

MINUTES – Board Meeting
Thursday, March 12, 2020
Fort Union Room, Capitol Building

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 8:00am by Chair Carly Retterath. Board members present were Brenda Tufte, Kathy Lentz, Andrea Fox, Carly Retterath, and Superintendent Kirsten Baesler. Patti Stedman and Mike McNeff joined by conference call.

Also present were ESPB Executive Director Rebecca Pitkin, Mari Riehl, and Amy Bigelow from ESPB, Allyson Hicks from Attorney General's office, Marijke Leibel and Erin Jacobson from Teacher Support System, and Ian Grande.

Introductions were held.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda – Board cases to be added to the agenda include Bradley Miedema, Leah Anderson and a letter/request from Elizabeth Monzingo under action items. Brenda Tufte made a motion to accept the agenda as amended. Seconded by Andrea Fox. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Motion to Ratify February Licensure List – Kathy Lentz made a motion to ratify the February licensure list. Motion seconded by Mike McNeff. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

CASES

Hines, Timoteo – Mr. Hines's file was reviewed by the Board after it was identified that he has been teaching without a valid Educator's Professional License. Mike McNeff made a motion to fine Mr. Hines \$100 and to amend the agenda to add his administrator to the Administrative Subcommittee agenda. Motion seconded by Andrea Fox. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Goodall, John – Mr. Goodall's file was reviewed by the Board due to a background offense he self-disclosed on his renewal application. Brenda Tufte made a motion to grant Mr. Goodall's renewal. Motion seconded by Kathy Lentz. Board members who voted in favor were Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Anderson, Leah – Ms. Anderson's file was reviewed by the Board as ESPB became aware that she was teaching full-time and did not have a regular teaching license. Mike McNeff made motion to issue the employing school district with a cease and desist letter, with copies also sent to the principal and superintendent, that they cannot have an interim substitute teacher working full-time in kindergarten classroom. Administration must notify ESPB within 14 days of how they have corrected the situation. Also included in the motion is to amend the Administrative Subcommittee agenda to add Ms. Anderson's administrator to that agenda. Motion seconded by Andrea Fox. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Miedema, Bradley – Mr. Miedema's application was reviewed by the Board because he self-disclosed that he had been released from a previous teaching position and had had his application for licensure denied in South Dakota. Andrea Fox made a motion to deny

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Mr. Miedema's application for a North Dakota Educator's Professional License. Motion seconded by Kathy Lentz. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Knecht Rheeder, Catherina – The next item on the agenda is the file for Catherina Knecht Rheeder. This item must be discussed in executive session due to review of confidential records. Legal authority for closing this portion of the meeting is NDCC 44-04-19-2(1) and NDCC 12-60-24. Executive session began at 8:42am and was attended by Board members Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, and Brenda Tufte. Also present were ESPB Executive Director Becky Pitkin, Allyson Hicks, legal counsel from Attorney General's office, and Amy Bigelow, ESPB staff and meeting secretary. Executive session ended at 8:51am.

Brenda Tufte made a motion to deny Ms. Rheeder's application for an interim substitute license, in accordance with NDCC 15.1-13-25.1(c,d). Motion seconded by Andrea Fox. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

ESPB meeting was recessed at 8:52am.

Mike McNeff, Administrative Subcommittee Chair, called the meeting of the Administrative Subcommittee to order at 8:52am.

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

Six, Tom – Carly Retterath made a motion to file a Request for Inquiry on Mr. Six regarding Timoteo Hines and placing an unlicensed teacher in the classroom. Motion seconded by Kathy Lentz. Administrative Subcommittee members who voted yes were Kathy Lentz, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, and Patti Stedman. None opposed. Motion carried.

Beck, Sarah – Carly Retterath made a motion to file a Request for Inquiry on Ms. Beck regarding Leah Anderson and placing an unlicensed teacher full-time in a kindergarten classroom. Motion seconded by Patti Stedman. Administrative Subcommittee members who voted yes were Kathy Lentz, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, and Patti Stedman. None opposed. Motion carried.

The Administrative Subcommittee meeting was adjourned at 8:57am.

