



## **Certification and Higher Education Committee**

### **Maine State Board of Education**

### **Minutes of the February 28, 2011 Meeting**

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a meeting on Monday, February 28, 2011, at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following were present: Chair Nancy Perkins (Board Member), Mark Cyr and Scott Harrison (DOE Staff), and Mary Becker, SBE Secretary Associate.

Jana Lapoint (Board Member) by Telephone

#### Call to Order:

Nancy Perkins called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM.

#### Approval of Minutes:

No minutes for approval.

#### Updates

##### ➤ Schools for Excellence (Scott Harrison):

- That he joined the department a few weeks ago and is very excited about the Schools for Excellence Program that is being managed by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards - Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) Grant. Scott is the Project Director and is working with five participating districts in Maine. He has met with all five districts and has pulled together a timeline. Scott recently attended a National conference. The goal is to create a performance learning system and aggressive professional development training.

##### ➤ Certification (Mark Cyr):

- That the department is continuing to work on certification renewals.
- That the department has submitted a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the new certification system "Computer Program" which is part of the State-wide Longitudinal Data System. The proposal due date is April 28, 2011, and the system will be up and running by May 2012. The system will be very user friendly and this will be a way for the certification office to process certificates.
- That he has been busy with legislative bills.

The Committee had a discussion on the status of the following bills:

- LD 129 – An Act to Eliminate Dual Certification Requirements for Speech-Language Pathologists
- LD 130 – Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Explore Options to Increase Participation in the University of Southern Maine's Extended Teacher Education Program
- LD 152 – An Act to Prohibit Employment Discrimination Based on a Prior Criminal Conviction
- LD 296 – An Act to Find Cost Savings and Efficiencies in the Fingerprinting System for Criminal History Background Checks
- LD 715 – Resolve, To Ensure That Maine Teachers and Paraprofessionals Who Work with Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders Are Highly Qualified (EMERGENCY)

➤ Committee Chair (Nancy Perkins):

- That the Chapter 114 Stakeholders Group will be meeting in March. This group will conduct a comprehensive review of 05-071, Chapter 114, Purpose, Standards and Procedures for the Review and Approval of Preparation Programs for Education Personnel. It will take about a year to complete the work.

The next Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 28, 2011 at 9:00 AM. The meeting will be held in room 541 of the Cross State Office Building.

Adjournment

The Certification Committee meeting adjourned at 10:33 AM.