

Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board

Meeting Minutes

August 3rd, 2023

The 481st meeting of the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) was held on August 3rd, 2023. This meeting was held virtually. Mr. Darren Hornbeck called the meeting to order.

The following members were in attendance: Ms. Joy Bacon, Dr. Jacob Bauer- Zebley, Ms. Melissa Carpenter, Dr. Dionne Curbeam, Mr. Darren Hornbeck, Dr. Sylvia Lawson, Dr. Kristine McGee, Ms. Amy Poirier, Ms. Sandra Skordalos, Dr. Winona Taylor, Ms. Amy Wilson, Ms. Karen Yoho,

The following members were absent: Ms. Janill A. Bobbitt, Dr. Debi Gartland, Ms. Maleeta Kitchen, Ms. Joy Lee Spain, Ms. Monica Roebuck

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

Ms. Kelly Meadows, Ms. Sophia Fitzpatrick, Ms. Alexandra Cambra, Ms. Nichole Crowder (Recorder)

The following Attorney General Staff Members were present: Mr. Sean Fitzgerald, Esq. – Assistant Attorney General.

PRELIMINARY ITEMS

Introduction for new members

Announcements

None

Communication Updates

Mr. Hornbeck stated that he and Ms. Kitchen were able to sit down with State Board of Education on a touch basis.

State Board Update

None

Approval of June 1st Minutes

Minute will be moved for adoption in September's meeting. There are not enough members for a quorum to adopt.

Proposed Agenda Items for September

- Call to order
- Public comment
- Announcements
- Legislative Update
- Communication Update
- Approval of June and August Minute

Public Comment

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TEACHER EDUCATION BOARD

Ms. Cambra indicated that we have received four public comments from the same LEA for Certification Regulation 13.A.12. Ms. Cambra explained the process for which public comments are received. Ms. Fitzpatrick indicated that the four comments that were received were around Certification Regulation 13.A.1202; Conditional Certification for Special Educators. Ms. Fitzpatrick read what the proposed regulation stated. She stated that the comment around this regulation is to extend the conditional certificate from three years to five years. Mr. Fitzgerald explained the issue with this recommendation is it would be prohibited by federal regulations. Mr. Fitzgerald shared with the board 34 Code of Federal Regulation 300.156.C2.IC. Mr. Fitzgerald explained that the regulation requires that educators who are participating in an alternate route to Special Education Certification may assume a function only for a specified period not to exceed three years. The Federal Regulation supersedes and would preclude the extension being suggested.

ACTION ITEMS

Implementation Plan

Ms. Meadows stated she wanted to share with new members what has been discussed and what the board is looking for. She indicated that the board has discussed what resources would be most beneficial for the different educator groups. Mr. Hornbeck stated that it may be helpful if the MSDE staff could walk the board through what support is already in place when the new COMAR comes out. Ms. Meadow stated that typically when regulations are modified it is not in this compacity. Usually, we only amend a few lines of one regulation, but because we have amended eight chapters, the support needs to look different from what we have implemented before. Ms. Meadows stated that typically we would notify via memorandum; in writing to specific constituency groups that would be impacted regulatory change. We would plan in-person and virtual technical assistance meetings with those groups or for the public. She indicated that each division and office within the agency has their own process where they know who they would need to reach out to if they are affected by certain regulations when they are amended. Ms. Meadows stated that for these groups of regulations were talking about a more intensive technical assistance. For instance, the certification team has been working for months on back mapping a plan on what needs to happen to prepare our Certification Partners to take on the work to have the documentation needed to roll out things like the individualized plan for renewal. Decided what kind of FAQ documents necessary, how do we need to update the certification website and how the change the certification system so that it can accommodate all the changes. All these things are in the work and will be rolled out systematically. Mr. Hornbeck asked if Ms. Meadows could walk the board through any of the work that has been done so far to assist IHEs and LEAs about the upcoming changes. Ms. Meadows stated that as far as certification is concerned, there are quarterly meetings held with the certification partners. She also indicated that there are specific certification specialists that are assigned to the partners where they have daily communication if they have any questions or concerns. For educator preparation, they also have a quarterly meeting called Deans and Directors Meeting where the is always a regulatory update. Mr. Hornbeck gave appreciation to the work and organization of public comments. Ms. Meadows asked Ms. Cambra if she could send out the presentation on public comment to the new member of the board. Mr. Hornbeck asked Ms. Fitzpatrick if she could at some point walk the board through the implementation plans, she had in mind for certification. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that she was hopeful that by October, she would be able to walk you through how certification will structure the in-person training.

Motion

Mr. Hornbeck entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
200 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TEACHER EDUCATION BOARD

Dr. Taylor moved to adjourn.

Dr. Lawson seconded to the motion to adjourn.

Adjourned

Meeting Adjourned without objections.