

MINUTES

Thursday, September 10, 2015

Sakakawea Room, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by board chair, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo. Board members who attended were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Others who attended the meeting were Diane Weber and Janet Welk from ESPB, and Gwen Marback and Bob Christman from DPI, Sandra DePountis from the AG's Office, Lou Aronson former ESPB staff member, Patty Barrett and Greff Greenwood from ND United.

Introductions were held.

To the agenda, Philip Kimmel and Torie Post were added as board cases.

CASES

ADAMS, ERIC

A motion was made by Gary Thompson to grant an initial, one-year sub license. Second by Laura Mihalick. Motion carried. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Mr. Adam's license application was before the Board because he checked yes to question #3, section two of the online application.

BIESECKER, CHRISTINA

Kimberly Belgarde made the motion to not take any action; pending the completion of the addiction evaluation and payment of fees. If Ms. Biesecker complies with the requirements and the guilty plea withdrawn, the board case would be dismissed. Second by Paul Stremick. Motion carried. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Ms. Biesecker is employed with Lewis/Clark Elementary School in Mandan as an elementary teacher. Her license was brought before the Board due to marijuana found in her home.

BORGEN, JODIE

Mike McNeff made the motion to contact Ms. Borgen's former superintendent, Mark Mindt at Tate Topa Tribal School when she was under contract and Fort Winds Community High School where she is subbing to obtain copies of her personnel files. Second by Paul Stremick. Motion carried. Board members who voted in agreement were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Ms. Borgen's license renewal is before the Board because she checked yes to question #3, section two of the online application.

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BUCHMILLER, ABBY

A motion was made by Paul Stremick to grant an initial, two-year initial license. Second by Kimberly Belgarde. Motion carried. Board members who voted in favor Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Ms. Buchmiller's license request was before the Board because she checked yes to question #3, section two of the online application.

GARRISON, LACEY

A motion was made by Gary Thompson to grant an initial, out-of-state reciprocal license. Second by Karen Christensen. Motion carried. Board members who voted in agreement were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Ms. Garrison's request for a license was before the Board because she checked yes to question #3, section two of the online application.

HANAWALT, BRIAN

Mike McNeff made the motion to table until the court case outcome. Second by Karen Christensen. Motion carried. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson.

HENKEL, THOMAS

The Board was called into executive session at 9:43 and reconvened at 9:55am. The purpose of the meeting was attorney consultation regarding the number driving offenses. *NDCC 44-04-19.1* A motion was made by Gary Thompson to deny the application for an initial, CTE teaching license. Second by Kimberly Belgarde. Motion carried. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Karen Christensen voted no. *NDCC 15.1-13-25(1)(d) & (e) and ND Administrative Code 67.1-02-02-06(3)*

JUNG, DARYL

A motion was made by Mike McNeff to dismiss the request for inquiry. Second by Gary Thompson. Motion carried. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Mr. Jung's license was before the Board due to a code of ethics issue. He is currently employed with New England Public Schools as biology instructor.

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KIMMEL, PHILIP

Gary Thompson made the motion to issue an initial, two year OSEL license. Second by Kimberly Belgarde. Motion carried. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Mr. Kimmel's license was before the Board because of his background check.

KROKE, KAIA

Paul Stremick made the motion to have Ms. Kroke respond to the 2006 and 2013 DUI charges and why she did not report these on her license application. Also, Ms. Kroke will need to submit any chemical or alcohol dependency evaluations/reports. Second by Mike McNeff. Motion carried. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Ms. Kroke has applied for an out-of-state reciprocal license.

MCCLEARY, KYLE

Mr. McCleary's mother contacted the office regarding the ethics course which is required, per Kyle's signed settlement. Mrs. McCleary asked the Board to consider the ethics course which Kyle took from the University of Mary in 2011-12 with his science education degree. Paul McNeff made the motion that Kyle McCleary will need to take a new ethics course, as was outlined in the settlement agreement. Second by Amy Mann. Motion carried. Board members who agreed were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Mr. McCleary's license was brought before the Board for violating the code of ethics. Mr. McCleary's license has been revoke. Once he has taken the new ethics course, he may reapply for his license. *NDCC 15.1-13-25(1)(j) and ND Adm. Code 67.1-03-01-02*

POST, TORIE

A motion was made by Karen Christensen to issue an initial, two-year license. Second by Kimberly Belgarde. Motion carried. Board members who voted in favor were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Ms. Post's license was before the Board due to her background check.

PLOIUM, COREY

Amy Mann made the motion to contact Corey Ploium for his response to the BCI investigative report. Second by Paul Stremick. Motion carried. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, and Paul Stremick. Gary Thompson was not available when the voting took place. Mr. Ploium was formerly employed at Oberon Public School as an elementary instructor.

