



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on January 14, 2015 at the Cross State Office Building, Augusta, Maine. The following members were present: Chair Peter Geiger; Vice Chair Martha Harris; William Beardsley; Alan Burton; Nichi Farnham; Jana Lapoint; Heidi Sampson; Jane Sexton; Gwendolyn Viles and Alyssa Wardwell.

Excused: Ande Smith

Also present were: Scott Brown, Director of School Facilities; Arthur Keenan, Certification Legal Consultant; Angel' Martinez Loreda, Higher Education Specialists; and Mary Becker, Secretary Associate, State Board of Education.

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Peter Geiger called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Note: Alyssa Wardwell left the meeting at 1:08 PM

STUDENT TRANSFER APPEALS:

MOVED by Jane Sexton, seconded by Alan Burton, and unanimously voted by those present to deny the student transfer from RSU #39 to Connor Consolidated School.

MOVED by Heidi Sampson, seconded by William Beardsley, and voted by those present, four in favor with four members opposed to approve the student transfer from RSU #17 to RSU #52. The vote on the motion being four in favor and four against, therefore, the motion failed. As a result, the decision of the Acting Commissioner not to approve the transfer stands.

VISION STATEMENT:

Read by Chair, Peter Geiger: The Vision of the State Board is to prepare Maine public school graduates with the skills and knowledge needed to be college, career, citizenship and life ready.

Note: Jane Sexton left the meeting at 1:45 PM and returned at 2:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED by Alan Burton, seconded by William Beardsley, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the November 12, 2014 minutes as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Construction Committee (Martha Harris):

The Construction Committee met on December 1, 2014. Present were Chair Martha Harris and Peter Geiger from the State Board. Scott Brown; Ann Pinnette; and Stephanie Clark from the Department of Education, Gregory Potter, Superintendent RSU #19 and Robert Tillotson, Oak Point Associates.

The minutes from the November 3, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved.

Superintendent Potter presented for site approval consideration a site currently owned by the district. It is approximately 68 acres which is part of a 195 acre large campus setting. As such there is no cost for acquisition. There may be sewer extensions of a couple of miles necessary. The site is across the street from Nokomis High School and adjacent to Sebacook Middle School and the district bus garage. It is large and flexible enough to accommodate a high school, middle school or elementary school. Newport Elementary school is #3 on the priority list and Nokomis High school is #6. The straw poll held on November 9, 2014 resulted in 70 in favor, 8 opposed.

The committee unanimously recommended that the State Board approve the site as presented.

Chapter 60 and 61 were discussed. As noted, there were no public comments either at the public hearing or in writing. The committee unanimously recommended that the State Board provisionally adopt the proposed amendments to Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects and recommended that the State Board provisionally adopt the proposed elimination of Chapter 60, New School Siting Approval.

There being no further business, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn.

The Committee did not meet on January 2, 2015. The next Construction Committee meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2015. The meeting will be in room 541 of the Cross State Office building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Certification and Higher Education (Nichi Farnham):

The Certification and Higher Education Committee met on November 24 and December 22, 2014.

The focus of the meeting on November 24 was to review what the Committee did in 2014 and to discuss Committee work for 2015. The Committee set an agenda to receive an update each meeting on Certification and Higher Education rules.

Mark Cyr's position (Certification Coordinator) has not been filled.

Chapter 115 will be reviewed when the certification coordinator position is filled.

Chapter 118, the training materials are out of date and the Committee is looking at what to do in regards to the materials.

Chapter 13 will come before the full Board at today's meeting.

The next Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2015. The meeting will be in room 538 of the Cross State Office building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Career and Technical Education (Peter Geiger):

The Career and Technical Education Committee (CTE) held a meeting on Monday, December 8, 2015, at the Department of Education in Augusta.

The Committee discussed Perkins financials and received updates on child care programs, the progress with crosswalks, CTE mini grants for assessments and lab upgrades, cosmetology, evaluations, and Meg's CTE 101 presentation to the full Board on January 14.

Meg sent Kristin Bishop's survey out to be used state-wide.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 AM.

