

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD

Meeting of Thursday, February 1, 2007
1:15 p.m.

Cabinet Room, Department of Education
(2nd Floor South Wing, Townsend Building)

MINUTES

- Members Present: Sandra Falatek, Mary Furbush, Karen Gordon, Barbara Grogg, Les Holden, Lori Hudson, Carla Lawson, Mary Mirabeau, Gretchen Pikus, Kathleen Thomas and Michael Thomas
- Members Absent: Harold Roberts, Edward Czerwinski, Karen Schilling-Ross, Richard Gregg, and Carol Vukelich
- Others Present: Charlie Michels, Professional Standards Board Executive Director, Pearl Carrington, Professional Standards Board Secretary, Mary Cooke, Deputy Attorney General; Vicky Cairns, Delaware State Education Association, Ann Case, State Board of Education, and Scott Reihm, Delaware Association of School Administrators.

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Mr. Les Holden called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m.

B. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Gretchen Pikus and seconded by Ms. Karen Gordon to approve the February 1, 2007 Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Approval of Minutes of December 7, 2006

A motion was made by Ms. Kathleen Thomas and seconded by Ms. Carla Lawson to approve the minutes of January 4, 2007. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. DE Department of Education Report

None.

IV. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Mr. Charlie Michels reported the following:

Mr. Michels stated that to date, cluster evaluations have been state-mailed to approximately 900 cluster participants. Mr. Michels has received about 100 returned/completed evaluations. A process will be put in place to scan and save the evaluation data for future reference. Secretary Woodruff gave Mr. Michels a copy of the proposal from the Center for Effective School Practices based at Rutgers University in New Jersey earlier in the day (2/1/07).

On the 15th of February, following the monthly State Board of Education meeting, there will be a collaborative recognition of the new nationally Board Certified Teachers by the Professional Standards Board and the State Board of Education. A reception will be held at the Sheraton in Dover at 5:30 pm. Professional Standards Board members were advised to let Ms. Carrington know immediately if they intended to attend.

Mr. Michels and several PSB members attended the NEA Mid-Atlantic Conference Reception held at the Hotel DuPont in Wilmington on Friday, January 26th. It was a wonderful opportunity to mingle with neighboring state's and National Association leaders.

Mr. Michels introduced Mr. Scott Reihm, the new Executive Director of the Delaware Association of School Administrators.

V. Presentation

None

VI. Discussion

A. Cluster salary supplement implementation timelines

Mr. Michels has been asked by both members of the statewide District Business Managers group and the Department of Education to have the Board consider an amendment to current 14 **Del.Admin. Code** §1501, due to the anticipated mushrooming, statewide, hand-entered payroll process for successful cluster participant's salary supplements. Mr. Michels led a discussion outlining current practice relative to the disbursement of educator salary supplements and the time consuming tasks it is bringing into local school district Business Offices (based on the current monthly disbursements). A discussion followed that addressed the current system and the advantages and disadvantages to maintaining the current system, or moving to a twice-a-year beginning and ending salary supplement Business Office processing. The proposed disbursement calendar dates would be the first of January and July. A major concern expressed by Board members was focused on which system would stand the greatest chance of reducing the chance of payroll financial mistakes. Based on the current conversation, there was general consensus that a twice-a-year system may be acceptable and may minimize mistakes. Board members were encouraged to take this issue back to their constituent groups for further discussion at the March meeting.

B. 1501 Knowledge Skills and Responsibility Based Salary Supplements for Educators

Mr. Michels stated that the italicized language listed below be accepted by the Board and then move forward with the amended regulation to the State Board to be included in their discussion.

3.8.1 The initial five (5) year duration will begin on the date the State Board approves the cluster, contingent upon the appropriation approval by the Controller General and the Budget Director, and will terminate five (5) years from that date.

5.6.1 Approval of a cluster is valid for five (5) years **from the date of State Board Approval, contingent upon the appropriation approval by the Controller General and the Budget Director.** A provider...

