

ADVISORY BOARD ON TEACHER EDUCATION AND LICENSURE (ABTEL) MEETING

MINUTES

Meeting Date and Location: November 15, 2010
DoubleTree Hotel – Richmond Airport
Richmond, Virginia

ABTEL Members Present:

Debra Abadie	Dr. Courtney Gaskins	Dawn Rees-Blakeman
Jeffrey A. Arco	Charlotte B. Hayer	Dr. James T. Roberts
Susan E. Bridges	Kathy Heil	Angela Turley
Tracey L. Dingus	Dr. Betty E. Hobbs	Janice Underwood
Dr. Cathy Fisher	Larry W. Lenz	Ruth Wallace
Jaim L. Foster	Patricia McGloine	

ABTEL Members Absent: Rena Berlin
Dr. Susan G. Magliaro

Board of Education Liaison: Dr. Ella P. Ward

Ex-Officio Members: Harvey Carmichael for Dr. Gary Krapf
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Julia Tucker-Lloyd
Virginia Community College System

Patty S. Pitts
Virginia Department of Education

Department of Education Staff: Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver
Dr. James W. Lanham, III

Guests: Cathy Owens Oliver, Educational Testing Service
Bekah Saxon, Virginia Education Association

FULL ADVISORY BOARD CONVENES

9:00 a.m.

- **Opening Remarks and Welcome**

Tracey Dingus, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests.

- **Introductions**

New and returning ABTEL members introduced themselves to the Advisory Board. Ex-Officio members and Virginia Department of Education personnel introduced themselves to the Advisory Board.

- **Introduction of Guests**

No guests were present at the beginning of the meeting, but joined the meeting later in the morning.

- **Approval of Agenda**

Patricia McGloine made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Dr. James Roberts seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Approval of Minutes**

Angela Turley made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2010, Advisory Board meeting. Dr. Cathy Fisher seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Consideration and Approval of Change in May Meeting Date**

Dr. Cathy Fisher made a motion to change the May 2, 2011, meeting date to April 29, 2011, to avoid a scheduling conflict with the Virginia Association of School Superintendent's (VASS) annual conference. Larry Lenz seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **ABTEL Recommendations – Board of Education**

Mrs. Patty Pitts reviewed recent Board of Education actions related to recommendations submitted by ABTEL including program approvals and partnership agreements.

PRESENTATION:

Title II Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEA) Update

Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver reviewed the mandatory Title II Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEA) reporting requirements and provided a summary of the 2008-2009 reporting data that was submitted electronically on October 29, 2010, to Westat, contractor for the U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION ITEM:

Criteria for Classifying Alternate Routes to Teacher Licensure as “Low Performing” Or “At-Risk for Low Performing” Required by Title II of the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEA)

Dr. James Lanham discussed proposed criteria to be used to identify Virginia’s alternate route to teacher licensure program as “Low Performing” or “At Risk for Low Performing.” For purposes of Title II HEA reporting requirements, the Career Switcher Alternative Route to Licensure Program has been designated as the alternate route to licensure for Virginia. Dr. Lanham provided an overview of the history and requirements of the Career Switcher programs.

Angela Turley made a motion to recommend that the following criteria be submitted to the Virginia Board of Education for approval (with editing approval by Department of Education staff):

Criteria for Classifying Alternate Routes to Teacher Licensure as “Low Performing” Or “At Risk for Low Performing” Required by Title II of the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEA)

- **Programs shall be reviewed for compliance with Board of Education regulations and certified every seven years. [If regulations are revised within the seven-year period, the program must align the program with the new regulations.] For program certification, the following requirements must be documented:**
 - **alignment of program requirements and competencies with the regulations;**
 - **capacity to offer each of the components of the program; and**
 - **structured and integrated field experiences in diverse school settings as specified in the regulations.**
- **Programs shall be required to submit the accountability measurement of partnership and collaborations based on PreK-12 school needs for review by the Department of Education biennially.**

- **Programs must submit candidate progress and performance on prescribed Board of Education licensure assessments. [All candidates must meet all prescribed licensure assessments prior to admission into the program; therefore, the requirement is that 100 percent of program candidates pass licensure assessments prior to admission to the program.]**
- **Programs must submit evidence of employer job satisfaction with candidates completing the program. The indicator of achievement of this standard shall include documentation that the Career Switcher Program has two years of evidence regarding candidate performance based on employer surveys.**

An alternative route program (Career Switcher Program) shall be designated “at risk of becoming low performing” if the program is reviewed and found to meet certification requirements but has weaknesses, excluding the mandatory program entry requirements. The program provider must submit evidence of compliance within one year of notification of this finding.