The next CTE Committee meeting is scheduled for January 2, 2015. The meeting will be in room 538 of the Cross State Office building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

CONSENT AGENDA:

RECEIPT OF THE THOMAS COLLEGE PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT OF FINDINGS

BACKGROUND: A state program approval visit to Thomas College was conducted October 5 – October 8, 2014 for the purpose of reviewing the following professional educator preparation programs:

- Elementary Education
- Early Childhood Education – (B-5 and K-3)
- Secondary Education – (English and Social Studies)

Following the on-site visit, the Review Team's Report of Findings was prepared which includes commendations, program recommendations, and a recommendation for State program approval status. Attached is a copy of the Thomas College Self-Study Report as well as a copy of the Thomas College Review Team's Report of Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education vote to receive the Thomas College Review Team's Report of Findings. Consideration of this report will appear as an action agenda item for the Board's February 11, 2015 meeting.

MOVED by Nichi Farnham, seconded by Alan Burton, and unanimously voted by those present to receive the Thomas College Review Team's Report of Findings.

RECEIPT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT MACHIAS PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT OF FINDINGS

BACKGROUND: A state program approval visit to the University of Maine at Machais was conducted November 30 – December 3, 2014 for the purpose of reviewing the following professional educator preparation programs:

Major - Elementary Education (K-8) – Concentration in English/Language Arts, Environmental Literacy (Life Sciences), and Community Engaged Learning (Social Studies).

Major - Secondary Education (7-12) - Concentration in Art, English, Life or Physical Science, Social Studies, or Mathematics

Minor - Secondary Education (7-12) – Major in Art, English, Life or Physical Science, or Social Science.

Alternative Route to Certification Programs:

- Elementary Education Teacher Certification (K-8)
- Secondary Education Teacher Certification (7-12) in Art, English, History, Life or Physical Science, Social Studies, or Mathematics.
- Special Education Teacher Certification (K-8 or 7-12)

Following the on-site visit, the Review Team's Report of Findings was prepared which includes commendations, program recommendations, and a recommendation for State program approval status. Attached is a copy of the University of Maine at Machias Self-Study Report as well as a copy of the Review Team's Report of Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education vote to receive the University of Maine at Machias Review Team's Report of Findings. Consideration of this report will appear as an action agenda item for the Board's February 11, 2015 meeting.

MOVED by Nichi Farnham, seconded by Alan Burton, and unanimously voted by those present to receive the University of Maine at Machias Review Team's Report of Findings.

RECEIPT OF THE STATE REVIEW TEAM REPORT OF FINDINGS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE (USM) SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT STATE PROGRAM APPROVAL VISIT

BACKGROUND: The University of Southern Maine (USM), School of Education and Human Development (SEHD), requested a campus visitation to review, for renewal of State program approval, both its initial and continuing educator preparation programs that lead to certification in Maine.

The Teacher Education Department is responsible for two initial certification delivery systems: the undergraduate-graduate Teachers for Elementary And Middle Schools (TEAMS) and the post-baccalaureate Extended Teacher Education Program (ETEP). Currently, these two degree programs are nationally accredited by the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC), which has, since the last USM on-site visit, merged with the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). The ETEP, Special Education, and the new Undergraduate Pathways (that replaces the TEAMS program) have been included in the TEAC Inquiry Brief and its associated appendices.

In addition to these SEHD degree offerings initial certification programs in Art Education and Music Education are accredited by discipline specific, national accrediting agencies. Pathways to initial certification that are new since the 2009 state approval visit are: the Lewiston-Auburn College (LAC) Pathways; the Early Childhood program at LAC; and the Montessori Early Childhood Teacher Education Program. It is the SEHD's intention that these new programs will be approved for integration into the unit's initial teacher certification offerings.

An on-site state program approval visit to USM was conducted from noon, Sunday October 26th to noon, Wednesday October 29th, 2014. Concurrent with the state team's visit a national, TEAC team conducted its review of the ETEP and TEAMS programs for renewal of national accreditation. The TEAC team was on the USM campus from Tuesday, October 28th to Thursday, October 30th. While the two team visits overlapped the Teacher Education Department's Inquiry Brief, along with its associated appendices submitted to TEAC, also served as documentation for state team considerations.

While the joint state and national teams collaborated with one another during their on-site visits, the state team conducted its review of the ETEP and TEAMS programs, as well as the other unit degree offerings (as identified below), to affirm their continued compliance with Chapter 114, Unit Standard One – *Pre-Service Candidate, In-Service Teacher, School Building Administrator, and District Level Administrator – Performance, Knowledge, and Dispositions*.

