

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

200 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TEACHER EDUCATION BOARD

Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2023

The 484th Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) meeting was held virtually on November 2, 2023. Ms. Kitchen called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

The following members were in attendance: Dr. Keisha Allen, Ms. Joy Bacon, Dr. Jacob Bauer- Zebley, Ms. Janill Bobbitt, Ms. Melissa Carpenter, Ms. Stephanie Farmer, Dr. Deborah Gartland, Mr. Darren Hornbeck, Dr. Kristine McGee, Ms. Maleeta Kitchen, Dr. Sylvia Lawson, Ms. Amy Poirier, Ms. Monica Roebuck, Dr. Ebony Terrell Shockley, Ms. Sandra Skordalos, Ms. Joy Spain, Dr. Winona Taylor, Ms. Amy Wilson, Ms. Karen Yoho

The following member was absent: Dr. Sean Bulson, Dr. Dionne Curbeam, Dr. Monifa McKnight

The following Attorney General Staff members were present: Mr. Sean Fitzgerald, Esq. -Assistant Attorney General

The following Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) staff were present.

Ms. Alexandra Cambra, Ms. Nichole Crowder (Recorder), Ms. Tamara Deshields-Burns, Ms. Kelly Meadows

PRELIMINARY ITEMS

Announcements

None

Approval of October Minutes

October minutes were adopted with the necessary corrections.

Public Comments

Mr. Robert Eccles submitted a written comment on the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 13A.07.06, Program for Professional Licensed Personnel

State Board Update

None

Communication Update

None

ACTION ITEMS

COMAR 13A.07.06, Programs for Professional Licensed Personnel: Public Comment

- Ms. Meadows continued to review the public comments received for COMAR 13A.07.06 and addressed each concern of the board and constituents.
- Mr. Hornbeck wanted to discuss the meeting that he, Ms. Kitchen, and Ms. Meadows had with Mr. Choudhury concerning the IN-District pathway. Mr. Hornbeck indicated there are many concerns about the In-District pathway being of a lower quality because of the potential for inequities. There is also concern that The Blueprint suggests going to a performance-based assessment in 2025. Mr. Hornbeck stated the edTPA and PPAT may not be a part of that pathway. He stated that most states are moving away from performance-based portfolio-based assessments. He feels

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that the edTPA and PPAT do not predict teacher quality and stand in the way of minority groups coming into the profession.

- Mr. Hornbeck recommended that that portion of the Blueprint be revised or taken out.
- Mr. Hornbeck suggested the PSTEB board should draft a letter to the Legislature addressing their concerns about the exams.
- Ms. Kitchen allowed each board member to voice their opinions and concerns about the In-district pathway.
- Dr. Zebley stated that he was in support of drafting a letter but wanted to make sure that if the board is citing research, they should do a thorough literature review and attach those studies or reference them in the letter and make sure those items are available to those who would receive it.
- Dr. Shockley stated that a comment was made in the last meeting about skepticism. She was not sure if that skepticism occurred in August but stated there should be no skepticism. She indicated that it is important that we all work together. She wants to make sure we have some equity across the board.
- Dr. Allen stated that she was curious about the In-district pathway's monitoring and accountability. She stated that there are a lot of questions out there and she is not sure if a letter is enough to get all the answers needed.
- Ms. Skordalos wanted clarification on the purpose of the letter.
- It was explained that the board is writing a letter to the legislature to propose an amendment to the law on the In-district pathways.
- Ms. Kitchen inquired about the steps and timeline for legislation to provide the correct documents and letter.
- Ms. Meadows stated that she could not provide that information and suggested that the board meet with the legislative liaison.
- Dr. Allen inquired about the need for the In-district pathway.
- Ms. Meadows explained the current transcript analysis route to certification. She stated that both the State Board and PSTEB were in favor of eliminating that pathway but were concerned that there were not enough pathways to certification for career changers.
- Ms. Meadows clarified the "grow your own" terminology for the board.
- Dr. Gartland asked if removing the In-district pathway would be considered a substantive change.
- Mr. Fitzgerald explained substantive change and stated that removing the In-district pathway would be considered a substantive change. Which will start the process again.
- Ms. Meadows stated that she could not in good faith move forward with adopting a regulation where an entire pathway was removed. She advised the board to consider removing the In-district pathway as a substantive change.
- Ms. Meadows reminded the board that the law is the law, and the board must do the work based on the current law. If the law changes, then the board will have to make the necessary changes to realign with the law.

Ms. Kitchen entertained a motion to form a subcommittee to draft a letter to the legislature about the board's concerns about the portfolio-based assessments.

MOTION: Moved by Dr. Taylor to form the subcommittee.

Seconded by Ms. Yoho

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Subcommittee Members: Dr. Allen, Ms. Bobbitt, Ms. Farmer, Dr. Taylor, Ms. Spain, Dr Zebley

BREAK

COMAR 13A.07.06, Programs for Professional Licensed Personnel: Public Comment cont'd

- Ms. Meadows continued to review the public comments received for COMAR 13A.07.06 by Mr. Robert Eccles.
- Ms. Spain asked Ms. Meadows to clarify what technical assistance would look like.
- Ms. Meadows explained technical assistance could be in the form of formalized training, presentations, workshops, 1:1 phone calls, emails, and virtual meetings with constituency groups. A combination of formal and informal, as well as in-person and virtual technical assistance and training will occur over several months and continue as part of the regular support offered by the Department.

Ms. Kitchen entertained a motion to adopt the regulations for COMAR 13A.07.06, Programs for Professional Licensed Personnel

MOTION: Moved by Dr. Taylor to adopt COMAR 13A.07.06 Programs for Professional Licensed Personnel
Seconded by Ms. Yoho

Vote: Favor: 19 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

Motion Carried

MOTION: Moved by Dr. Taylor to adopt COMAR 13.A.12, Education Licensure
Seconded by Ms. Yoho

Vote: Favor: 17 Opposed: 2 Abstained: 0

Motion Carried

- Ms. Meadows walked through the Implementation Timeline.
- Ms. Meadows stated that MSDE should be able to accommodate the PSTEB board for an in-person meeting in December. If there is an issue the board will be notified by December 1st.

Proposed Agenda for December

- Call to order
- Public comment
- Announcements
- State Board Update
- Communication Updates
- Approval of November meeting minutes
- List priority items for phase two of regulation promulgation

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Ms. Kitchen entertained a motion to approve the meeting agenda for December.

MOTION: Moved by Dr. Taylor to adopt the meeting agenda for December
The meeting minutes were approved for December.

Adjourned

Ms. Kitchen adjourned the PSTEB meeting without objection.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 without objection.