An alternative route program that does not correct the weaknesses within one year of receiving the designation of “at risk of becoming low performing” will be designated as “low performing.” If a program fails to maintain certification, enrolled candidates shall be permitted to complete their programs of study. The Career Switcher Program shall not be allowed to admit new candidates. Candidates shall be notified of program approval status.

The motion was seconded by Charlotte Hayer, and was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:

Report on Testing Requirements, New Tests, and Standard Setting Studies

Dr. James Lanham reviewed assessment requirements for licensure and entry into state-approved teacher education programs. He provided an update on field testing for the new Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE) and Reading for Virginia Educators – Reading Specialists (RVE for Reading Specialists).

He reviewed preliminary data from the recent standard setting study conducted for the Praxis II Braille assessment. A recommendation regarding a passing score for this assessment will be presented at the January 24, 2011, meeting.

Dr. Lanham announced dates for standard setting studies for Praxis II Technology Education and Praxis II Art: Content Knowledge later in November. ABTEL will also consider passing score recommendations from these standard setting committees at the January 24, 2011, meeting.

Additional information regarding computer-based testing for Praxis II and future test revisions also was provided.

National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Teacher Education Council (TEAC) Form New Accrediting Body: The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)

Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver presented information regarding the creation of the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and discussed the impact this unification of the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) will have on college and university teacher preparation programs.

Profile of Teachers and Principals in Virginia

Mrs. Patty Pitts provided information on the profile of teachers and principals in Virginia reported in the 2009-2010 Instructional Personnel Report.

LUNCH

Members of the Advisory Board convened for a working lunch.

DISCUSSION:

Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure Initiatives

Mrs. Patty Pitts led a discussion on ABTEL initiatives for future meetings. Initiatives discussed included the following:

- ABTEL will review standard setting studies and make recommendations to the Board of Education regarding passing scores for Praxis II assessments in Braille, Technology Education, and Art: Content Knowledge as well as a recommendation for the implementation of the Braille assessment.
- Standard setting reports for the new reading assessments will also be considered and a passing score for the new Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE) and Reading for Virginia Educators for Reading Specialist (RVE for Reading Specialists) assessments will be forwarded to the Board of Education.
- The Virginia Teacher of the Year will be invited to a future meeting.
- ABTEL will host a Virginia college or university to provide a detailed review of their teacher preparation program.

Mrs. Pitts also announced that Dr. Ella Ward, Board of Education Liaison to ABTEL, will be leaving the Board in January when her term expires. Her last ABTEL meeting as the Board liaison will be January 24, 2011. The ABTEL members expressed their appreciation for her service to the Board and the Advisory Board.

LIAISON REPORTS

The Virginia Community College System (VCCS)

Ms. Julia Tucker-Lloyd reported the following information on behalf of the VCCS:

- VCCS is partnering with the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), the State Council for Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV), the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) and Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) on the federal longitudinal data system grant that was awarded this summer. The VCCS is building capability for PeopleSoft to accept student's high school transcripts electronically. This project is anticipated to be completed next fall.
- VCCS is engaged in a reform effort around developmental education. Faculty and administrators are working with system office staff to redesign English, Mathematics and Reading developmental education. Faculty and system office staff have been collaborating with the Virginia Department of Education as they set new college and career readiness standards for English and mathematics. Individuals with specific program questions may contact Dan Lewis at dlewis@vccs.edu.
- VCCS is partnering with VDOE on college readiness initiatives including setting college and career readiness standards in English and mathematics.

State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)

Harvey Carmichael represented Dr. Gary Krapf and reported the following on behalf of the SCHEV:

- Preparing students for future employment opportunities;
- Higher education's focus to provide students with the skills needed to complete in an expanding global economy; and
- The continued success of the College Access and Gear-Up grants in improving access to higher education for all students with a continued focus on developing higher levels of aspiration for middle school students.

Department of Education

Dr. James Lanham provided an update on the work of the Teacher Evaluation Work Group. The final work group meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2010, at Christopher Newport University.

ADJOURNMENT

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting adjourned.