

**MINUTES – Board Meeting
Thursday September 6, 2018**

Fort Totten Room, State Capitol, Bismarck

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 9:02am by Chair Carly Retterath. Board members present were Jessica Rush, Kim Belgarde, Brenda Tufte, Dinah Goldenberg, Carly Retterath and Andrea Fox by conference call. Superintendent Kirsten Baesler joined by conference call at 9:15am.

Board members Mike McNeff, Bob Toso, Ben Johnson were absent.

Also present were Amy Folkestad and Becky Pitkin from ESPB, Jim Upgren from DPI. Gail Schauer joined by conference call at 9:30am. Edward Erickson from Attorney General's office joined the meeting at 10:31am.

Introductions were held.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda – Additions to the agenda include a request from Trinity Christian School in Williston requesting an alternate access license for PE for John Washington. The case for Kyle Lizakowski will be removed from the agenda. Discussion items will be included for Gretchen Brendsel, 40-day provisional licenses, legislative board training, and kindergarten remedial reading and remedial math. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to accept the agenda with amendments. Motion seconded by Kim Belgarde. All Board members voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

August Minutes, License, and Financial Report –

The August 2018 financial report showed \$105,945.99 in total income received, \$72,793.35 in total expenses, with a net income of \$33,152.64. The August 2018 licensure report showed 1506 total licenses issued.

Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to accept the August minutes, license, and financial reports. Motion seconded by Jessica Rush. All Board members voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Policy Second Reading – Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to accept the second reading of the policy for investment withdrawal. Seconded by Jessica Rush. Board member who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Brenda Tufte.

The policy states that Education Standards and Practices Board financial investments shall only be withdrawn for one-time expenditures which are not included in the annual budget. Only earned money/interest can be withdrawn. These expenditures must be approved by the budget committee.

John Washington Alternate Access – Williston Trinity Christian Warwick Public School has submitted a request for the Board to consider issuing Mr. Washington an alternate access license for physical education. Administrative Rule states that alternate access must be issued in documented shortage areas, however, additional consideration can be given in cases where near shortages exist. For the 2018-2019 school year, physical education is not considered a shortage area. Brenda Tufte made a motion to allow Mr. Washington to apply for an alternate access license for physical education. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and

Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

Director's Report License Report – Office staff continue to work with Nexus Innovations on programming for electronic license. We have hit some roadblocks and are hoping to have them resolved soon. At the August staff meeting, emergency procedures for an intruder were outlined and will be added to the office procedure manual.

Program reviews are quickly approaching, with both the Turtle Mountain Community College focus visit and Dickinson State University CAEP visit happening this month.

Information was presented on 40-day provisional licenses and an overview the work that needs to be done to issue an individual a provisional license. In August 2018, 75 40-day provisional licenses were issued. Becky will provide further information on the 40-day provisional licenses with points for the board to consider at the October meeting.

Kindergarten Title I Remedial Reading and Remedial Math – In January 2018, DPI's Administrative Rules regarding Title I credentials were repealed. As administrators have started completing MIS03 forms for the 2018-2019 school year, it has been recognized that elementary licensed teachers are not licensed to teach kindergarten remedial reading and remedial math.

The Board would like to propose that we would honor previously credentialed Title I teachers and add kindergarten remedial reading and/or remedial math to their license. The educators would need to notify the office so the endorsements can be added to their license. If a person previously held a Title I credential and has recently added a kindergarten endorsement to their license with the intent of allowing them to teach Title I, they should contact the office so their kindergarten endorsement fee can be reimbursed. Brenda Tufte made a motion to grandfather educators who hold a current Title I credential to allow them to teach PK-K remedial reading and/or remedial math. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board member who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

The Board continued discussion regarding allowing special education licensed teachers to teach remedial reading and/or remedial math. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to allow an individual who is licensed for K-12 special education to also teach remedial reading and remedial math. Motion seconded by Kim Belgarde. After much further discussion, Dinah withdrew her motion.

Kim Belgarde made a motion to table the discussion on allowing special education teachers to teach Title I remedial reading and/or remedial math until more information can be gathered. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board member who voted in favor were Kim Belgarde, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

Gretchen Brendsel – Foreign Degree – Ms. Brendsel has earned a transcribed bachelor’s degree from a university in Canada and has received an evaluation of her Canadian transcript from a foreign credential service. Since she began her education in the United States, her evaluation does not include this coursework and states that her education is equivalent to 3 years of study in the United States.

Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to acknowledge Ms. Brendsel’s bachelor’s degree from Canada to allow her to apply for a teaching license in North Dakota. Jessica Rush seconded the motion. Board members who voted in favor were Kim Belgarde, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

Military Spouse Committee Report – Jessica Rush reported on behalf of the military spouse committee. The group looked at ESPB’s current law and examples from other states to see what they do for military spouses. Four recommendations were brought forward for Board consideration:

- Add a question to the application asking if an applicant is a military spouse. If “yes” is checked, the applicant will need to show evidence of military orders and marriage license or military ID.
- If applicant is a military spouse, application fee will be waived.
- ESPB will recognize licenses expired for six months or less in another state as a valid for an Other State Educator License.
- Personnel on active duty/deployed, whose license expire while they are away, will not incur a late fee.

The thought process is that military spouses can potentially move every two years and we want to honor the troops. All of the proposed changes fall under current Administrative Rules for boards, so ESPB would not need to change any of our Administrative Rules.

Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to accept the recommendations of the military spouse committee and to waive the late fee for individuals who renew their expired licenses within six months of returning from deployment. Motion seconded by Kim Belgarde. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

Attorney Edward Erickson the meeting at 10:31am for cases. Board Chair Carly Retterath thanked Edward for his service to ESPB and wished him well in his upcoming retirement. This will be his last ESPB meeting before his retirement.

CASES

Crowley, Douglas – Mr. Crowley’s file was reviewed by the Board in September 2017 due to a Request for Inquiry that was filed by Starkweather Public School for breach of contract. A motion was made to suspend Mr. Crowley’s license until liquidated damages were paid to the school district. To date, liquidated damages have not been paid and Mr. Crowley has recently informed the administrator at Starkweather Public Schools that he will not be returning to North Dakota or paying the fees and the license can be revoked if the Board chooses. Brenda Tufte made a motion to accept Mr. Crowley’s revocation statement and to move forward with revoking his license. A statement should be included in his settlement agreement letting him know that if his license is revoked, that it will be entered into the NASDTEC Clearinghouse. Jessica Rush seconded the motion. Board member who voted in favor were Kim Belgarde, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

Berry, Scott – Mr. Berry’s file was reviewed by the Board due to a Request for Inquiry that was received. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to dismiss the case. Motion seconded by Brenda Tufte. Board member who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

Board member reports

NDACTE – NDACTE has not met since ESPB’s last meeting, so Brenda Tufte has no formal report to share. At the next NDACTE meeting, she will get input regarding special education teachers teaching Title I remedial reading and remedial math and bring back to the Board.

Association of Non-Public Schools – Nothing to report.

School Boards Association – School Boards convention will be held at the end of October in Bismarck. Dinah Goldenberg also attended part of Teacher Support System training last month and found it worthwhile.

DPI – DPI was pleased to hear discussion on Title I and will look forward to hearing more conversation on special education and Title I.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:02am.