

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

MINUTES

Meeting Date and Location: April 23, 2007
Richmond Marriott West Hotel
Glen Allen, Virginia

ABTEL Members Present:

Rene Massey Ashjian	Dr. Carole C. Grove	Susan Shoap
Cynthia D. Baird	Dr. Betty Hobbs	Gloria Talbott
Lisa Bowman	Linda Kelly	Rená White
Dr. Gwen E. Edwards	Mary Kolman	Ann Y. Williams
Dr. William H. Graves, III	Cheryl Lightfoot	
Margaret Shibley Gray	Dawn Rees-Blakeman	

ABTEL Members Absent: Jeffrey Arco
Dr. Nancy Davenport
Robin Smith

Board of Education Liaison: Dr. Ella P. Ward

Ex-Officio Member: Dr. Gary Krapf
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Dr. Susan Wood
Virginia Community College System

Patty S. Pitts
Virginia Department of Education

Department of Education Staff: Dr. Patricia C. Burgess
Dr. James W. Lanham

Guests: Daniel Bailey – College/University Consultant
Dr. Thomas A. Elliott, Retired, Department of Education
Paul Joseph, Joseph Educational Consulting Services
Betty Lambdin, Virginia Education Association
Beth Smith, Educational Testing Service
Dr. Jan S. Stennette, Lynchburg College
Grace Turner, Educational Testing Service

FULL BOARD CONVENES

- **Opening Remarks and Welcome**

Linda Kelly, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL), called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed members and guests.

- **Introduction of New Members and Guests**

Linda Kelly introduced guests to the Advisory Board.

- **Approval of Agenda**

Dr. Bill Graves made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Margaret Shibley Gray seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Bill Graves made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2007, Advisory Board meeting. Lisa Bowman seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Public Comment**

No individuals requested to speak during the public comment period.

- **Report on Board of Education's Approval of the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia and Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel***

Linda Kelly reported on her presentation to the March 29, 2007, meeting of the Board of Education concerning ABTEL's final recommendations on the proposed *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel* (8 VAC 20-22-10 et seq.) and the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-542-10 et seq.). The Board of Education approved ABTEL's recommendation to continue the three-year period to complete all testing and coursework under provisional and conditional licenses.

Patty Pitts reported that the Board made one additional revision to both the licensure and approved program regulations to ensure that strategies for instructing students with limited English proficiency are included in teacher preparation programs and professional studies coursework.

The proposed regulations were approved to continue through the procedures of the Administrative Process Act (APA).

- **ABTEL's Accomplishments 2006-2007**

Patty Pitts reviewed ABTEL accomplishments over the past year.

- Recommended proposed *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel* (8 VAC 20-22-10 et seq.) to the Board of Education that included, in part, the following:
 - A new International License and a School Manager License;
 - Mathematics Specialist and Early Childhood Education endorsements;
 - The Special Education Conditional License and Eligibility License renamed to Provisional Licenses;
 - Data-based instructional decision-making competencies incorporated into professional studies;
 - Added endorsements through testing;
 - Single-subject middle school endorsements;
 - Changes to the special education endorsement areas;
 - Career Paths to Teaching designations;
 - The Speech-Language Pathology endorsement allowed issuance on a Pupil Personnel Services License; and
 - New requirements for the endorsement in Administration and Supervision.
- Recommended proposed *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-542-10 et seq.) to the Board of Education that included, in part, the following:
 - Separated accreditation from program (endorsement) approval;
 - Professional education programs must obtain approval by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC), or the state approval process;
 - Biennial review of individual endorsement programs;
 - Until June 30, 2010, 70% passing rate on Praxis II assessments for program completers and exiters to continue endorsement programs;
 - Effective July 1, 2010, 80% passing rate on Praxis II assessments for program completers and exiters to continue endorsement programs;
 - Partnerships and collaborations based on preK-12 school needs;
 - Evidence of employer job satisfaction with candidates completing and exiting the program;
 - Continued requirement of an arts and science major;
 - Continued cap on professional studies at 24 semester hours for elementary and special education programs and 18 semester hours for all other programs; and
 - Moved all competencies required in approved programs from the licensure regulations to the approved program regulations.

Regarding both sets of regulations, Mrs. Patty Pitts thanked the members of the Advisory Board for their work on the regulations, including the review and response to the public

comment. Also, she thanked Department of Education personnel for their work to support the Advisory Board on these important initiatives.

