



MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**200 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201**

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TEACHER EDUCATION BOARD

November 2, 2017

Minutes

The 418th meeting of the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) was held at the Maryland State Department of Education, 200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 on November 2, 2017. Dr. Alyssia James called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

The following members were in attendance: Mr. Charles Hagan, Dr. Kandace Hoppin, Mr. Darren Hornbeck, Dr. Alyssia James, Ms. Maleeta Kitchen, Ms. Kelli Midgley, Ms. Debra Poese, Ms. Karen Saar, Ms. Sarah Spross, and Ms. Geralda Thompson.

The following members were absent: Dr. Mae Alfree, Mr. Peter Baily, Ms. Jennifer Berkley, Mr. Christopher Lloyd, Dr. John Mayo, and Dr. Kristine McGee.

The following Maryland State Department of Education staff members were present: Ms. Kelly Meadows, Ms. Ruth Downs (Recorder), and Mr. Derek Simmons, Esq., Attorney General's Office.

PRELIMINARY ITEMS

Recognition of Guests

Ms. Geraldine Duval, MSEA
Ms. Tina Dove, MSEA
Ms. Sandra Skordalos, BCPS-TABCO/MSEA

Public Comment

My name is M. Therese Kelly. I am the Founder and Director of the New Heights Center, an educational intervention center that has been facilitating education into the future for 27 years. My business plan included the goal: Be out of Business in a few years. When my business consultant asked me why I had included such a phrase, I explained that I was counting on the educational system to learn how to teach so that students would not need services such as mine outside of the school day. I am hoping this bill may enable my original goal to be reached.

Prior to my founding New Heights Center, I was a Social Studies and Religion teacher in schools in

Maryland and Virginia. I was Director of Student Activities on the Administrative Team at a high school in Maryland.

In the spring of 1990, a former student asked if I would assist her in teaching her son to read. As a high school teacher, I had always wondered how to teach reading but, as a Certified Teacher in the state of Maryland, I had never been required to learn the SCIENCE of teaching

reading. Because I was concerned about this young boy and because I was interested in learning how to teach reading, I began a journey that has given me the opportunity to awaken an understanding of the complexities of the American English code for 100s of "friends" at our Center.

However, I had to find ways to educate myself in methods to teach reading before I was able to unlock the code for others. This required my finding training in the private sector - no college offered a certification program to teach reading in a multisensory, explicit, systematic method. My journey has taken me to workshops and training programs. To learn the effective methods of teaching reading, to children and adults, requires a method that includes: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Guided Oral Reading, Teaching Vocabulary, and Comprehension Strategies. The National Reading Panel made it clear that the best approach to reading instruction is one that incorporates all of the above.

After the Center opened in the summer of 1991, I was looking for employees to work along with me. I received many applications from Reading Specialists with degrees from local colleges. When I asked them what explicit, multisensory, systematic phonics program they had been taught to use I was shocked to learn that they knew "a lot about reading" but had received no training in a multisensory, explicit, systematic phonics program. The only way that I could hire them would be for me to train them in one of these programs to develop reading, writing, spelling, and comprehension skills that I had been trained to use.

In the Spring of 2008, I was asked to become an adjunct professor at a local college to teach in the Masters of Education program. I was asked to teach a multisensory, systematic, research-based program. Another Right to Read MD member taught across the hall from me - a different creative, multisensory, systematic research-based program. Our college graduate students were classroom teachers in Maryland schools who DID NOT KNOW how to teach reading but knew "a lot about reading."

Members of this committee, RIGHT TO READ MD Chairperson Barbara Donick who is THE FORCE behind this multifaceted effort and I, along with many, many others ask your significant influence and power to improve reading instruction in the state of Maryland by requiring a test of the knowledge of research-based instruction for certification of Pre-K through 5th grade teachers.

Thank you for your time.

State Board

Dr. Miya Simpson presented a summary of June 27th, July 18th, and August 22nd State Board Meetings. The report included the following items:

The following information items were presented to the State Board:

- Teacher Induction, Retention, and Advancement Report

- Update on the Office of Research and Strategic Data Use
- Maryland Center for School Safety Presentation
- Update on MSDE’s Recent Grants and Awards
 - o U. S. Department of Education Charter Schools Program Grant
 - o Federal Striving Readers’ Comprehensive Literacy (SRCL) Grant
 - o 2017-2018 BOOST Scholarship Program
 - o Javits Gifted and Talented Grant

The following actions were taken by the State Board:

- Confirmed candidates to participate in the 2017-2018 Fee Incentive Program established for public school teachers seeking certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).
- Approved establishing 750 as the passing score for the current 6th grade cohort (2023-2024 graduating cohort) and all subsequent cohorts, and 725 as the passing score for current seventh graders and above.
- Approved the updated *Emergency Planning Guidelines for Local School Systems and Schools*.
- Granted permission to adopt amendments to regulations under COMAR 13A.04.16 Programs in Fine Arts to incorporate the new National Core Arts Standards that focus on the artistic process of creating, presenting, responding and connecting.
- Granted permission to publish amendments to regulations under COMAR 13A.07.08 Incentive Program for Certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Amendments are necessary to update language to align with the current National Board for Professional Teaching Standards processes.