This assessment is the subject of the state team’s Report of Findings which is being submitted, this date, for receipt to the State Board of Education. It is intended that the Team Report will be held in abeyance by the Board until the TEAC national accreditation decision has been rendered and delivered. Both of these reports will then serve to inform the Board’s decision regarding state program approval for the ETEP and TEAMS programs.

The other initial and advanced educator preparation programs leading to certification in Maine, not being considered for national accreditation, were also assessed by the state team for their compliance with all applicable Chapter 114 standards. The programs reviewed for state approval were as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Art Education | Music Education |
| Counselor Education | Educational Leadership |
| School Psychology | Literacy |
| LAC Pathways | Early Childhood at LAC |
| Montessori Early Childhood | |
| Teacher Education | |

RECOMMENDATION:

That the State Board of Education grant renewal of state program approval for the following University of Southern Maine (USM) educator preparation programs: Art Education, Early Childhood, Extended Teacher Education Program (ETEPE), Educational Leadership, Literacy, Montessori Early Childhood Teacher Education, Music Education, Special Education, Undergraduate Pathways, Counselor Education, Literacy Education, and School Psychology.

[It is understood that this report is to be held in abeyance until TEAC has made its national accreditation decision and that, when this has occurred, the State Board will then take into consideration both the State Team Report of Findings as well as the TEAC notice of accreditation to inform the Board’s decision-making as regards the renewal of state program approval for the USM educator preparation programs.]

MOVED by Nichi Farnham, seconded by Alan Burton, and unanimously voted by those present to receive the report of state program approval for the following University of Southern Maine (USM) educator preparation programs: Art Education, Early Childhood, Extended Teacher Education Program (ETEPE), Educational Leadership, Literacy, Montessori Early Childhood Teacher Education, Music Education, Special Education, Undergraduate Pathways, Counselor Education, Literacy Education, and School Psychology.

RECEIPT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT OF FINDINGS

BACKGROUND: The University of Maine, and its institutional unit the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD), submitted an application for renewal of current approval to offer its educator preparation programs leading to certification in the State of Maine. The following degree programs leading to initial or advanced certification are offered by the Unit:

- Bachelor of Science in Education,
- Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) – [for liberal arts and sciences graduates of accredited 4- year colleges/universities],
- Bachelor of Science – (Music Education),
- Bachelor of Arts – (Arts Education),
- Master of Science in Teaching (MST) – [these degrees comprise the Unit's primary initial teacher preparation programs
 - Music Education and Art Education [are nationally accredited programs],

While the CEHD offers initial licensure programs in teacher education, it also offers the following graduate programs for advanced and other professionals:

- Literacy Education,
- Science Education,
- Special Education,
- Educational Leadership,
- Counselor Education,
- Computer Assisted Instruction, and
- Information Technology.

The University of Maine CEHD programs have been approved by the Maine State Board of Education and nationally accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) for many years. It was due to undergo a joint NCATE Legacy Program review as well as a state program approval review in the fall of 2014.

A joint on-site state and NCATE program approval visit to the University of Maine was conducted from noon Sunday, November 16th to noon Tuesday, November 18th, 2014. Concurrent with the state team's visit the NCATE team conducted its review of the CEHD programs for renewal of national accreditation. Although the two team visits overlapped the CEHD's Institutional Report, along with the many associated appendices submitted to NCATE, also served as documentation for state program approval considerations.

While the joint state and national teams collaborated with one another during this time, the state team conduct its review of the CEHD programs as regards their continued compliance with Chapter 114, Unit Standard One – *Pre-Service Candidate, In-Service Teacher, School Building Administrator, and District Level Administrator – Performance, Knowledge, and Dispositions*. State team members also assisted NCATE team members in the conduct of individual and group interviews; the visits to partnering schools where candidates are placed for field experiences, practical, and clinical practice; as well as with the assessment of the Unit's exhibits and student artifacts associated with Chapter 114 Standards Two (Assessment and Unit Evaluation); Standard Three (Field Experiences and Clinical Practice); Standard Four (Diversity); Standard Five (Faculty Qualifications); and Standard Six (Unit Governance and Resources).

