



Certification and Higher Education Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the September 17, 2021 Special Meeting

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a virtual special meeting on Friday, September 17, 2021, virtually via Zoom. The following were present: Committee Chair, Wendy Ault; Wilson Hess; Victoria Kornfield; Fern Desjardins; and Peter Geiger (Board Members). Deputy Commissioner Chuhta; Angel Loreda, Director of Office of Higher Education and Educator Support Services; Stephanie Fyfe, Certification Coordinator; and Jaci Holmes, Federal State Legislative Liaison (Department of Education) and Mary Becker, State Board of Education Secretary Specialist.

Chair, Wendy Ault called the meeting to order at 12:34 PM.

Introductions: Chair Ault welcomed all members to the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

The focus of the September 17, 2021 special meeting was stated:

- Review of comments and responses from the public hearing and comment period on rule Chapter 115.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment

Review of Chapter 115 Comments and Responses:

- Deputy Commissioner Chuhta gave an overview of the comments and items that will need review – trends and topics:
 - Adaptive physical education
 - Grade spans
 - Technicalities – typos
 - Local credentialing committee – language piece
 - Renewal period for school psychologist
 - Comments of support for some proposals made
 - Personal story telling
 - Emergency certification for ed techs, emergency teacher certification, expanding among details
- Jaci Holmes talked about the purpose and function of the document:
 - It is a requirement
 - Part of the filing with the SOS Office
 - Intent is to formally respond to commenters
 - Organized by the section of the rule
 - Items directly related to LD 1189 – now in statute and it is indicated that the change has been made due to statute. Indicate in the response to commenter that it can not be changed or will not be changed

- Timeline – can go out to 30 days of public comment due to substantial changes – example would be a change to grade spans
- Get approval from Sarah Forster if items are a substantial change – typos would not be
- The Committee agreed to first review items that may be a substantial change. The review started with grade spans.

Meeting Handouts:

- 1) Agenda
- 2) Chapter 115 Comments and Responses

The next regular Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for, Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 10:30 AM. The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom.

Adjournment:

The September 17, 2021 Special Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting adjourned at 2:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Johnson Becker
Secretary Specialist, Maine State Board of Education