The following Opinions and Orders were rendered:

- *Kevin and Leah B. v. Howard County Board of Education* – early kindergarten entry – Opinion No. 17-38
- *Donna Young v. Prince George’s County Board of Education (Young II)* – employee termination – Opinion No. 17-39
- *Yvette Finlay-Gaines v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – teacher termination – Opinion No. 17-40
- *Heather A. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* – residency – Order No. OR17-15
- *Kiona B. v. Anne Arundel County Board of Education* – student transfer – Order No. OR17-16
- *Richard and Julia B. v. Howard County Board of Education* – walking route – Order No. OR17-17
- *Lee Thomassen v. Baltimore County Board of Education* – request for reconsideration – Order No. OR17-18
- *Jatin W. v. Montgomery County Board of Education* – magnet program admission – Amended Order No. OR17-14

Meeting materials, Opinions, and Orders can be found at:

www.msde.maryland.gov/stateboard/index.html

The next meeting of the Maryland State Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2017, at the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building, 200 West Baltimore Street, 7th Floor Board Room, Baltimore, Maryland 21201.

DISCUSSION

COMAR 13A.12.03.04 – Pupil Personnel Worker

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to provide the opportunity for discussion regarding a proposed change to the regulations governing pupil personnel worker certificate. The current regulations require three years of teaching experience or, at the recommendation of the local school superintendent, two years of related experience may be substituted for teaching experience. Past practice has been to approve waivers requesting all three years of experience be related experience to allow those specialists who would not have teaching experience, the ability to obtain then pupil personnel worker certification.

Historical Background:

Currently, COMAR 13A.12.03.04 Pupil Personnel Work3r requires that an applicant has three years of satisfactory teaching experience, or, at the recommendation of a local superintendent of schools, two years of related experience may be substituted for two years of teaching experience, and a master's degree in pupil personnel or a related field such as education, counseling, or social work. This requirement became effective on January 1, 1989.

Candidates seeking certification as a pupil personnel worker are often certified in specialist areas and as a result do not have teaching experience. This has led to an overwhelming number of waiver requests from local school systems asking that experience in one of the specialist areas (e.g., school counseling, social work) be accepted in lieu of all three years of teaching experience. Understanding the barrier presented by the current regulation, we have routinely approved each requests. By changing the regulation, to allow for the use of related experience at the discretion of the local school superintendent of schools, we would be able to align the regulations with current practice and eliminate the need for a waiver of the regulation.

Summary:

This revision to the regulations governing pupil personnel worker is being proposed to clarify regulatory language and align it with current Maryland State Department of Education policy.

Action:

This item is presented for discussion only.

SB493/TIRA Update

Ms. Sarah Spross provided the Professional Standards and Teacher Education with a brief summarization of SB493 and where it stands at the present. Ms. Spross stated that the final report of SB493 was submitted to Annapolis on November 1, 2017. The report included appendixes along with other attachments. Ms. Spross also included a copy of the 37 page PowerPoint presentation that was

developed and provided to the State Board as an overview of what happened with the report. There were no changes in the previous recommendations. She stated that the State Board is extremely focused on raising the bar for Teacher Preparation programs in the state of Maryland.

Ms. Spross shared updates from the December state board meeting and the updates provided to the SBOE regarding TIRA. She indicated that the SBOE selected 3 members to serve as small committee to work on the issues and recommendations from the TIRA workgroup. PSTEB determined that it would be helpful if we also put forward names of a few folks who could serve as our liaison to work with/support the TIRA workgroup recommendations. Dr. James, Mr. Hornbeck, and Dr. Hoppin were confirmed as our PSTEB representatives.”

BREAK

DISCUSSION

Reinstatement Review Process

Mr. Derek Simonsen gave a brief presentation on the process for a teacher to have their certificate reinstated after it has been suspension/revocation.

1. Ten (10) year waiting period before applying for reinstatement of their certificate.
2. Provide a written petition to the department requesting reinstatement of their certificate.
3. Address the reason why their certificate was revoked/suspended and what has happened in the intervening years.
4. Show what steps they have used to address the behavior that lead up to the suspension.
5. Most show reasons why they feel that they should be reinstated and allowed to teach again.

Mr. Simonsen stated that the panel consisted of three (3) individuals. The panel consists of a member from PSTEB, a member from the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent. The final decisions are made by the panel and must be unanimous. Ms. Karen Saar volunteered to be the representative for the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) panel member.

Reading Update

Ms., Michelle Dunkle provided the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board with a brief update on the progress of the Reading Workgroup.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of October Minutes

Dr. Alyssia James entertained a motion to approve October 5 minutes with some corrections.

MOTION: Ms. Debra Poesse/Mr. Charles Hagan minutes.

To approve the October 5

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Approval of Proposed Agenda Items for December

- New Members Orientation
- COMAR 13A.12.03.04 - Pupil Personnel Worker
- SB493 Update

Dr. Alyssia James entertained a motion to adopt the items that Ms. Spross mentioned for the November Agenda.

MOTION: Ms. Maleeta Kitchen/Dr. Kandace Hoppin Agenda.

To approve the December

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Meeting Adjourned

Dr. Alyssia James entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Karen Saar/Mr. Charles Hagan

To adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Meeting adjourned 11:15 a.m.