In addition to the major work of preparing and submitting proposed regulations to the Board of Education, Mrs. Pitts also acknowledged several other areas of accomplishment, including:

- Review of college and university programs; and
 - Recommendation for the Sign Communication Proficiency Interview be approved as an assessment to demonstrate proficiency for the American Sign Language endorsement with a score of “advanced low.” This recommendation will be forwarded to the Board of Education after the new licensure regulations become effective.
- **Discussion of the Assessment Requirement for Admission to Teacher Education Programs**

Mrs. Pitts reviewed the information presented by Dr. Mark Emblidge, president of the Board of Education, at the last Advisory Board meeting as well as the relevant *Code of Virginia* section relating to the assessment requirements for admission into approved programs. There was discussion by the Advisory Board; however, no action was recommended during this meeting.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE FULL BOARD

Report on Incentives to Increase the Pool of Special Educators in Virginia

Dr. Patricia D. Burgess, specialist for special education human resources development, made a presentation on the Department of Education’s efforts to enhance the pool of qualified special educators through a variety of programs. She included in her presentation information on the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program, a new incentive program for Speech-Language Pathologists, and the Teach Virginia recruiting Web site.

Report on the Teacher Education Schedule for 2007-2008

Dr. Burgess presented the program review schedule for 2007-2008.

Approval of Meeting Dates for 2007-2008 School Year

Patty Pitts reviewed the proposed ABTEL meeting dates for 2007-2008:

September 17, 2007
November 19, 2007
January 14, 2008
March 17, 2008
April 21, 2008

Ann Williams made a motion recommending ABTEL meeting dates for 2007-2008 be approved. Rená White seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Teacher Education Committee and the Licensure Committee met from 10:45 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

LUNCH

At the conclusion of lunch, Linda Kelly recognized the service of several ABTEL members who have concluded their terms of service or who have retired. Those recognized included Dr. Gwen Edwards, Cheryl Lightfoot, and Margaret Shibley Gray. Dr. Thomas A. Elliott, formerly the assistant superintendent for teacher education and licensure, Virginia Department of Education, was recognized for his service to the state and the Advisory Board.

FULL BOARD

REPORTS FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEES

Teacher Education Committee

Dr. Bill Graves presented the report and recommendations of the Teacher Education Committee:

Agenda Item 1: Dr. Bill Graves moved that the teacher programs at Lynchburg College be approved with stipulations for Mathematics and Music Education. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 2: Dr. Bill Graves reported that the Teacher Education Committee needs to review and analyze existing tests, data, and psychometric information before a recommendation can be made concerning admission assessments for Teacher Education programs.

Agenda Item 3: Dr. Bill Graves stated that the Teacher Education Committee had no report on the oral proficiency question for foreign language teachers.

Professional Licensure Committee

Cheryl Lightfoot presented the report and recommendations of the Professional Licensure Committee.

Agenda Item 1: Cheryl Lightfoot reported that the Professional Licensure Committee suggested that the Department of Education seek additional information regarding the oral proficiency issue, specifically whether this is a statewide issue. The committee suggested

that Department personnel should collect information on how college programs assess the oral proficiency of their approved-program completers.

Agenda Item 2: Cheryl Lightfoot made a motion on behalf of the Professional Licensure Committee that the Department of Education personnel use editorial authority to review the licensure renewal manual to create an on-line document that is aligned to the new regulations. The motion passed unanimously.

LIAISON REPORTS

The Virginia Community College System

Dr. Susan Wood reported the following concerning the Virginia Community College System (VCCS):

1. The Governor has approved the transfer grant program. Community College graduates with associate degrees who meet both the merit and need criteria established by four-year colleges will be eligible for a \$1,000 grant and an additional \$1,000 if they pursue endorsement in a critical shortage area.
2. The Virginia Education Wizard, a one-stop portal for educational information for both current and prospective students, is now available.
3. VCCS is working with Scott Kemp on the Teachers for Tomorrow program seeking to formalize the dual enrollment program for prospective teachers and give greater opportunities for those involved.
4. A review of the teacher education agreements from 2003 is underway with a goal of enhancing the pipeline of community college students to approved programs in elementary, middle, and secondary education.

The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)

Dr. Gary Krapf acknowledged the difficult recent days in the aftermath of the tragedy at Virginia Tech.

Dr. Krapf reported the following information:

1. The Strategic Plan for Higher Education has been approved by the Higher Education Council and is being forwarded to the Secretary of Education.
2. The Council is reviewing proposals to award \$1.4 million in NCLB grants to underperforming schools and underserved populations. These funds would be used to increase student performance at the local school level.

Department of Education

Patty Pitts noted the following on behalf of the Department of Education:

1. She thanked Linda Kelly for her exemplary leadership as chair of the Advisory Board this year.

2. She indicated that nominations would be sought for vacant positions on ABTEL. Gloria Talbot will be seeking a second term. Robin Smith previously resigned, and her position will need to be filled. Cheryl Lightfoot and Margaret Shibley Gray have served two terms; therefore, they are not eligible for reappointment. Dr. Gwen Edwards is retiring at the end of the school year.

ADJOURNMENT

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting adjourned.