



Certification and Higher Education Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the December 18, 2019 Meeting

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following were present: Committee Chair, Jane Sexton; Jana Lapoint; Wendy Ault; and Wilson Hess (Board Members). Deputy Commissioner Chuhta; Jaci Holmes, Federal and State Legislative Liaison; Angel Loreda, Director of Higher Education and Educator Support Services; Stephanie Fyfe, Certification Coordinator; Jason Libby, Higher Education Specialist; and Kelsey Bragdon, Certification Office (Department of Education) and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Specialist.

Chair, Jane Sexton called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Public Comment:

No public comment

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION by Jana Lapoint, seconded by Wendy Ault, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the November 5, 2019 minutes as amended.

Certification Office Update: *(Stephanie Fyfe)*

MEIS Info – Online System:

- 0-15 minutes phone wait time
- Three weeks advertising
- Approximately 600 Walk in Educators since July 1, 2019
- Handout with current certifications

Stephanie updated the Committee on the following projects:

- New – EPP graduate support
- Training – support staff and Kelsey Bragdon (new Ed Spec III)
- Teacher shortage update
- Exceptionalities approval update
- Tech to teach update
- Chapter 115 process
- RFP – Hearing Officer for legal cases
- New – increased presence at Superintendent regional meetings
- New – LCC support tour
- Update on scanning project
- Reminder – Chapter 13
- Renewal emails
- November 2019 processing update

Chapter 115 – Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel:

- Filed on November 14, 2019 immediately after the State Board meeting
- Posted in Commissioner Update and State Newspapers on November 27, 2019
- Public Hearing took place on December 16, 2019 from 9:30 to 11:00 AM in Room 500 of the Cross State Office Building
- Comment Period ends on December 27, 2019 at 5:00 PM
- Jaci Holmes will send the Committee a summary of comments received. There are no comments to date.
- Wilson Hess to sign off on the APA paperwork to be filed by January 10, 2020.
- If the Professional Standards Board is in place, they will assist with the consensus-based rule making process for Chapter 115. There is one more person for the Governor to nominate.

Higher Education Update: *(Jason Libby)*

The following reports will be received by the Committee once Jason receives them:

- *Thomas College Team Report (Peter Geiger was the board observer)*
- *University of Maine at Augusta (Fern Desjardins was the board observer)*
- *Colby College (Wendy Ault was the board observer)*

Upcoming Reviews:

- *Reviews coming up in 2020 but have not all been scheduled to date.*
 - University of Maine at Machias will be held in April. Martha Harris will be the Board Observer.
 - College of the Atlantic Review is scheduled for May 3 to 5, 2020. Wendy will be the Board Observer.
 - Bates College will be in September.
 - University of New England (UNE) will be in October.

Annual Report – Due date is April 7:

- The Committee reviewed the template and made a couple minor changes.
- Jason will draft a cover letter and send to Committee members for comments.

Meeting Handouts:

- 1) Agenda
- 2) Draft Minutes of the November 5, 2019 meeting
- 3) Certification News from Stephanie Fyfe
- 4) Educator Preparation Program Review Annual Program Update - Template

Homework:

- 1) Each Committee member take a couple of standards and become an expert on each one.

The next Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at 9:30 AM. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the Burton Cross State Office Building.

Adjournment:

The Certification Committee meeting adjourned at 11:37 AM.