

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD

Meeting of Thursday, May 3, 2007
5:15 p.m.

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

MINUTES

Members Present: Harold Roberts, Edward Czerwinski, Sandra Falatek, Mary Furbush, Karen Gordon, Barbara Grogg, Les Holden, Lori Hudson, Mary Mirabeau, Karen Schilling-Ross, and Carol Vukelich

Members Absent: Richard Gregg, Carla Lawson, Gretchen Pikus, Kathleen Thomas, and Michael Thomas

Others Present: Charlie Michels, Professional Standards Board's Executive Director, Pearl Carrington, Professional Standards Board's Secretary, Paula Fontello, Deputy Attorney General; Ann Case, State Board of Education, and Mark Dufendach, Milford School District

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

Dr. Roberts called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

B. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Czerwinski and seconded by Ms. Gordon to approve the agenda, as requested by Mr. Michels to amend. The amended Agenda removed 9 Certification Regulations and re-arranged several items in order to facilitate the presenter's time constraints. The motion carried.

C. Approval of Minutes of March 1, 2007

A motion was made by Ms. Mirabeau and seconded by Ms. Hudson to approve the Minutes of March 1, 2007, as corrected. The corrections requested amended the meeting time in the Header and added the appropriate Members' titles as deemed necessary. The motion carried.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. DE Department of Education Report

None.

IV. Presentation

A. Ms. Caridad Alonso: 2007 Delaware Teacher of the Year

Ms. Caridad Alonso is a Dual Language teacher in the Red Clay Consolidated School District. She works with Hispanic students who need to improve their literacy skills in their native language: Spanish. One teacher in the program addresses the English component, while Ms. Caridad focuses on Spanish literacy. Ms. Alonso stated that there is current research that strongly supports the dual language approach to English Literacy. Ms. Alonso brings a high level of enthusiasm, energy and commitment to the program and to her students, which was clearly evident in the Board's conversation with her. She works with teachers across her District and is working with Indian River School District to implement a similar program as the one she is a strong advocate for. It was a pleasure for the Board to meet and hear Ms. Alonso's vision for students learning English as a second language.

V. Action Items

A. Professional Development and Associated Compensation Salary Supplement Timelines

~ Seeking approval for the PSB to amend 1501 to reflect bi-annual initiation/terminations

Mr. Mark Dufendach, Chief Financial Officer for the Milford School District and representing the Delaware District Chief Financial Officer's Organization, spoke about the potential to move cluster salary supplement payments to twice a year; that being January 1 and July 1. The present system, as stipulated in Regulation 1501, is a monthly initiation and termination of salary supplements. Mr. Dufendach passed out a rationale for moving to a twice-a-year disbursement schedule and an example of his district's payroll calculation system for an educator who completed a 2% cluster. There was open discussion about this issue. Mr. Dufendach's primary concern revolved around the possibility of potential mistakes in the current system and the ability for district personnel to process these supplements on a monthly basis. The Board generally agreed that a process to minimize financial mistakes would be positive.

Mr. Michels alerted the Board that in conversations with personnel from the Office of Management and Budget, since the final approval for clusters rests with them (reflected in the newly amended regulation 1501), their Office may move to a semi-annual approval process. The Board was concerned about this change in policy and procedure, but acknowledged that their decision for approval timelines is outside of the purview of the Professional Standards Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Czerwinski and seconded by Mr. Holden for Mr. Michels to begin the process of amending regulation 1501 to reflect the twice-a-year initiation and termination of salary supplements. After an oral vote was taken, a roll call vote was requested by Mr. Michels. The results were nine (9) yes votes and one (1) no vote. The motion failed.

Mr. Roberts

Yes

Mr. Czerwinski	<u>Yes</u>
Dr. Falatek	<u>Yes</u>
Ms. Furbush	<u>Yes</u>
Ms. Gordon	<u>Yes</u>
Mr. Gregg	<u>Absent</u>
Ms. Grogg	<u>Absent</u>
Mr. Holden	<u>Yes</u>
Ms. Hudson	<u>Yes</u>
Ms. Lawson	<u>Absent</u>
Ms. Mirabeau	<u>Yes</u>
Ms. Pikus	<u>Absent</u>
Ms. Schilling-Ross	<u>No</u>
Ms. Thomas	<u>Absent</u>
Dr. Thomas	<u>Absent</u>
Dr. Vukelich	<u>Yes</u>

Mr. Michels indicated that he would follow up with the OMB and try to determine their long range plan for cluster approvals. Following those conversations, Mr. Michels will draft a few potential recommendations for the Board to discuss at an upcoming meeting.

B. 1594 Delaware Administrator Standards

~ For Publication, reauthorization

A motion was made by Dr. Vukelich and seconded by Ms. Schilling-Ross to approve the Publishing of the reauthorization of Regulation 1594 Delaware Administrator Standards. These Standards are based on the ISLLC Standards which are in the process of being revised. The motion carried.

C. Professional Development Clusters (For Approval)

Mr. Czerwinski moved and Ms. Mirabeau seconded the motion to approve the following, 8 listed professional development clusters. The motion carried.

1. 0610 *Nature of Science and Evolution* is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator’s base salary for a period of five years.
2. 0619 *Woodbridge Institute for Leadership Development* is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator’s base salary for a period of five years.
3. 0628 *Keeping Food Safe – Preventing Foodborne Illness* is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator’s base salary for a period of five years.
4. 0704 *Teachers’ Toolkit for Successful Inclusion* is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator’s base salary for a period of five years.

