

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

200 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TEACHER EDUCATION BOARD

Meeting Minutes

December 1st, 2022

The 475th meeting of the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) was held on December 1st, 2022. Ms. Maleeta Kitchen called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m.

The following members were in attendance: Dr. Jacob Bauer-Zebley, Ms. Janill A. Bobbitt, Dr. Dionne Curbeam (virtual), Dr. Debi Gartland, Ms. Maleeta Kitchen, Dr. Kristine McGee, Ms. Kelly Meadows, Ms. Debra Poese, Ms. Sandra Skordalos, Ms. Monica Roebuck, Dr. James Scott Smith, Ms. Joy Lee Spain, Dr. Winona Taylor, and Ms. Karen Yoho.

The following members were absent: Dr. Patricia Saelens, Mr. Louis M. D'Ambrosio, Mr. Corey Gaber, Mr. Darren Hornbeck, and Ms. Amy Wilson.

The following Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) staff members were present:
Ms. Alexandra Cambra, Mr. Scott Derby

The following Attorney General Staff members were present: Mr. Sean Fitzgerald, Esq. - Assistant Attorney General.

PRELIMINARY ITEMS

Recognition of Guests

Ms. Queen Nwafor, MSEA
Ms. Lauren Lamb, MSEA

Announcements

Dr. Dionne Curbeam announced that she would be receiving an award from Coppin State University for 15 years of service.

Ms. Meadows announced that Louis D'Ambrosio's would not be returning to the PSTEB due to his new position not allowing the time.

Public Comment

None

State Board Update

None

Communication Update

Ms. Kitchen explained that she and Ms. Meadows met prior to the meeting regarding updates to the regulations in terms of communicating with the board and what the next steps will be.

Ms. Bobbit informed the board that Baltimore Teacher Union (BTU) is planning to have a meeting to discuss the elementary education requirements in the regulations.

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ACTION ITEMS

Approval of November 3rd, Minutes

The approval of November minutes is tabled until the January meeting.

Approval of Proposed Agenda Items January

- Approval of Minutes
- State Board Update
- Communication Update
- Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 13A.12 *Educator Licensure* Chapter by Chapter
- COMAR 13A.07.06 *Programs for Professionally Licensed Personnel* Chapter by Chapter

Ms. Kitchen entertained a motion to adopt the January agenda with additions.

MOTION: January agenda was approved by the board without objections.

Note- November and December minutes will be approved in January's meeting.

COMAR 13A.12 Educator Licensure

The Board reviewed a new recommended license: Conditional Special Education License. The Individuals with Disabilities Act prohibits the waiver of licensure requirements for special education teachers. There is an exception stating that an individual who is enrolled in an alternative preparation program that meets certain criteria may teach for no more than 3 years without a professional license. For this reason, MSDE is recommending a three-year conditional license for special education teachers. As written the five-year conditional license is not appropriate for special education teachers. There was concern shared that this may increase the already significant teacher shortage for special educators, which everyone acknowledged.

The board discussed the amendments made in the renewal section of the regulations. Additional requirements for administrators include professional development focused on strategies for increasing teacher retentions and developing and facilitating teacher leaders. Ms. Meadows informed the board that she removed the department-approved evaluator training requirement for administrators because MSDE no longer provides this training.

The board discussed allowing educators who hold licensure in a specialist area to be issued a Temporary Professional License if they fail to meet the requirements of renewal.

Ms. Kitchen entertained a motion to add a Temporary Professional License renewal for the specialist chapter.

MOTION: Dr. Jacob Bauer-Zebley/Ms. Monica Roebuck to approve adding a Temporary Professional License renewal for the specialist chapter.

The motion was approved without objection.

The board discussed allowing educators who hold licensure in an administrator area to be issued a Temporary Professional License if they fail to meet the requirements of renewal.

Ms. Kitchen entertained a motion to exclude the option to hold a Temporary Professional License for administrators

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who do not meet their renewal requirements.

MOTION: Dr. James Scott Smith/Dr. Winona Taylor to approve excluding the option to hold a Temporary Professional License for administrators who do not meet their renewal requirements.

The motion was approved without objection.

Ms. Meadows reviewed the changes made to the disciplinary action chapter that were discussed in October and November. Ms. Meadows reiterated the process involved with taking action on a license.

Mr. Fitzgerald discussed adding additional language to the cause for action involving sex crimes. The language would read "...any sexual crime as enumerated in Title 3, subtitle 3 of the criminal law article, annotate code of MD."

Ms. Kitchen entertained a motion to add this language from Subtitle 3 to the suspension regulations

MOTION: Dr. Jacob Bauer-Zebley/Dr. Kristine McGee to approve adding the language from Subtitle 3 to the suspension regulations.

The motion was approved without objection.

Further discussion occurred regarding some of the outdated language existing in Title 3. The Board discussed reverting to the previous language.

Ms. Kitchen entertained a motion to revert to the originally proposed language.

MOTION: Dr. Jacob Bauer-Zebley/Dr. Kristine McGee to approve to move to remove language added to revert to .02c(1)(c)

The motion was approved without objection.

Ms. Kitchen entertained a motion to grant permission to publish Title 13A Subtitle 12 *education licensure*.

MOTION: Dr. Debi Gartland/Dr. Winona Taylor to approve to publish of Title 13A Subtitle 12 Educator Licensure with the correction to language.

The motion was approved without objection.

COMAR 13A.12.07.06 Programs for Professionally Licensed Personnel

Ms. Meadows reviewed the changes made since the November meeting. Language was added to require educator preparation programs to develop a plan to recruit a diverse candidate pool, and report annually on that plan, which is in alignment with the statute governing the PSTEB that requires the board to develop regulations that attract and provide certification for groups historically underrepresented in the teaching profession.

Ms. Meadows discussed the removal of the credit requirements for content coursework in elementary programs having replaced it with language requiring that content be delivered in math, English language arts, science, and social studies, but without the explicit minimum number of credits. Additionally, the same requirement was extended to early childhood preparation.

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Ms. Meadows and the board discussed the renewal and oversight of educator preparation programs as written in the proposed regulations. Clarifying language was added to regarding what an interim review of a program may lead to if a program doesn't demonstrate compliance.

Ms. Kitchen entertained a motion to grant permission to publish COMAR 13A.07.06 while giving MSDE the flexibility to update the Incorporation by Reference regulation (.03) as needed.

MOTION: Dr. Winona Taylor/Dr. Debi Gartland to approve to publish with MSDE flexibility to update 13A Subtitle & as needed.

The motion was approved without objection.

Adjourned

Ms. Kitchen entertained a motion to end the PSTEB monthly meeting at 11:56 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 am without objections.