The State team's assessment of the Unit's compliance, for each of its programs, with Chapter 114, Standard One, is the focus of the state team's Report of Findings which is being submitted for receipt by members of the State Board.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the State Board of Education grant renewal of state program approval for the following University of Maine educator preparation programs leading to initial teacher certification: Bachelor of Science in Education; Master of Arts in Teaching; Bachelor of Music; Bachelor of Arts; and Bachelor of Science in Teaching; as well as the following graduate programs for Advanced and Other School Professionals: Counselor Education; Educational Leadership; Instructional Technology; Literacy Education; Special Education; and Science Education.

[It is understood that this report is to be held in abeyance until NCATE has made its national accreditation decision and that, when this has occurred, the State Board will then take into consideration both the State Team Report of Findings as well as the NCATE notice of accreditation to inform the Board's decision as regards renewal of state program approval for the University of Maine's educator preparation programs.]

MOVED by Nichi Farnham, seconded by Alan Burton, and unanimously voted by those present to receive the state program approval for the following University of Maine educator preparation programs leading to initial teacher certification: Bachelor of Science in Education; Master of Arts in Teaching; Bachelor of Music; Bachelor of Arts; and Bachelor of Science in Teaching; as well as the following graduate programs for Advanced and Other School Professionals: Counselor Education; Educational Leadership; Instructional Technology; Literacy Education; Special Education; and Science Education.

NEW BUSINESS:

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM: SITE APPROVAL CONSIDERATION; RSU 19, FOR A NEW SCHOOL IN NEWPORT, ME

STATEMENT OF FACT: Superintendent Gregory Potter requests that the State Board of Education approve a site in Newport for a new school to address the district's long term school facility needs. RSU 19 has two schools on the Approved Projects List. The school system is working closely with the communities in the district and the Department to determine how to consolidate and best organize their facilities for the future.

The proposed site for a new facility is approximately 68 acres, is presently owned by RSU 19, and is part of a 195± acre large campus setting. The site is across the street from Nokomis High School and adjacent to Sebecook Middle School and the district bus garage. The site is large and flexible enough to accommodate a high school, middle school, or elementary school whichever is determined to be the best fit for the district. The completed Site Application is on file with the Department of Education and all the appropriate state agencies have been involved. It is recommended that the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to RSU19 for the site in Newport as described above.

Project Information:

Project: #3 Newport Elementary School and #6 Nokomis High School
Superintendent: Gregory Potter
Site Engineer: Oak Point Associates
Total Number of Acres: Approximately 68
Total Purchase Cost: \$0.00

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Acting Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to RSU 19 for the future construction of a new school.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: At its meeting on December 1, 2014 the Construction Committee voted to recommend that RSU 19's request for Site Approval move forward to the State Board of Education for consideration at its January 14, 2015 meeting.

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by William Beardsley, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Site Approval to RSU 19 for the future construction of a new school.

PROVISIONAL ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO STATE BOARD RULE CHAPTER 61 – RULES FOR MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

STATEMENT OF FACT: Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, governs the expenditure of Maine taxpayers' dollars in support of safe and effective schools that support the demands of 21st century education. Extensive needs for improved education facilities across the state make it imperative that the rules be kept clear, current, and supportive of the state's education goals. The Department of Education and the Construction Committee of the State Board of Education have worked jointly to propose modifications to Chapter 61. Key aspects of this revision include:

- To bring clarity to the language;
- To bring consistency to the language and;
- To revise Chapter 61 to comply with recent statutory changes.

A public hearing on the proposed rule was held on Monday, November 3, 2014. No one testified at the hearing. No comments were received during the period reserved for public comment. In addition to the Public Hearing, the Rule has been submitted to the appropriate State entities in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Acting Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education provisionally adopt the proposed amendments to Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, in accordance with the State of Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On December 1, 2014, the Construction Committee voted to recommend that the State Board of Education provisionally adopt the proposed amendments to Chapter 61 – Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Heidi Sampson, and unanimously voted by those present to provisionally adopt the proposed amendments to Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

REQUEST FOR PROVISIONAL ADOPTION OF PROPOSED ELIMINATION OF STATE BOARD RULE CHAPTER 60 - NEW SCHOOL SITING APPROVAL.

