

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD

Meeting of Thursday, November 6, 2008

5:15 p.m.

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

MINUTES

Members Present: Marilyn Dollard, Karen Gordon, Cristy Greaves, David Kohan, Jill Lewandowski, Gretchen Pikus, Whitney Price, Karen Ross, Kathleen Thomas and Michael Thomas.

Members Absent: Joanne Christian, Samtra Devard, Lori Hudson, Wendy Murray, Carol Vukelich, Cathy Zimmerman.

Others Present: Charlie Michels, PSB Executive Director; Pearl Carrington, Secretary; Paula Fontello, Deputy Attorney General; Vicky Cairns, Delaware Education Association; Judi Coffield, Policy Analyst for the State Board of Education; Susan Francis, Delaware School Board Association

I. Opening:

Call to Order: Ms. Thomas, Professional Standards Board Chair called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Ms. Pikus and seconded by Ms. Gordon to approve the Agenda. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Dr. Greaves and seconded by Ms. Lewandowski to approve the Board Meeting minutes of October 2, 2008. The motion carried.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Executive Director's Report

- Mr. Michels indicated that the pending Revocation Hearing scheduled for September has been continued until further notice. No new dates have been set.
- Mr. Michels and Chairperson Ms. Thomas are preparing a Memo to the Governor Elect's transition team stating the history of the PSB, who is represented on the Board, what the Board's responsibilities are and the relationships between the PSB, DOE and SBE.
- Mr. Michels met with some members of the Professional Development and Associated Compensation Committee about strategizing possible directions for the future of the professional development clusters in light of the current cluster moratorium. The Committee felt strongly that they needed to know some hard facts relative to the decision resulting in the moratorium. A meeting was set up to include

Dr. Mike Owens of the DOE, Ms. Dorcell Spence of the DOE, Ms. Emily Falcon from the OMB and Mr. Michels. It appeared in the conversation that transpired at the meeting that the main reason for imposing the moratorium was based on financial data, but there was apparently a minor conversation at the Joint Finance Committee's meeting relative to what the state 'gains' for the well over 6 million dollars in educator salary supplements

- Mr. Michels has begun the process to review and amend regulations that are slated for the PSB-adopted 5 year review cycle: 1580 School Library Media Specialist and 1582 School Nurse. Mr. Michels has been working with the DOE Office of Professional Accountability work group and Dr. Robin Taylor on amending 1506 Emergency Certificate to increase clarity and reduce various interpretations of the standing regulation. Mr. Michels met with the PSB Standing Committee: Licensure and Certification Criteria on 10/15/2008 to review these and other regulations in the process.
- There will be a DOE Budget Hearing on November 25th during which Ms. Thomas and Mr. Michels will attend. It is open to the public, therefore anyone can attend.
- Mr. Michels attended the Professional School Leader Certification workshop for two days in Rehoboth Beach, DE. The well-represented workgroup is anxious to have the PSB play a major role in the certification process. Dr. Jackie Wilson will make a presentation to the Board at the December 4, 2008 meeting.
- Mr. Michels shared that he and Ms. Thomas attended a statewide Dropout Summit at the Sheraton in Dover on October 28, 2009. It was a productive day and both look forward to being part of facilitating positive results.
- Mr. Michels and two of his retired colleagues spent a day in the Wm. C. Lewis Dual Language Elementary School in the Red Clay Consolidated School District in downtown Wilmington, DE building kites with two classes of 5th grade students. Ms. Caridad Alonso, the State TOY in 2007 was instrumental in arranging the great day spent by all. Mr. Michels and his colleagues plan to return to build 2 litre soda bottle rockets with the other two 5th grade classes.
- Congratulations to PSB member Ms. Zimmerman and her 'Music Man', Mr. Mark Teesdale for being named the 2009 Delaware Teacher of the Year. Mr. Michels will invite Mr. Teesdale to attend one of the PSB meetings in the near future.

IV. Presentations –[Powerpoint]

- A. Denial, Suspension, Limitation, and Revocation of Licensure~** Ms. Fontello ~
New DE Code and subsequent Regulations amendments.

Ms. Fontello shared with the Board via a PowerPoint presentation the new changes in DE Code relative to Delaware educator licensure denial, suspension, limitations and revocation. Ms. Fontello commented that the PowerPoint was adapted from a presentation Ms. Mary Cooke, DAG prepared for another group. Ms. Fontello expressed appreciation for Ms. Cooke's permission to allow her to adapt her presentation for the PSB. This presentation preceded the discussion of the two connected regulations.

V. Discussion

A. 1513 Denial of Licenses

Introduction

This regulation applies to the denial of an Initial License, Continuing License or Advanced License for DE educators. This regulation needs to be amended to reflect current changes in DE Code. Mr. Michels drafted his first attempt at this regulation which was shared with the Board. Ms. Fontello and he will need to spend considerably more time in scrutinizing the Code and the drafts. Mr. Michels hopes to have a tighter regulation to present to the Board on December 4, 2008.

B. 1514 Revocation of Licenses and Certificates

Introduction

This regulation applies to the limitation, suspension or revocation of an Initial License, Continuing License or Advanced License. This regulation needs to be amended to reflect current changes in DE Code. Mr. Michels drafted his first attempt at this regulation which was shared with the Board. Ms. Fontello and he will need to spend considerably more time in scrutinizing the Code and the drafts. Mr. Michels hopes to have a tighter regulation to present to the Board on December 4, 2008.

