

**ADVISORY BOARD ON TEACHER EDUCATION AND
LICENSURE (ABTEL) MEETING**

Minutes
September 12, 2005

Meeting Date and Location: September 12, 2005
Crowne Plaza River District Hotel
Richmond, Virginia

ABTEL Members Present:

Jeffrey Arco	Rebecca Hill
Rene Massey Ashjian	Linda W. Kelly
Cynthia D. Baird	Mary Kolman
Lisa Bowman	Cheryl Lightfoot
Sharon L. Condrey	James B. Scott
Dr. Nancy Davenport	Robin Smith
Dr. Ronald E. Diss	Gloria Talbott
Dr. William H. Graves, III	Rena' White
Margaret Shibley Gray	

ABTEL Members Absent: Betty Hobbs
Sandra Smith-Jones

Board of Education Liaison: Dr. Ella P. Ward

Ex-Officio Members: Susan Wood
Dr. Gary Krapf

Department of Education Staff: Dr. Thomas A. Elliott
Dr. Patricia Burgess
Dr. Douglas Fiore
Patty S. Pitts

Guests: Susan G. Magliaro, Virginia Tech
Joseph L. Salmon, Roanoke City Schools
Betty Lambdin, Virginia Education Association
Dorothy J. Sluss, College of William and Mary
Beth Smith, Educational Testing Service
Bev Lammay, Henrico County Schools

FULL BOARD MEETING

Linda Kelly, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, called the meeting to order and welcomed guests.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Linda Kelley asked each of the members and guests attending the advisory board meeting to introduce themselves. The following guests were in attendance:

Susan G. Magliaro, Virginia Tech
Joseph L. Salmon, Roanoke City Schools
Betty Lambdin, Virginia Education Association
Dorothy J. Sluss, College of William and Mary
Beth Smith, Educational Testing Service
Bev Lammay, Henrico County Schools

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Gloria Talbott made a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Bill Graves seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

James Scott made a motion to approve the minutes. Margaret Shibley Gray seconded the motion that was passed unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Linda Kelly requested that Nancy Davenport, vice-chair, presided until a chair for the 2005-06 year was elected.

Election of Chair

Nancy Davenport requested nominations for chair of the advisory board. Bill Graves nominated Linda Kelly. Gloria Talbott made a motion to close the nominations that was seconded by Ron Diss and approved unanimously. The motion to elect Linda Kelly as chair was approved by a vote of 16 – 0.

Linda Kelly resumed as the presider of the meeting.

Election of Vice-Chair

Rena' White nominated Nancy Davenport for vice-chair. Gloria Talbott made a motion to close the nominations. The motion was seconded by Sharon Condrey and approved unanimously. Nancy Davenport was elected vice-chair by a vote of 16 – 0.

Election of a Member-at-Large to Serve on the Executive Committee

Linda Kelly reviewed the purpose of the member-at-large for new members. **Bill Graves nominated Ron Diss as member-at-large. Gloria Talbott made a motion to close the nominations, and James Scott seconded the motion that was approved unanimously. Ron Diss was elected member-at-large by a vote of 16 – 0.**

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Linda Kelly reappointed Bill Graves as chair of the Teacher Education Committee. Cheryl Lightfoot was appointed as chair of the Professional Licensure Committee.

APPROVAL OF MEETING DATES

The following meeting dates were presented for the remainder of the 2005-06 year. **James Scott made a motion to approve the meeting dates. Margaret Shibley Gray seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

November 21, 2005
January 23, 2006
March 20, 2006
April 24, 2006

STANDING COMMITTEES

The Teacher Education and the Professional Licensure Standing Committees met from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

Teacher Education Committee Report

Dr. Bill Graves, chair of the Teacher Education Committee, presented the following report and recommendations from the Teacher Education Committee:

1. Dr. Graves reviewed the summary of the committee’s review of the proposed cycle of the review and approval of education programs in Virginia and the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* 8VAC20-542-10 et seq. He made a motion on behalf of the Teacher Education Committee to forward the regulations to the Board of Education, as amended. Amendments recommended by the committee included revising the annual assessment data collection to a biennial data collection and reporting period. Additionally, the committee recommended public notification requirement for colleges and universities with “approval denied” status.

Dr. Diss made a motion to amend the regulations to include a definition for a “critical mass.” Dr. Diss stated that his concerns were that if ABTEL did not recommend a definition that this data point would not focus on assessment performance but on numbers of candidates to equate program quality. Discussion continued by the full committee citing that the data measure for critical mass was intended to be vague to allow for flexible targets created by the institutions of higher education and approved by the Board of Education.

A second motion to eliminate the reference to critical mass of candidates was made by Dr. Diss. James Scott seconded the motion. The motion for the two revisions to the regulations, as amended, failed by a vote of 6 in favor and 10 opposed.

The full committee voted on the initial motion made by Dr. Graves on behalf of the Teacher Education Committee to forward the regulations to the Board of Education, as amended was passed by a vote of 14 in favor and 2 opposed.

Professional Licensure Standing Committee

Cheryl Lightfoot, chair of the Professional Licensure Standing Committee, reported on behalf of the standing committee.