STATEMENT OF FACT: Much of the statutory language pertaining to Chapter 60 has been repealed and the remaining information is presently contained in Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, Section 7, Site Selection.

The reason for this proposal is to eliminate Chapter 60, New School Siting Approval in its entirety.

A public hearing on the proposed rule was held on Monday, November 3, 2014. No one testified at the hearing. No comments were received during the period reserved for public comment. In addition to the Public Hearing, the Rule has been submitted to the appropriate State entities in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Acting Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education provisionally adopt the proposed elimination of Chapter 60, New School Siting Approval, in accordance with the State of Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On December 1, 2014, the Construction Committee voted to recommend that the State Board of Education provisionally adopt the proposed elimination of Chapter 60 – New School Siting Approval as presented.

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Nichi Farnham, and unanimously voted by those present to provisionally adopt the proposed elimination of Chapter 60, New School Siting Approval.

CONSIDERATION OF THE REVIEW TEAM REPORT OF FINDINGS CONCERNING THE UNITY COLLEGE APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND: Unity College is a fully accredited higher education institution located in Unity, Maine. It is currently authorized to confer four academic degrees: the Bachelor of Arts; the Bachelor of Science; the Associate of Arts; and the Associate of Science. The College applied for additional degree-granting authority to offer a graduate degree, the Master of Professional Science, in the fall of 2015. On September 24, 2014, the State Board approved Review Team met with Unity College administration and academic representatives in the offices of the Maine Department of Education. During this meeting the Review Team conducted its evaluation of the College's application focusing upon whether the applicant's proposal meets the Board's degree-granting standards, as found in Title 21-A, Chapter 170.

Following this meeting the Review Team developed its Report of Findings. During the November 12, 2014 meeting Board members received a copy of the following documents: the Review Team's Report of Findings; the Unity College additional degree-granting application; the College's most recent audited financial statement; and the College's five-year financial plan for implementation of the proposed graduate degree program.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education accept the Unity College Review Team's Report of Findings and grant masters level degree-granting authority to the College.

MOVED by Nichi Farnham, seconded by Heidi Sampson, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the Unity College Review Team's Report of Findings and grant masters level degree-granting authority to the College.

CONSIDERATION OF THE COLBY COLLEGE PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT OF FINDINGS

BACKGROUND: A program approval visit to Colby College was conducted September 28 – October 1, 2014 for the purpose of reviewing the following teacher certification program:

Secondary Education, 7-12

- English/Language Arts
- Foreign Language
- Mathematics
- Life Science
- Physical Science
- Social Studies

Following the on-site visitation, a report was prepared with findings, commendations, and program recommendations as well as a recommendation for State program approval status. A copy of the Colby College Self Study Report and a copy of the Colby College Review Team's Report of Findings were received by the Board during the Board's November 12, 2014 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education vote to accept the Review Team's Report of Findings and to grant full five-year state program approval for the Colby College teacher certification program. The period of state program approval would be from Fall, 2014 to Fall, 2019.

MOVED by Nichi Farnham, seconded by Heidi Sampson, and unanimously voted by those present to grant full five-year state program approval for the Colby College teacher certification program. The period of state program approval would be from Fall, 2014 to Fall, 2019.

APPROVAL OF THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CERTIFICATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO CH. 13 AS SUGGESTED BY COMMENTERS, AND TO APPROVAL AN EXTENSION OF THE COMMENT PERIOD FOR AN ADDITIONAL 30 DAYS FOR PROPOSED REVISIONS TO SECTION 3.10. THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO SECTION 3.10 WILL RELIEVE AN APPLICANT FROM THE BURDEN OF HAVING TO TAKE THE PLT AND THE PRAXIS I TESTS WHEN APPLYING FOR A NEW CREDENTIAL WHEN THE APPLICANT HAS A LAPSED CREDENTIAL.

Attachments:

1. The proposed final rule without the changes to Section 3.10;
2. The proposed changes to Section 3.10 with all changes and comments.

