



Certification and Higher Education Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the November 28, 2018 Meeting

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, November 28, 2018, at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following were present: Committee Chair, Jane Sexton; Jana Lapoint; Wendy Ault; and Wilson Hess (Board Members). Jason Libby, Higher Education Specialist; Angel Loredo, Director of Higher Education and Education Support Services; Stephanie Fyfe, Certification Coordinator; Mary Paine, Chief of Planning and Implementation; (Department of Education) and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Associate.

Guest: Daniel Chuhta, Interim Superintendent of Schools, MSAD 75

Committee Chair, Jane Sexton called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM.

MOVED by Jana Lapoint, seconded by Wendy Ault, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the October 31, 2018 as written.

Certification Office Update: *(Stephanie Fyfe)*

MEIS Info – Online System (changes since October 31):

- MEIS Currently Contains in “test”
 - Upload button for educators outside of application process
 - Initial applications
- MEIS new features in production (completed)
 - All Chapter 115 changes from last legislative session have been implemented
 - Enhanced reporting features to support ESSA report cards
 - Ed Tech renewals for 2/1/19 are up and running
- Streamlining Fingerprinting with DPS
 - Setting up new DOE server behind firewalls
 - Currently 1,000 applicants on fingerprint hold
- Malik presenting at January 30th Committee meeting since December is canceled
- Staffing
 - Need additional Edu Spec II
 - Conducted interviews for new support person
- Applications
 - 1,040 applications entered
 - 1,667 applications processed
 - Gain of 627
- Current Queue
 - 464 application queue
 - 340 reopened applications

- Current Paper apps in office
 - Roughly 3,000 (2,000 or so are fingerprint apps)
- Production
 - 1,097 letters sent
 - 1,986 scanned documents
 - 907 fees collected
 - 246 Praxis scores entered
 - 213 degrees entered
 - 10,529 Educator Views
 - 1,135 communications logged
- Ongoing
 - Phones continue to decline 80-100 a day
 - Cert box emails declining to 50-100 a day
 - 1,691 sitting there now

Rule Chapter Updates:

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

(Mary Paine)

- Summary of Proposed Changes to Certification Rules, Chapters 115, Part I and Part II
- The Revisions:
 - Align rule with recent statutory changes;
 - Integrate Part I and Part II for better articulation, clarity, and usability;
 - Remove redundant and unnecessary language;
 - Clarify conditional pathways for some endorsements to account for pathways previously falling under types of certificates (e.g.; transitional, targeted) that have been rolled into the conditional certificate;
 - Refine grade spans to allow flexibility in hiring and facilitated mobility of credentialed teachers;
 - Remove endorsements that are no longer deemed functional or applicable (Certificate 094: Career and Technical Education Evaluator; Middle Level Teacher) and;
 - Define a work experience pathway to qualifying to teach based on a combination of a four-year degree, work experience, and education coursework.
- Revisions of Particular Interest or Urgency:
 - Grade span configuration (proposal is to revert to grade spans prior to the 2019 rule version, except for the expansion of K-3 to PK-3 and the elimination of the middle level endorsement, to facilitate hiring and mobility),
 - Work experience pathway (statute requires a pathway be established in rule)
 - Additional six credit hours in literacy required for elementary and secondary alternative pathways (These requirements, based on recommendations of the statewide literacy council exist in the rule scheduled to go into effect in 2019)
 - Career and Technical Teacher: Requirements for this endorsement have been made more assessable and comparable to non-CTE endorsements.

Note: Grade Levels - Birth to 5 (0-5) - PreK-3 – K-8 and 6-12 (PreK to 3 did not exist previous to 2019 rule

Chapter 13, Qualifying Examinations for Teachers, Educational Specialists and Administrators: *(Stephanie Fyfe)*

- Committed to schedule to begin in February – leaves time for graduates in early June
 - Presentation from Malik McKinley (ETS) to the Committee the end of January
 - 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
 - Stephanie Fyfe will schedule a presentation from Malik McKinley from ETS for the end of January and the Committee will discuss at the end of February
 - April – Propose regulation to State Board
 - File with Secretary of State of Maine
 - May – Hearing and Comment Period
 - June – Final adoption after Board approves

Higher Education Update: *(Jason Libby)*

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

Reviews

- Maine College of the Arts
 - October 14 to 16 – Master in Arts Program - Board Observer was Wilson Hess
 - Comment by Wilson as he attended the review. Angel Loreda and Jason Libby coordinated the team. Focused reviews are neat to be a part of. The review was well conducted and well organized. The full Board will receive the report on December 12, 2018.
- Husson University
 - December 2 to 5 – Board Observer will be Martha Harris and Fern Desjardins
- Eastern Maine Community College
 - Self-Study 9-25
 - No date scheduled for review
 - Board Observer will be Jana Lapoint and Fern Desjardins
- Beal College
 - No date scheduled for review – Board Observer will be Martha Harris and John Bird
- Northern Vermont University
 - November 19, 2018 – Brunswick – Board Observer was Wendy Ault

Chapter 114 Annual Review Template

- At the September 12, 2018 State Board of Education Meeting, the Board approved the Certification and Higher Education Committee's interpretation that the annual review form would survey the period between September 1-August 31 for the purposes of data collection as required by Chapter 114.
- Survey was sent out in October.
- To date – no comments have been received.

Strategic Planning:

- I. Strategic Plan Goal 2.1 – Discuss the “observation” role of State Board Members
 - a) Preparation for board observers:
 - a. Angel Loreda 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 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. The CTE Office is currently processing applications, then once the system is working well, then it will open-up to the two pilot schools – Bangor and Gorham. It took a little longer due to security issues that needed to be resolved.
- 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

Review and Discussion of Reports by Committee:

Maine College of the Arts (MECA)

The Committee received the report of findings through email on November 15, 2018.

Wilson Hess was the Board Observer and commented on the review:

- Specialized Institution
- Master of Arts in Teaching

- Preparing for a background in Arts
- Team very well led
- Co-hort based focus program
- Team met with Alumni
- Graduates 10 to 15 students per year
- Report speaks for itself
- Impressed by strong sense of Community

Jana Lapoint was the Board Observer for a previous MECA Review and spoke highly.

Angel Loredó commented on how prepared the team was and how the one on one mentoring is very effective.

Jane Sexton asked Committee members if they were comfortable with moving the report forward to the full Board.

MOTION by Wendy Ault, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to move the Maine College of the Arts report of findings to the full Board for receipt at the December 12, 2018 meeting.

Meeting Handouts:

- 1) Draft Minutes – October 31, 2018 Meeting
- 2) Certification Data from Stephanie Fyfe
- 3) Summary of Proposed Changes to Certification Rules, Chapters 115, Part I and Part II. The Revisions
- 4) Maine College of the Arts Team Report of Findings
- 5) Review Dates for Maine Education Preparation Programs
- 6) Report Published by MEPRI in 2017 – An Examination of Features of Evidence-based Teacher Credentialing Systems

Committee to Do List:

- 1) Committee members send to Mary Becker questions for Malik McKinley, ETS. What information the Committee is seeking for review in advance.

The next Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 30, 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 12:40 AM.