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VANG, BONNIE

A motion was made by Kimberly Belgarde to have Ms. Vang respond to the 2013-14 release from the Heart Butte School and contact Williston Public Schools if they wish to file a request for inquiry.

Second by Laurie Mihalick. Motion carried. Board members who voted in agreement were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Ms. Vang has applied for an initial, five-year OSEL.

SARTAIN, GENE

A motion was made by Mike McNeff to grant an initial, five-year OSEL. Second by Laura Mihalick. Motion carried. Board members who voted in agreement were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Ms. Sartain's request for a license was before the Board due to his background check.

ADMINISTRATIVE CASE

PLOIUM, KEN

Laura Mihalick made the motion to file a request for inquiry against Mr. Ploium's license. Second by Karen Christensen. Motion carried. Administrative board members who voted yes were Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick and Paul Stremick. He was formerly employed at Oberon Public School as the superintendent.

Amy Mann made the motion to approve the **August 3, 2015 minutes**. Second by Laura Mihalick. Belgarde. Motion carried. Board members who voted in favor were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Karen Christensen then made the motion to approve the **August 10, 2015 conference call minutes**. Second by Gary Thompson. Motion carried. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Laura Mihalick made the motion to approve the **August 27, 2015 conference call minutes**. Second by Mike McNeff. Motion carried. Board members who voted in agreement were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson.

A motion was made by Gary Thompson approving the **July/August 2015 financial and licensure reports**. Second by Laura Mihalick. Motion carried. Board members who voted in agreement were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. The July financial statement showed

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\$82,336.08 in income received, total expenses showed \$73,024.36 with a net income of \$9,311.73. The August financial statement showed \$100,299.64 in income received, \$79,867.23 in total expenses with a net income of \$20,432.41. The July 2015 licensure report showed 1089 total licenses/endorsements issued. The August licensure report showed 1,424 total licenses/endorsements issued.

A motion was made by Karen Christensen to hire Lou Aronson as the Educator Shortage Researcher on a temporary basis to gather data on where the teacher shortages are? What are other states doing? What are districts doing to recruit teachers? Common items on the shortages? Are the openings all full-time, part-time, a percentage of time? Are the openings the same as last year? How are the openings posted? Second by Gary Thompson. Motion carried. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick and Gary Thompson. Paul Stremick voted no.

The 2012 Audit Reports were distributed to the Board. The report will be voted on at the October meeting. The audit was done by Mahlum Goodhart, PC in Mandan.

Janet Welk provided a history on licensure changes within the last 11 years; showing the efforts that ESPB is taking in alleviating shortages. In 1960, with the major/minor law, emergency licenses were being issued to individuals who had not been prepared as educators. The emergency license allowed individuals to return back to school while teaching in the classroom. In 1995, the emergency license was switched to the alternate access license. Forty alternate access licenses were issued in 2000. Seventy-six alternate access licenses were issued in 2015. During 1999, the educators were allowed to apply for the life license. Prior to 2011, ESPB has been working with the profession to change the requirements for counselors, special education and ESL to allow more flexibility within the school district. At this time, the Board has dropped the special education disability designate and allowing any special education educator to work with any child with a disability. Again in 2011 North Dakota had a law change, any professional educator holding a valid/current license for a state was given a North Dakota teaching license without taking additional testing or coursework. In 2013, this law was further opened to allow for full reciprocity of any endorsement from any state. Since 2011, 2,044 Other State Educator Licenses have been issued. In 2014 all content areas were deemed critical shortage areas, including physical education and elementary education. This now allows alternate access licenses to be issued in all areas. Beginning in 2014-15, the Board allowed Praxis testing for any educator, who has held a license for at least two years, to move up/down to teach in a new content area. ESPB has assisted 148 educators who have completed the process and have added the new content area to their license. All these changes have been done without an increase in licensure fees. The last fee increase was in 2011. Various surveys have shown educator license fees are still lower than other professional license fees.

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At the September meeting, no content expert applications had been received. A motion was made by Kimberly Belgarde for clarification/wording changes to be done by Janet Welk and Sandy DePountis for administrators to understand. Second by Laura Mihalick. Motion carried. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Laura Mihalick, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson.

A community expert committee has been formed to develop a rubric/application/questionnaire. The committee consisted of Gary Thompson, Paul Stremick and Karen Christensen.

Sandy DePountis provided a colored, flow chart on the two options on how a license becomes a board case.

Janet Welk summarized the emergency rules process for the Board. At the current time, the community expert emergency ruling has been submitted to the Administrative Rules Committee. The content community expert was granted by Governor Dalrymple on August 28, 2015.

Janet Welk provided an overview of the different license types that ESPB issues.

Mary Eldredge-Sandbo asked for a committee to be to develop model for North Dakota Educators Code of Ethics. The committee will consist of Laura Mihalick, Mike McNeff, Amy Mann and Mary Eldredge-Sandbo.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Chair

Secretary/Executive Director