation and review of a confidential child abuse/neglect report. (NDCC 44-04-19.1) Executive session began at 10:58am.

Karen Christensen made a motion to end executive session, seconded by Andrea Fox. Board member who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried. Executive session ended at

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11:54am.

Bob Toso made a motion to offer Ms. Kittleson a settlement agreement to suspend her license for the remainder of time that her name is on the Department of Human Services child abuse/neglect list. Motion seconded by Mike McNeff. Board members who voted yes were Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Kim Belgarde and Ben Johnson voted no. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE CASES

Longie, Ann – Ms. Longie's file was reviewed by the Administrative Board due to a Request for Inquiry that was received. Carly Retterath made a motion to dismiss the case. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Administrative Board members who voted in favor were Karen Christensen, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Becky provided an update on a past Ann Longie case, where the Administrative Board voted to fine Ms. Longie \$250 each for two separate incidents of having unqualified teachers in classrooms. Karen Christensen made a motion to ask Ms. Longie to submit documentation detailing strategies used to fill shortage areas in her district in order for the Administrative Board to reconsider the fines. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Administrative Board members who voted in favor were Karen Christensen, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, and Carly Retterath. Bob Toso voted no. Motion carried.

Blacksmith, Stacey – Ms. Blacksmith's file was reviewed by the Administrative Board after they initiated a Request for Inquiry and asked for her response regarding employing a teacher without a valid license. She has provided a copy of the educator's contract to show that it did not begin until after his license had been issued. Karen Christensen made a motion to dismiss the case and for the Board to reconsider the fine imposed against Brad Kroupa. Carly Retterath seconded the motion. Administrative Board members who voted yes were Karen Christensen, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Karen Christensen made a motion to reconsider the fine imposed against Brad Kroupa at the April meeting. Motion seconded by Ben Johnson. This item was voted on by the full Board and Board member who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Martinez, Jason – Mr. Martinez's file was reviewed by the Administrative Board due to a Request for Inquiry filed by Mandaree Public School due to Breach of Contract and liquidated damages not being paid. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to suspend Mr.

Martinez's license until he pays liquidated damages or his contract ends. Motion seconded by Carly Retterath. Administrative Board members who voted yes were Karen Christensen, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Fleck, Cory – Mr. Fleck's file was reviewed by the Administrative Board after they initiated a Request for Inquiry and asked for his response regarding employing a teacher without a valid license. Bob Toso made a motion to dismiss the case. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Administrative Board members who voted yes were Karen Christensen, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Director's Report – Becky attended the AACTE conference at the beginning of March where Dr. Stacy Duffield from NDSU received the Pomeroy Award for Outstanding Contributions to Teacher Education.

ESPB received the technical report from ETS regarding the standards setting for Praxis Computer Science test. North Dakota had a participant from New Rockford-Sheyenne School District attend the standards setting event.

April Workshop – Topics that will be covered in the April workday will include an update from Erin Jacobson on hiring of an assistant for TSS, option of paperless licenses, ESPB's mission and vision, and critical shortage declaration. Alternate access and budget committees will meet prior to the April meeting and make recommendations to the Board. At that time, the Board will evaluate location options for June retreat. The retreat will begin June 13th at noon and will continue through June 14th when the regular Board meeting is held.

Board member reports

NDACTE –

- Teacher prep programs are exploring ways to integrate and include computer science curriculum
- Work on the STOT inter-rater reliability is ongoing. The group is currently creating online modules to train supervisors to use the evaluation tool.
- NDACTE will soon be working on creating an employer survey required for CAEP and documenting validity and reliability.
- AACTE has designated a task force on clinical practice in special education as part of their continuous improvement.

Becky added that for Title II report, ETS used to calculate the pass rate for us with composite scores. ETS will no longer be doing this because they do not validate those scores. Becky has asked IHE's to calculate their reports individually.

ND Association of School Administrators – There are currently many administrative openings around the state. Midwinter conference for ND Association of Secondary School Principals will be March 22nd to March 24th in Bismarck.

School Boards Association – Again, many Superintendent vacancies around the

state. Some districts have chosen to work with recruiting companies to assist with hiring.

NDUnited – NDUnited is gearing up for delegate assembly on April 14th. Plans are in the works for NDU's summer institute. Online professional development courses and workshops are still being offered.

DPI – North Dakota has received approval to use the ACT to measure English and math proficiency for high school students. Seventeen school districts in the state will be using the ACT for this purpose. Superintendent Baesler attended the Council of Chief State School Officers conference with Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. She expressed that Secretary DeVos was very critical of what states are doing and says they are not taking advantage of flexibility and ESSA. DPI will be working to grow Teacher of the Year program to leverage teachers of the year and have them be more involved with policy making. College readiness program will now be delivered virtually. DPI is finalizing their strategic vision.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:06pm

Chair

Secretary/Executive Director