6.7.1 Cluster applications are approved for a period of five years **from the date of State Board approval, contingent upon the appropriation approval by the Controller General and the Budget Director.** The Standards Board may.....

9.1.3 Educators may receive additional salary supplements for successfully completing other approved clusters, subject to the limitations set forth in Section 11.0. No educator is entitled to payment for the same cluster more than once.

1011.1.42 Salary supplements**The salary supplement shall be based on the Delaware educators' salary schedule: 14 Del.C. §1305 (a-b).** *Salary supplements are subject to an annual appropriation.*

There was a brief discussion by the Board and after consulting Ms. Mary Cooke, Legal Counsel, it was determined that these changes were not considered substantive.

C. 1516 Standard Certificate

Mr. Michels stated that the italicized language listed below be accepted by the Board and then move with the amended regulation to the State Board to be included in their discussion.

3.1.1 Obtaining National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification in the area, subject, or category for which a Standard Certificate is **appropriate requested**; or

There was a brief discussion by the Board and after consulting Ms. Mary Cooke, Legal Counsel, it was determined that this changes was not considered substantive.

VII. Action Items

- A. 14 Del. Admin Code § 360 Certification Early Childhood Teacher Special Education was prepared for the Board for the Final Approval of the repeal. A brief discussion preceded the motion to approve.

Motion made by Ms. Mary Furbush and seconded by Ms. Mary Mirabeau to repeal 14 Del. Admin Code §360 Certification Early Childhood Teacher Special Education. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Professional Development Clusters:

0616 Secondary Social Studies; this is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator's base salary for a period of five years.

0617 Secondary English Language Arts; this is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator's base salary for a period of five years.

0618 LoTi Classroom Teacher; this is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator's base salary for a period of five years.

Ms. Barbara Grogg moved and Ms. Lori Hudson seconded to approve all three (3) presented Clusters, as specified above. The motion carried unanimously.

These three clusters will be moved forward to the State Board of Education for their approval, and then on to the Office of the Budget and the Office of the Controller General for the appropriation of the funds.

VIII. PSB Standing Committees

Licensure and Certification Criteria

There has been no scheduled meeting. Mr. Michels intends to convene a meeting within the next two months to address certification regulations that current curricular area teams are working on. Mr. Michels has had conversations with the lead DOE staff member and at that time provided to their educator groups drafts of potential amended regulations that reflect Standard Certificate language. Mr. Michels maintains contacts with these groups and is gently urging them to move forward.

Professional Development and Associated Compensation

The December 18, 2006 minutes were included in the Board member packets.

IX. PSB Ad Hoc Committees

A. Legislative: Ms. Barbara Grogg asked Board members to think about what they wanted the Legislative Ad Hoc Committee to review and let them know at the next meeting. The Legislative Ad Hoc Committee will meet one half hour prior to the March 1, 2007 Professional Standards Board Meeting.

X. Other

Ms. Barbara Grogg thanked Mr. Charlie Michels and all the Professional Standards Board members who attended the Mid- Atlantic National Education Association Conference Reception held on January 26th at the Hotel DuPont in Wilmington.

XI. Public Comment
(None)

XII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Gretchen Pikus and seconded by Ms. Kathleen Thomas to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

The next meeting of the Professional Standards Board will be held on Thursday, March 1, 2007 at 5:15 p.m. at the Department of Education, in the Townsend Building, Cabinet Room, 2nd Floor, Dover, Delaware.

During the course of this meeting, the Professional Standards Board may enter into Executive Session to consider strategy with respect to pending and potential litigation or with respect to personnel issues. The Professional Standards Board may also take breaks.

The times designated on the agenda are approximate and are listed for administrative purposes only. The Professional Standards Board reserves the right, pursuant to Section 10004(e) of the Freedom of Information Act, to hear any matter out of its order during the meeting.