5. 0705 *Middle School English Language Arts* is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator's base salary for a period of five years.
6. 0706 *Middle School Math* is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator's base salary for a period of five years.
7. 0709 *Learning with Objects* is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator's base salary for a period of five years.
8. 0710 *Chemical Biology* is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator's base salary for a period of five years.

Ms. Mirabeau moved that cluster 0702 *Technology and Mathematics*, be conditionally approved with the requirement that the hours specified on page 13 of the application were amended from 284 to 28 hours. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holden. The motion carried.

Upon further review the following day, Mr. Michels determined that the apparent error was due to a formatting issue in transposing the PDF cluster application into Word. The application approved by the Professional Development and Associated Compensation Committee did not have the same formatting mistake.

0702 *Technology and Mathematics* is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator's base salary for a period of five years.

Ms. Schilling-Ross moved to table the approval of 0703 *Teachers Network Leadership Institute*, authored by the Rodel Foundation, until the next Professional Standards Board meeting. Mr. Holden seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Czerwinski moved to conditionally approve 0707 *Upper Elementary School English Language Arts* and 0708 *Upper Elementary School Math* contingent upon the provider's agreement to specify in the application that Upper Elementary grade levels are grades 4, 5 and 6. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holden. The motion carried.

Mr. Michels contacted the provider of these two clusters the following day and the provider was in agreement to amend the application to reflect the concerns of the Board.

0707 *Upper Elementary School English Language Arts* is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator's base salary for a period of five years.

0708 *Upper Elementary School Math* is a professional development cluster carrying a value of 2% of an educator's base salary for a period of five years.

VI. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Michels reported the following:

- Mr. Michels welcomed back Ms. Fontello, Deputy Attorney General for the Professional Standards Board.
- Mr. Michels, assisted by Ms. Fontello, have been scrutinizing the newly proposed amended certification regulations, as well as the entire list. It is their intent to insure that

the newly formatted regulations, when changed into the new ‘mini’s’, are indeed in the correct style and have been afforded a critical scrutiny. These will serve as templates for the rest to follow. Mr. Michels is continuing conversations with the Department and State Board of Education in this regard.

- 1 The professional Standards Board Quarterly Report was completed and mailed to the appropriate parties on the first of April, 2007.
- 2 Mr. Michels reported that he has scanned and quantified all of the returned Cluster Evaluation forms. He received a remarkable 53% of those sent out. The data resulting from the scanning was forwarded to the *Center for Effective School Practices*, in addition to the mailing of the evaluations so the *Center* could the research staff could read the open-ended comments found on the back of the evaluation. Dr. Bausmith, the Senior Research Scientist from the *Center*, expressed her appreciation of the rigor and thoroughness of the clusters and that their general initial review of the clusters, as a whole, was very favorable. This also reflected the participant data.
- 3 Dr. Jennifer M. Bausmith, from the *Center for Effective School Practices* will be making a presentation to the State Board of Education on June 21, 2007 regarding the Evaluation of Delaware’s professional development clusters. Mr. Michels plans to present to the Professional Standards Board, the Executive Summary of her Report during the June 7, 2007.
- 4 The Professional Standards Board’s items that were forwarded to the State Board of Education, were all approved during their March 15th meeting.
- 5 Mr. Michels reported that with the consent of Secretary Woodruff and Dr. Roberts, Dr. Amelia Hodges has been replaced by Ms. Deb Hansen, of the Department, as a member of the Professional Development and Associated Compensation Committee.
- 6 Mr. Michels has updated the Cluster Provider Manual, and the Continuing License and Paraeducator Manual on the Professional Standards Board and DEEDS websites.
- 7 Mr. Michels has contacted all of the constituent groups represented on the Professional Standards Board and has asked that their list(s) of nominations for Board members be forwarded to the Governor, with a copy to Mr. Michels. Mr. Michels is in close contact with Secretary Woodruff to hopefully insure the timely processing of the nominations for confirmation.

VII. Discussion

A. Licensure and Certification Criteria Committee – Initiation of Policy Discussions

Mr. Michels indicated that at the last meeting of the Licensure and Certification Criteria Committee, the Members indicated a desire to meet in order to be able to discuss and reflect upon the current direction of the professional Standards Board and to possibly make some recommendations for the Board to consider. The Professional Standard Board members agreed that this would be acceptable and that they looked forward to potential recommendations.

VIII. PSB Standing Committees

A. Licensure and Certification Criteria

The March 20, 2007 meeting minutes were included in the mailed documents.

B. Professional Development and Associated Compensation

The March 19, 2007 meeting minutes were included in the mailed documents.

IX. PSB Ad Hoc Committees

A. Legislative – No report

X. Other

Ms. Hudson stated that she would like to see some type of pull-down menu for Clusters on the professional Standards Board and DEEDS website by content and/or grade level, due to the ever-growing list of approved clusters. Mr. Michels stated he would make the request to the proper personnel.

XI. Public Comment

XII. Adjournment

The motion was made by Dr. Vukelich and seconded by Ms. Hudson to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

The next meeting of the Professional Standards Board will be held on Thursday, June 7, 2007 at 1:15 p.m. at the Department of Education, in the Townsend Building, The 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.