

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
200 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TEACHER EDUCATION BOARD
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

November 16, 2018
Notes

The telephone conference call of the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) was held at the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), 200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 on November 15, 2018. Mr. Christopher Lloyd called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

The following members were on the telephone: Dr. Mae Alfree, Ms. Jennifer Berkley, Mr. Charles Hagan, Dr. Kandace Hoppin, Mr. Christopher Lloyd, Dr. John Mayo, Dr. Kindel Nash, Ms. Debra Poese, Ms. Karen Saar, and Ms. Sarah Spross.

The following members were absent: Mr. Peter Baily, Ms. Linda Chinnia, Mr. Darren Hornbeck, Dr. Alyssia James, Ms. Maleeta Kitchen, Ms. Kelli Midgely, Dr. Kristine McGee, Ms. Sandra Skordalos, Ms. Geralda Thompson, and Dr. Jamey Tobery-Nystrom.

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.

DISCUSSION:

Kirwan Commission – Elements 2A, 2B and 2G

Element 2A

Teacher candidates must complete a 100-day teacher practicum prior to earning a bachelor's or master's degree in teaching.

- Make the teacher preparation program more rigorous and extend the teacher practicum.
- Rather than 1-year internship, keep current internship as is.
- Beef up Induction.
- Need to consider the impact on teachers.
- Embed 180-day practicum into the regular 4-year program/coursework.

Dr. Kandace Hoppin suggested to take out the term residency, because it not showing up anymore.

Ms. Sarah Spross spoke in regards to the cost estimates and the repurposing of existing funds by both higher education institutions and school systems. The recommendation was made, that the students will not be charged a fee for the 180-day practicum. Part of the cost analysis talked about being flexible. A state seed grant of \$2.5 million will be made available to teacher preparation over a period-of-time to develop and implement rigorous teacher preparation programs and practicums. This is trying to eliminate the barriers for students who are trying to enter into the teaching field.

Mr. Charles Hagan stated that at the State Principal meeting that was held last week, many of the principals have always been under the mindset that the practicum should be one-year (180 days). The principals would prefer that the 180-days be presentable of a school year.

Ms. Spross stated that the TIARA workgroup did make the recommendation to increase the practicum.

Mr. Lloyd proposed the question to the PSTEB, that the Board would support the idea of 180-day embedded practicum with the flexibility of the locals and IHEs from a 4 year to 4½-year program. No charge to the students. Share the fee between the locals and IHEs existing programs.

Nine members are in support of the proposed question.

One member abstained.

Element 2B

Raise standards for licensing new teachers in MD to levels comparable to the standards for teachers in the top performing nations.

1. Teachers will be required to pass a test of teaching ability to earn an initial Maryland license (e.g., PPAT, edTPA) no later than 5 years after implementation of legislation. This requirement applies to all new teachers, including alternative preparation programs, except those who are teaching CTE courses. Teachers coming from out of state must pass the assessment within 18 months of being hired by a Maryland district or hold an active National Board Certification. After sufficient data has been collected that demonstrates that one assessment is more valuable than another is, the State should adjust the licensure requirement.

Item #6

The State Board of Education and the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board, under their existing authority, shall adopt regulations to implement these new requirements.

1. The State will require a Basic Literacy Skills Test as soon as the test is developed (first-time pass rate in Massachusetts is currently 84 percent) and allow teacher candidates to retake the test as many times as needed to pass.
2. The State will roll out more challenging special subject tests tailored to the subjects teachers will teach after implementation of the literacy test. The State or the contracted vendor will develop standards for those exams first and release these standards to teacher preparation institutions four years in advance of when the exam will take effect, so that preparation programs can adapt accordingly.
3. Once subject tests are required, test takers can retake the test as many times as needed to pass, if desired. (First time pass rate in Massachusetts is currently 64 percent).

Mr. Lloyd asked the question, does PSTEB feel that the use of these test is something that the Board could support or oppose it? The State Board could support the recommendations of edTPA/PPAT at the decision of the IHE. The State would work out the cost structure so that it would be worthwhile to the students.

Ms. Spross stated that the State uses the Praxis and ACTFL. Massachusetts designed their own test. Thirty-five states use the Praxis and about seventeen use their own test. She stated that we should look at the test and determine if Maryland's test is as rigorous as Massachusetts. The state requires a basic skill assessment test (reading, writing and math). The edTPA and PPAT is a performance-based assessment. The question was asked, do we need the pedagogy and an edTPA/PPAT test?

Dr. Hoppin stated that in addition to the Praxis test, MCATE is supporting taking the edTPA/PPAT test. It is an additional cost for the student.

Mr. Lloyd asked if the Board support the use of PPAT/edTPA as an exit requirement for initial license from Higher Ed or the initial process for out-of-state applicants.

Dr. John Mayo stated that he had some concerns around the constraint applied to out-of-state applicants. The additional test would limit the applicants to draw from.

Ms. Spross stated that most states require edTPA/PPAT as an exit requirement.

Mr. Lloyd asked if the Board would support the use of edTPA/PPAT as an exit requirement from the program for in-state candidates. Out-of-state candidates would do test without 18 month time period. Would make decision based upon that

knowledge. The board would support an analysis of state exams. Maryland is a unique state and the Board should exam different test to see which one is appropriate.

Mr. Lloyd stated that the Board had moved two items (2A and 2B), which he can put into a letter and/or testimony to share with the Kirwan Commission. Individual members can respond to Mr. Lloyd prior to him presenting the information to the Kirwan Commission.

Element 2G will be discussed at the December meeting. Mr. Lloyd asked Mr. Derek Simmons if it was okay for members to email him with their comments. Mr. Simmons stated that the members could send any corrections that they feel need to be made. This should not be seen as a discussion.

Mr. Lloyd asked the Board members to not reply to all, but reply directly to him. He will make the corrections to Elements 2A and 2B. He will write a letter or public comment to Kirwan. Element 2G will be approached at the December 6 PSTEB meeting. Mr. Lloyd asked if everyone was okay with discussing 2G later. He would write a letter in December and submit it to Kirwan on behalf of PSTEB.

Ms. Spross stated that we need to have an open forum at the meeting. Exam and revise the agenda to discuss 2G and block out significant time for Kirwan. She also suggested planning to meet from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and move the new member orientation until a later date.

Mr. Lloyd asked the question if everyone on the telephone was okay with leaving 2G until the meeting. All of the members agreed.

Mr. Lloyd adjourned the telephone conference call at 8:30 a.m.