C. 1506 Emergency Certificate

Introduction

After conversations with the Board, DOE staff and Personnel Directors across the state, this regulation was amended to facilitate changes that will “tighten” up the regulation and mandate more specificity on the part of the applying district or charter schools. Timelines that were previously not in the regulation have been added. The components of the amended regulation have been discussed by the Board, the Licensure and Certification Criteria Committee and various members of the DOE. This regulation will be reviewed by the DOE Cabinet prior to the next PSB meeting. This regulation will be on the December 4, 2008 Agenda for Approval to Publish.

D. 1580 School Library Media Specialist

Introduction

This regulation is being moved through the approval procedure as part of the 5 year regulation review process adopted by the Board. The Licensure and Certification Criteria Committee reviewed this regulation and voiced no concerns with the amended language during their meeting of 10/15/08. This regulation will be reviewed by the DOE Cabinet prior to the next PSB meeting. It was noted that members of the Board approved the amended regulation. This regulation will be on the December 4, 2008 Agenda for Approval to Publish.

E. 1582 School Nurse

Introduction

This regulation is being moved through the approval procedure as part of the 5 year regulation review process adopted by the Board. Mr. Michels spoke of his latest draft which allows for School Nurse applicants by completing the certification requirements would concurrently meet the licensure requirements. The Licensure and Certification Criteria Committee reviewed this regulation and voiced no concerns with the amended language during their meeting of 10/15/08. Ms. Fontello expressed that there may be some concerns with licensure requirement of student teaching. Typically School Nurses do not acquire student teaching. Mr. Michels will work with Ms. Fontello further on this

regulation and work to resolve the outstanding questions. When the questions have been resolved this regulation will be reviewed by the DOE Cabinet and then added to the PSB Agenda for Approval to Publish.

F. 1597 Delaware Professional Teaching Standards

Introduction

Mr. Michels and Ms. Thomas have spent some time reviewing this regulation. Mr. Michels studied the connections between the 1992 INTASC *Model Standards for Beginning Teacher Licensing, Assessment and Development*, which was a foundation of 1597, Charlotte Danielson's latest work and DPAS II. Mr. Michels showed the Board the minor differences in Dr. Danielson's latest work compared with her earlier work and how the present Delaware Professional Teaching Standards are still connected to her 2007 published work. Mr. Michels was asked to check the connections once more to insure that there were not any components in the Standards that were now, 5 years later, not pertinent. The Board was asked to think about which direction they wished to take: reauthorize the standing regulation, make amendments or be absent of action. Mr. Michels will bring this back to the Board for consideration in December.

G. 1511 Issuance and Renewal of Continuing License

For Conversation

The Delaware Professional Development Task Force Recommendations included a change in the definition of Professional Development in several PSB regulations. The subsequent impact could be a revision of the now-accepted 'options' for the renewal of a Continuing License. The Board has a significant set of decisions to make regarding what they consider to be "professional development". After open discussion the PSB stated that this regulation warrants more discussion and requested that it be put on the December 4, 2008 Agenda for further consideration.

H. 1559 Trade and Industrial Education Teacher

For Discussion

This regulation was approved by the SBE and it was published in the Delaware Register of Regulations on 11/1/08. 1559 was presented to the Board for further discussion. No concerns were expressed by the Board. There had been no written comments received to date. There had been a small change in a definition which was not considered substantive, but placed for clarity. Mr. Michels will place this regulation as an Action item on the December 4, 2008 PSB Agenda.

I. 1502 Professional Growth Salary Increments

For Discussion

Mr. Michels explained that this regulation, a 'companion' to 1559, is being amended to mainly reflect the titling changes in 1559. This regulation was approved by the SBE and it was published in the Delaware Register of Regulations on 11/1/08. No concerns were expressed by the Board. There had been no written comments received to date. There had been a small change in a definition which was not considered substantive, but placed for clarity. Mr. Michels will place this regulation as an Action item on the December 4, 2008 PSB Agenda.

J. 1510 Issuance of Initial License

For Discussion

Mr. Michels explained that this regulation, a ‘companion’ to 1559, is being amended to mainly reflect the titling changes in 1559. This regulation was approved by the SBE and it was published in the Delaware Register of Regulations on 11/1/08. No concerns were expressed by the Board. There had been no written comments received to date. There had been a small change in a definition which was not considered substantive, but placed for clarity. Mr. Michels will place this regulation as an Action item on the December 4, 2008 PSB Agenda.

VI. Action Items

A. 1572 Teacher of Students Who Are Gifted and Talented

Final Action

This regulation received similar comments from the Governor’s Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens and the State Council for Persons with Disabilities. Both organizations had no issues with the substance of the regulation, but had some formatting and grammar recommendations. These were approved by the Board and incorporated into the current iteration of this regulation. Ms. Pikus moved and Dr. Greaves seconded a motion to approve 1572 Teacher of Students Who Are Gifted and Talented for Final Approval. The motion passed.

VII. PSB Standing Committees

A. Licensure and Certification Criteria –

The Licensure and Certification Criteria Committee met on October 15, 2008. The minutes of this meeting will need to be approved by the Committee’s members.

B. Professional Development and Associated Compensation.

The Professional Development and Associated Compensation Committee have not met.

VIII. Other

IX. Public Comment

None

X. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Gordon and seconded by Mr. Kohan to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

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.