BACKGROUND: The revision to Section 13.3.10, at 10, was not in mind when the proposed rule was made because the focus of the proposed rule was to implement the changes to the Praxis tests that the Educational Testing Service (ETS) makes every 5 years. During the running of the Notice period, the inequity in Section 13.3.10 that has existed for some time came to mind and was recognized as of sufficient importance to address during this rule-making process. A new comment period is required for this change because it is substantively different from the notice of proposed rule published on October 29, 2014.

Section 3.10 waives the PLT and Praxis I tests for "applicants who hold a current teaching certificate from another state who are seeking a teaching certificate in the same endorsement area." The practice has been to tell an applicant with a lapsed credential that if they renew their lapsed credential from out of state they can avoid taking the tests.

As can be seen, it is the fact of having held a full teaching credential, not whether the applicant has ever taken the PLT or the Praxis I that determines whether the applicant has the basic knowledge that is required to obtain a teaching credential. Accordingly, it is excessive to require PLT and Praxis I when the teaching credential is lapsed because passing the PLT and Praxis I test will not enable a teacher to renew the lapsed credential. The Praxis I test is to assess whether a person has sufficient high school level knowledge to be able to become a teacher, and PLT is a basic methods and pedagogy test to assess that knowledge of a beginning teacher. All teachers must pass a specific content methods course to have a full credential in a particular endorsement area.

By the same logic, an applicant who has held a full teaching credential in any endorsement area should not be required to take these basic tests since the tests do not show or advance the knowledge needed for any specific subject area teaching credential.

In-state applicants and out-of-state applicants have been treated equally regarding the need to take PLT and Praxis I. No rule made that explicit until this proposed revision.

Not all Educational Specialists credential areas are required to take the PLT, such as School Nurse, Athletic Director, School Psychologists and Vocational Education Evaluator. The PLT will be required for these specialists when applying a specialty area that requires the PLT.

PROPOSED TIMELINE:

File with the Secretary of State's Office – On or before January 20, 2015

Posting – January 28, 2015

Public Hearing – (N/A)

Deadline for Comments – February 27, 2015

Deadline for Response to Comments – March 6, 2015

Final Adoption – March 11, 2015

RECOMMENDATION: The State Board of Education's Certification and Higher Education Committee recommends that the State Board of Education accept the revisions that were based upon the comments received, and further recommends that an additional comment period of 30 days be allowed for the suggested revisions to Section 3.10.

MOVED by Nichi Farnham, seconded by Martha Harris, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the revisions that were based upon the comments received, and further recommends that an additional comment period of 30 days be allowed for the suggested revisions to Section 3.10.

**APPROVAL OF THE REVIEW TEAM FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT FORT KENT
STATE PROGRAM APPROVAL VISIT**

BACKGROUND: The University of Maine at Fort Kent (UMFK) has requested a campus visitation to review, for renewal of State program approval for their undergraduate certification program. The Educational Studies Program has five educator preparation programs that lead to certification. The five programs are as follows:

- Elementary Education,
- Secondary Education Social Studies,
- Secondary Education Life Science,
- Secondary Education English/Language Arts, Modern and Classical Language, and Computer Technology.

Initial review and approval of the degree program in

- Secondary Education Mathematics.

An on-site State program approval visit to UMFK is scheduled to be conducted from noon, Sunday, March 22 through March 25, 2015.

In accordance with Chapter 114, potential State visitation team members have been selected for the State Board's consideration.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education approve the list for potential State team members for the University of Maine at Fort Kent state program approval visit scheduled for March 22-25, 2015 and designate Dr. Jean Whitney, Associate Dean and Director of Educator Preparation from the University of Southern Maine to be the state team chair.

Proposed State Review Team Membership

The Maine Department of Education will conduct a review of the University of Maine at Fort Kent educator preparation program from March 22-24, 2015. The following, for State Board of Education consideration, is the proposed list of Maine educators to serve on the UMFK Program Review Team:

Chair	Jean C. Whitney, PhD Associate Dean and Director of Educator Preparation University of Southern Maine	Tomasz Herzog, PhD Associate Professor of Social Studies College of Education University of Maine at Presque Isle
	Daniel Qualls, PhD Coord., Education Program Assoc. Professor of Education University of Maine at Machias	Jennifer L. Cartier, PhD Dir, Teacher Education & Associate Professor of Science Education Unity College
	Shelly Tennett Instructor, School of Education Husson University	

