



Certification and Higher Education Committee

Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the May 1, 2019 Meeting

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, May 1, 2019, at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following were present: Committee Chair, Jane Sexton; Jana Lapoint; and Wendy Ault (Board Members). Jason Libby, Higher Education Specialist; Emily Gribben, Educator Effectiveness; Angel Loredo, Director of Higher Education and Educator Support Services (Department of Education) and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Associate.

Guest: Cynthia Alexander, Assistant Superintendent, RSU #5

Committee Chair, Jane Sexton called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM.

MOVED by Jana Lapoint, seconded by Wendy Ault, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the March 29, 2019 minutes as written.

Certification Office Update: *(Angel Loredo for Stephanie Fyfe)*

MEIS Info – Online System:

- The system is working at full capacity
- Three-week processing time
- 28% of renewals are complete
- Rolling out the Higher Education Portal
- Initial Educator Portal – end of May

Superintendent Bootcamp

- An opportunity to bring superintendents together at UMaine Campus to talk about certification and updates of other things happening in the Certification Office
- Intended audience: new superintendents, coming out of retirement, assistant superintendents, anyone else wanting more information related to certification and related data
- Scheduled for June 13th at UMaine

Renewal SWAT Team

- No date set
- 3 after hours sessions (Bangor, Augusta, and Portland areas)
- Intention is to provide a time and space where educators needing to renew can get assistance

Rule Chapter Updates:

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

(Jaci Holmes)

- Received many questions from Senator Millett and Representative Fecteau during the recent work session. A couple hours were spent on answering questions.
- On Friday, May 3rd at 9:00 AM Jaci will be responding to additional questions that the Education Committee has. There were questions on:
 - Questions regarding Career and Technical Education (CTE)
 - Questions on upcoming boot camp for superintendents.
 - Questions about literacy at the secondary level
 - Concerns about language on work force development. The language of concern is in statute.

Chapter 114 Annual Review Template

- Annual Reviews – Required under Chapter 114 and due on April 7 (annually)
 - A couple colleges have asked if they need to complete the annual report if they have just received a team review
- To date – received from most of the institutions and only a handful are not in (five).
 - Information received in some is very helpful
 - Should be reviewed annually by the Committee
 - Being the first year of receipt, the Committee should discuss the process and how well the questions were asked and answered
 - The Committee reviewed the reports received to date

Chapter 13, Qualifying Examinations for Teachers, Educational Specialists and Administrators: (Emily Gribben)

- Emily agreed to research what other New England States are doing regarding Praxis testing. Emily highlighted four states for today's meeting:
 - Connecticut
 - Vermont
 - New Hampshire
 - Rhode Island
- Each state has their own way of handling Praxis I and II. Emily gave the Committee an overview report:
 - Vermont requires both Praxis I and II – however if from out-of-state, some scores could be waived
 - New Hampshire does similar - may waive if comparable
 - Several States use National Board Certification in lieu of Praxis I and Praxis II
 - Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts are in an interstate agreement
- Malik McKinley has shared documents with Emily that were sent to the Board in March. Emily is working closely with Malik.
- Malik is willing to meet with the Committee again as needed.
- Amy Johnson and Kathy from MEPRI are available if the Committee would like a presentation – Jane Sexton recommended that the Committee wait for a presentation later.
- Commissioner Makin is interested in looking into Praxis I and Praxis II testing.

Present Timeline:

- Spring
 - Committee discussed at the March 29, 2019 Committee meeting
 - Propose regulation to Committee, then to full Board
 - File with Secretary of State of Maine
 - Set Date for Hearing and Comment Period
 - Notes:
 - Policy or core expectations of bench marks
 - What the test looks like
 - What exactly the students are required to know
 - Reading, writing and math for Praxis I
 - Praxis II content area

Higher Education Update: *(Jason Libby)*

No date or time has been set for the next TEAMe Review.

Team Reviews:

- Northern Vermont University
 - Held November 18, 2018
 - Report pending - Received the final standards from a team member and will submit the report to Jason soon
- Husson University
 - Report Pending – should be receiving soon
- Eastern Maine Community College
 - Associates Degree
 - Team Review was held on April 8 and 9
 - Board Observer was Fern Desjardins
- Beal College
 - No date scheduled for review
 - Board Observer will be Martha Harris and John Bird
- Tufts University
 - Initial Degree-Granting authority was received by the State Board in 2009. When Angel took over for Harry Osgood in 2015, the Tufts folder, with a note attached “for your files” no action required. Should have been acted on by the State Board in 2014. Jason has received a call from Tufts to move forward with the one-day visitation.
- Saint Joseph’s Interim Report
 - Committee received the report in December of 2018.
 - Reviewed standard one and was pleased with the work completed.
 - Reviewed progress made towards meeting the goals of standard two.
 - Jason Libby will draft a letter to the Education Department at St. Joseph’s College and share the draft with Jane Sexton and Wilson Hess prior to sending.
 - The Committee wants to review the initial data captured through the assessment strategies that the unit is now employing.
 - The Committee is requesting that the unit provide an update at its October 2019 meeting to be held at 9:30 AM in room 538 of the Cross Office Building.

Strategic Planning:

- I. Strategic Plan Goal 2.1 – Discuss the “observation” role of State Board Members
 - a) Preparation for board observers:
 - a. Angel Loredo presented (PowerPoint) to the full Board “The Role of the State Board Observer at Educator Preparation Program Reviews” on July 6, 2016.
 - i. SBE new members since presentation
 - o Wendy Ault – 10/30/17
 - o Fern Desjardins – 4/30/18
 - b. Certification and Higher Education Committee Members assure that a trained observer attend each review
 - c. Observer be a member of the committee and if not a member, observer be present when the committee reviews the report – three or four reviews per year
 - d. Training to include review of handbook and standards in Chapter 114, and review of self-study
 - e. Workshop session at the August 2018 Board Retreat
- II. Strategic Plan Goal 2.2 – Progress report for on-line teacher certification/re-certification process
 - a) The Department held a soft rolling out of the new online certification system in November of 2017.
- III. Strategic Plan Goal 2.3 – Review of Chapter 13
 - a) Sarah Forster indicated that the State Board maintain Chapter 13 regulation for the cut scores for the PRAXIS exams.
- IV. Strategic Plan Goal 2.3 – PRAXIS – when do we want to have information on and who will gather information for Board presentation?
 - a) Need further discussion on PRAXIS
 - b) Malik McKinley, ETS, and Robert Hasson presented to the SBE on PRAXIS at the October 12, 2016 meeting held at Maine Academy of Natural Sciences (MeANS) in Hinckley.
 - i. SBE new members since presentation
 - o Wendy Ault – 10/30/17 and
Fern Desjardins – 4/30/18

Meeting Handouts:

- 1) Draft Minutes – March 29, 2019 Meeting
- 2) Handbook for Review Team Members – Maine Educator Preparation Programs
- 3) Handbook for State Program Approval – Maine Educator Preparation Programs
- 4) Maine Educator Preparation Program Standards
- 5) Checklist for Review Arrangements
- 6) Suggested Schedule Template – Review Team Schedule
- 7) Samples of Evidence for Exhibit Rooms
- 8) Praxis I and II State Required Options to Meet

Committee to Do List – Future Meeting:

- 1) For May 15th Special Work Session Committee meeting – Review the Following Handout:
 - a. Handbook for Review Team Members – Maine Educator Preparation Program
 - b. Review Wendy Ault’s Draft Changes to Handbook for Review Team Members – Maine Educator Preparation Programs

The next Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 29, 2019 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 12:15 PM.