1. Report on the Proposed *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel*:
The Professional Licensure Committee members received a report on the status of the proposed licensure regulations. The regulations have not yet been released for public comment; however, the regulations continue to proceed through the procedures of the Administrative Process Act.
2. Discussion and Recommendation on Proposed Criteria for Implementing Experiential Learning Credit for Alternate Route Applicants Seeking Licensure: In response to House Bill 2790 of the 2005 General Assembly, the proposed criteria for experiential learning credit was developed and will be presented to the Board of Education at the September 21, 2005, meeting. The criteria were reviewed by the committee. **The Professional Licensure Committee recommended that the full board support the proposal presented with the revision that the specialized training be included in the five years of documented work experience as follows:**
 1. **Hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university;**

2. **Have at least five years of documented full-time work experience that could include specialized training related to the endorsement sought;**
3. **Have met the qualifying score on the appropriate content knowledge assessment prescribed by the Board of Education.**

The criteria do not apply to teachers of special education and elementary education (prek-3 and prek-6).

The advisory board voted unanimously to support the recommendation of the committee with the minor editing change in item 2 to clarify that specialized training could be part of the work experience.

3. Report on the Communication and Literacy Assessment. The Professional Licensure Committee received a status report on the Development of the Communication and Literacy Assessment. A report will be presented by Patty Pitts to the full board later in the meeting.
4. Discussion and Recommendation on a Praxis II Test Requirement for Special Education. The Professional Licensure Committee reported that additional review of this topic is needed prior to making a recommendation to the full Advisory Board.
5. Discussion and Recommendation Relative to the Review of an Assessment for American Sign Language. The proposed *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel* allow for an option to demonstrate proficiency in American Sign Language by completing requirement of an assessment prescribed by the Board of Education. The test, Sign Communication Proficiency Interview (SCPI), needs to be reviewed to determine the feasibility of using this test if the proposed regulations are approved. **The Professional Licensure Committee made a motion to request the Department of Education to begin the process to review the test to determine its appropriateness to meet this option. The full board unanimously approved the motion.**

PRESENTATIONS TO THE FULL BOARD

House Bill 2790

Dr. Elliott reported status of House Bill 2790 establishing Proposed Criteria for Implementing Experiential Learning Credit for Alternate Route Applicants Seeking Licensure. The Board of Education submitted technical amendments to the *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel* to incorporate this law into the regulations.

The Board of Education will receive criteria for review and approval at its September 21, 2005, meeting. The Professional Licensure Committee made a motion to support the criteria, and the full advisory board approved the motion unanimously.

Senate Bill 949

Senate Bill 949 amended the *Code of Virginia* to allow individuals who have obtained a valid out-of-state license that is in force at the time the application for a Virginia license is made to be exempted from the prescribed professional teacher's examination for persons seeking entry into teacher education programs (Praxis I). It is anticipated that this requirement will be incorporated into the licensure regulations on September 22. Information about the implementation of this new regulation will be disseminated by a Superintendent's Memorandum.

House Bill 2832

House Bill 2832 allows for the suspension or revocation of teaching licenses for any elementary or secondary school personnel found guilty of administering anabolic steroids to students.

Report on the Development of the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment

On June 22, 2005, the Special Committee of the Board of Education approved the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment to replace the Praxis I assessment as a licensure requirement. In August 2005, requests for proposals were reviewed and National Evaluation Systems, Inc. was selected to develop the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment to measure communication and literacy skills necessary to teach and communicate effectively with parents and others in the education community.

Content Review and Bias Committees will meet by the end of September to review items. The first testing administration is scheduled for January 6, 2006. It was noted that the assessment would be composed of two sub tests—one in communication and one in literacy.

Report of the Praxis I Tutorial and Testing

Dr. Pat Burgess reported program enrollment data of Virginia's Statewide Praxis I Tutorial Assistance Program supported by the Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant. A total of 812 participants were served during the July and August tutorial sessions. An additional tutorial session to be held over five Saturdays in the fall was announced.

LIAISON REPORTS

The Virginia Community College System

Susan Wood reported that the Virginia Community College System has initiated work with Teachers for Tomorrow programs to offer college credit. Additionally, work continues for paraprofessionals to earn associate degrees or to prepare for the ParaPro Assessment to meet the

requirements for highly qualified paraprofessionals. These options include an academic focus for teaching career exploration.

The National Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs hosted an online conference in conjunction with AACTE. Focused conversations included preparation of teachers in critical shortage areas and fast track career switcher programs in secondary math and science.

The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)

Dr. Gary Krapf reported that the state council has begun to study Textbook Purchasing Practices to be completed in 2006. A southside Virginia needs assessment and feasibility study is being conducted to evaluate student interest in a new Virginia university. Dr. Krapf summarized the eleven goals as reported in the Virginia Report Card of the Restructuring Act.

Department of Education

Patty Pitts reminded the full board of the Summit on the Interdisciplinary Curriculum Models for Elementary, Middle, and Special Education Teacher Preparation Programs to be held September 22-23, 2005.

She announced that the advisory board members would be receiving invitations to the Banquet and Awards Ceremony in honor of Virginia Regional Teachers of the Year and the announcement of the 2006 Virginia Teacher of the Year to be held on Friday, October 21, 2005, at the Virginia Crossings Resort.

ADJOURNMENT

The ABTEL meeting was adjourned.