Non-Voting Participants

Observer	William Beardsley, PhD Maine State Board of Education	State Consultant Ángel Martínez Loredó MDOE Higher Education Specialist
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MOVED by Nichi Farnham, seconded by Martha Harris, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the list for potential State team members for the University of Maine at Fort Kent state program approval visit scheduled for March 22-25, 2015.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Chair, Peter Geiger

- On November 15, he attended and spoke at the 2015 Maine Teacher of the Year (MTOY) Gala Celebration. All 16 Maine County Teacher of the Year (CTOY) for 2014 were honored along with Jennifer Dorman our 2015 MTOY. Martha Harris also attended. Peter spoke as a corporate sponsor and along with Acting Commissioner Tome, handed out gifts. This was a dramatic change in format. They went from 8 to 10 applicants to 335

who were narrowed to the 16 CTOYs and the new MTOY. It was very well done and we now have teacher leaders in all counties of the state.

- On November 17, he drove to Greenville High School to present to Mr. Cartwright's English classes regarding the Farmers' Almanac. It was fun to work through what they liked in the publication and he has had several exchanges since. Peter had been to Greenville High School in the late 90s and was reminded just how good education can be in rural districts.
- On November 20, he was invited to and attended the Maine Principals' Association (MPA) Fall Conference at the Holiday Inn by the Bay. Presentations covered subjects as diverse as Risk-Threat Assessment in Schools, Proficiency-Based Standards, School leadership, etc. Dr. Monica Martinez spoke on Friday morning about Deeper Learning. It was a good opportunity to look at education through the needs of the MPA membership.
- On November 21, he attended the New England Secondary School Consortium (NESSC) meeting coordinated by Great Schools Partnership. Educators from five New England states were in attendance including himself, Anita Bernhardt and Rachelle Tome from Maine. The state members shared insights regarding state accountability systems after participating in three webinars, discussed common data elements and common principles for use by individual NESSC members.
- He prepared an Interim Report for the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) relative to the Board's connector grants and sent it to Robert Hull after running it by the three authors to be sure it was accurate. The report is available to anyone on the board. The more critical date will be the June 15th completion report.
- Thanks to Mary for preparing a list of Education Acronyms. It is a start and if anyone has a favorite acronym please send it to Mary for inclusion.
- Peter thanked Ande Smith for pointing out to him a discrepancy in committee language. On assignments he indicated that there is a Leadership Committee. It is technically and properly the Legislative Committee. Its purpose is to vent through legislation and determine if we should take a position. Therefore it logically meets during the legislative session. So, please note this as the Legislative Committee, not Leadership and membership includes the three committee chairs.
- The Board will play a role in the selection of the next Commissioner of Education as outlined in state law. Currently, we plan to hold a session after the February meeting to interview Acting Commissioner Desjardin and put forth our thoughts on the nomination to Governor LePage. Mary is pulling together questions from previous interviews and Peter will have more on this at the Board's next meeting.
- In the next couple of months, the Board will work on reappointment of three people to the Maine Charter Commission as terms for Ande Smith, John Bird and Laurie Pendleton are up for reconsideration. The Board will receive nomination packets from each and consider at the February meeting in order for the Joint Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs to participate and for us to complete the re-nomination process in a timely manner.
- NASBE's January Magazine focused on Summer Learning. It reminded Peter of the Board's discussion at Montello School last year and how poverty impacts retention during summer breaks. It is a good read.
- Board members have been invited to the Kennebec Valley Superintendent's Association Legislative Breakfast on February 10th, 7:45 am – 8:45 am, in room 103 A & B of the Cross State Office Building. There will be a continental breakfast and conversation.
- The Education and Cultural Affairs Committee has invited the Board to present at a briefing along with the Charter School Commission on January 21st 10:30 am – Noon.
- Finally, he attended his first ever Mock Trial between Lewiston and Freeport High Schools. It was a powerful intellectual battle with Freeport winning by 3 points. On Tuesday, he heard from one of the Freeport students he met that evening inviting him to a January 31st evening event in Freeport. It is called "Our Perspective". The student, Taylor Schenker and 13 other AP Language and Composition students have finished

writing extensive research papers on topics of choice. This is a banquet to celebrate and speak about what they have learned. Taylor's topic is Education Reform. I will be there and pass along his observations.