ESPB meeting was reopened at 8:58am.

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Board attorney Allyson Hicks left the meeting at 9:03am.

Request from Elizabeth Monzingo – The Board reviewed a letter submitted by Elizabeth Monzingo requesting a 2-month extension on the expiration date of her Educator’s Professional License. Andrea Fox made motion to approve Ms. Monzingo’s request for a 2-month extension on the expiration date of her Educator’s Professional License. Motion seconded by Brenda Tufte. Lentz. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

February Minutes, License, and Financial Report, PAAC minutes from January 2020 – The February 2020 financial report showed \$66,012.19 in total income received, \$59,468.92 in total expenses, with a net income of \$5,543.27. The February 2020 licensure report documented 828 issued. This number includes background checks, endorsements, late fees, and application fees. All voted in favor of approval, none opposed. Motion carried.

Board members reviewed the minutes from the January PAAC meeting. All voted in favor of approving, none opposed. Motion carried.

Executive Director Evaluation – Carly Retterath presented results of ED evaluation. Mike McNeff thanked Becky for her leadership. Kathy Lentz made a motion to accept the ED evaluation as reported. Motion seconded by Andrea Fox. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Director’s Report – A Model Code of Ethics training will be offered in August at Concordia College in Moorhead. This is being offered by NASDTEC and is a joint Minnesota/North Dakota effort. Becky also notified the Board that there is increased demand for National Board funding. More cohorts are interested in forming.

Also included in the Director’s Report is a proposal received from University of Mary to grant an initial teaching license for a student who was almost complete with student teaching. She passed away before she could complete all testing. Kathy Lentz made a motion to grant University of Mary’s request for a license in memorium of this student. Motion seconded by Patti Stedman. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Teacher Support System – Erin Jacobson and Marijke Leibel from TSS presented on their article submission to the Journal of Higher Education Theory and Practice. The request for the article was in response to material they presented at Learning Forward National Conference.

Shortage Areas – Ian Grande is a master's student from University of Mary and is working on a quantitative study to help understand teacher shortages in North Dakota. He is currently an assistant principal and teacher at Shiloh Christian. He presented both national and North Dakota teacher shortage data, as well as some recommendations based on his data.

Mike McNeff left the meeting at 9:55am.

Upcoming Legislative Session – Beck will have more information for the Board in April, after she has received survey results regarding new licensing options including American Board and the teaching permit.

Praxis Core Scores – Becky presented data on Core Praxis tests. Historically, core math has had the lowest pass rate. Informal feedback has shown that since the core math test has re-launched, the scores have increased. Writing has become the new challenge. On the core writing test, the first-time pass rate is 55.37%.

30-year Life Licenses – Becky reviewed the 30-year life license and re-education requirements for individuals who wish to move into the life license.

Board Member Reports

NDACTE –

- NDACTE Spring 2020 Conference is on April 3 at Turtle Mountain Community College and the theme is Culturally Responsive Education
- NDACTE Praxis Core Workgroup is continuing to discuss alternatives to the Praxis Core
- NDACTE is collaborating to stay updated on licensure reciprocity with other states and how to maintain accurate and current records for students attending teacher prep in ND but planning to teach in other states.

Association of Non-Public Schools – Not present.

Association of School Administrators – Not present.

School Boards Association – Nothing to report.

NDUnited – Not present.

DPI – Superintendent Baesler invited everyone to their March 24th with Dr. Constantino on Family Engagement and Student Achievement. All registration costs will be covered by the state. Teacher preparation program leaders and students have been invited. Part of the mission at DPI is to elevate the role of educators and in turn, they have changed the format of the application for ND Teacher of the Year. The application process has been simplified and streamlined with a goal is to recognize a Teacher of the Year for each county in ND. Those individuals would then move on to regional, then state levels.

K12 Coordination Council has taken on task of making their 6 goals smart goals for the state to work on achieving.

ND has first case of COVID-19 and DPI has had lots of questions and conversations.

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School districts are monitoring the situations and, at this time, decisions are under local control.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54am.


Chair


Secretary/Executive Director