Vice Chair, Martha Harris

- On November 14, November 25, and December 4, she participated in the EPS Commission meetings. Jana Lapoint took over for her at about 1:00 PM on December 4. Many thanks to Jana. The report is out and can be reviewed on the website. It is 250 pages long, so the Education Committee will be busy. Most of the recommendations are costly.
- On November 15, she attended the Teacher of the Year Celebration. This was a wonderful event celebrating all 16 County Teachers of the Year as well as the semi-finalists, finalists and the teacher of the year. Saddleback had a nice poster made with all teachers' photos and information to be displayed in the lodge. They gave all 16 winners a free pass to their mountain. Other gifts were presented as well. The event was held at the Cross Center in Bangor.
- On December 1, she attended the Construction Committee meeting and an Agenda Review meeting with Peter and Acting Commissioner Rachelle Tome.
- On December 5, she attended the Educate Maine Symposium. She was able to get free at the last minute to be able to attend. There were numerous workshops moderated by the county Teachers of the Year.
- On January 2, she and Peter were scheduled to meet with the Governor but he had to cancel. We did have a nice long meeting with Acting Commissioner, Desjardin and will be scheduling our interview with him probably at the February 11 meeting. We will need to work on some interview questions. Mary has pulled together the questions the Board used with Steve Bowen and with Jim Rier. They also reviewed the January 14 meeting agenda. She and Peter also talked with Dr. Phil McCarthy about setting up a meeting with the new chairs of the Education committee. Now even better the Board has been invited to spend 1 1/2 hours with the entire education committee for a briefing on January 21, 2015.
- On January 9, she and Peter had a 45 minute telephonic conference with Susan Collins' staff about education matters. Susan is now on the Education Committee. They are working on ESEA (NCLB) reauthorization with an effort to increase Title One funds and be less restrictive in their use. She and Peter are welcome to communicate with them.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Alyssa Wardwell:

- She received the Norway Savings Bank Scholarship for student of the month.
- Last week she was nominated to be in a sports captain group at her school. The group will be creating a mission statement and are thinking they will do community service with sports teams.
- She has been accepted to Maine Maritime and the University of Maine for Engineering.

Gwendolyn Viles:

- She has become involved with a program at her high school to help integrate technology at the Athens Community School.
- She has also helped create a group of students at Nokomis Regional High with a goal to change the way her high school gives credit for taking college classes.

Alan Burton:

- He attended the Career and Technical Education Committee meeting on December 8, 2014. Certification endorsements and potential changes on the CTE side were discussed. Child care programs were a topic of discussion. The committee received an

update on the crosswalk progress and CTE Mini grants for assessments and lab upgrades. Some small grants through CTE dollars helps with the assessments and some lab upgrades. The Committee talked about dual assessment processes and received an update on cosmetology.

- He co-constructed a leadership program on December 10 and 11 for the Witham Family Hotels. Cianbro has a program and has been doing this for 12 years.
- He chairs the Downeast Construction Education Foundation that is associated with the Associated Builders and Contractors. Their mission is to help advance Career and Technical Education in the State of Maine. He attended a meeting on January 13 and they are working on making sure they are doing all the administrative steps that they need to do to support the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) accreditation process.

Nichi Farnham:

- Her focus the past two months has been on the Certification and Higher Education Committee. She attended a Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting on December 22 and reported out earlier today.
- She reminded Board members to keep all the review team reports that they received today so they do not need to be printed and mailed again for the February 11 Board meeting.

Jana Lapoint:

- She attended a school board meeting in her local district of Falmouth.
- She made a courtesy call to her local new superintendent who spent seven years in a charter school in Massachusetts. He is very positive about charter schools.

Jane Sexton:

- She volunteers at Maine Adaptive and last week she worked with a young man who is deaf and her assignment this week is to learn more sign language.
- She attended the Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting on December 22.

William Beardsley:

- He attended the Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting on December 22.
- He spent time reading over new proposed federal regulation on how the SBE should oversee teacher preparation programs. Comments are due February 2, 2015. Bill shared his synopsis with Board members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Submit travel and expense account vouchers to Mary at the end of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by Nichi Farnham, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to adjourn the January 14, 2015 State Board of Education meeting at 2:48 PM.