

ADVISORY BOARD ON TEACHER EDUCATION AND LICENSURE (ABTEL) MEETING

MINUTES

Meeting Date and Location: November 14, 2016
Four Points By Sheraton Hotel – Richmond Airport
4700 South Laburnum Avenue
Henrico, Virginia 23231

ABTEL Members Present:

Ms. Jennifer Andrews	Ms. Tracey Mercier	Mrs. Kate Sydney
Mrs. Bonnie Bowen	Dr. James Meyer	Mrs. Nancy Welch
Mrs. Kathy Burcher	Mrs. Nancy Moga	Ms. Charletta Williams
Mr. Travis Burns	Dr. Willie Sherman	Ms. Lesleye Williams
Ms. Selena Dickey	Dr. Diane Simon	Dr. Sherry Wilson
Dr. Holly Gould	Ms. Cheryl Sprouse	Dr. Phillip Wishon
Mr. Brian McGovern	Dr. Patricia Stohr-Hunt	

ABTEL Members Absent: Dr. Garry Carter, Jr.

Board of Education Liaison: Ms. Elizabeth Lodal

Ex-Officio Members: Dr. Monica Osei (absent)
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Dr. Daniel C. Lewis
Virginia Community College System

Mrs. Patty S. Pitts
Virginia Department of Education

Department of Education Staff: Dr. Kendra Crump
Dr. Joan B. Johnson

Guests: Dr. Patricia Abrams, Special Education Instructional
Services, Department of Education
Ms. Sandra Barnstead, Virginia Education Association
Ms. Kim Bausum-Brown, Special Education
Instructional Services, Department of Education
Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver, Educational Consultant
Dr. Robert Corley III, Virginia State University
Ms. Lisa Hedrick, Educational Testing Service
Mr. Paul Joseph, Educational Consulting Services
Ms. Carol Sylvester, Program Administration and
Accountability, Department of Education

ORIENTATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

8:00 - 8:45 a.m.

Division of Teacher Education staff in the Department of Education -- Patty Pitts, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Kendra Crump, Director of Licensure and School Leadership; and Dr. Joan Johnson, Director of Teacher Education -- conducted an orientation for new Advisory Board members.

FULL ADVISORY BOARD

9:00 a.m.

- **Opening Remarks and Welcome**

Mrs. Nancy Moga, Chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL), called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests.

- **Introduction of New and Returning ABTEL Members**

New and returning ABTEL members introduced themselves to the Advisory Board. The new ABTEL members are Dr. Travis Burns, Principal, Northumberland High School, Northumberland County Public Schools; Dr. Brian James McGovern, Social Sciences Teacher, Peninsula Catholic High School; and Dr. Willie Sherman, Business Education Teacher, Chatham High School, Pittsylvania County Public Schools.

- **Introduction of the Board of Education Liaison, Ex Officio Members, and Department Staff**

Ms. Elizabeth Lodal, Member of the Virginia Board of Education and Liaison to the Advisory Board, was introduced.

The ex officio members and Department of Education staff were introduced.

- **Introduction of guests**

Guests attending the meeting introduce themselves to the Advisory Board members.

- **Approval of Agenda**

Mrs. Bonnie Bowen made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Dr. James Meyer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- **Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Holly Gould made a motion to approve the September 19, 2016, Advisory Board meeting minutes with a correction on Page 3 (correct spelling of Holley to Holly). Ms. Selena Dickey seconded the motion, and the motion to approve the minutes as amended was approved unanimously.

- **Public Comment**

No individuals requested to speak during the public comment period.

- **Appointment of Committee Chairs**

As Chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, Mrs. Nancy Moga announced the chairs of the Teacher Education and the Licensure Committees. Dr. Holly Gould will serve as the chair of the Teacher Education Committee, and Mrs. Kate Sydney will serve as the chair of the Licensure Committee. Dr. Gould and Mrs. Sydney will be members of the Executive Committee.

REVIEW OF BOARD ITEMS RELATED TO TEACHER EDUCATION AND LICENSURE

Patty Pitts provided a summary of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure recommendations to the Board of Education.

(September 22, 2016, Board of Education Meeting)

- **Final Review of Revisions to the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel to Conform to General Assembly Legislation (Exempt Action)*.** The 2016 General Assembly passed House Bill 842 requiring that every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license must complete awareness training, provided by the Department of education, on the indicators of dyslexia.

(October 27, 2016, Board of Education Meeting)

- **First Review of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure's Recommendation to Grant Approval to Add New Education (Endorsement) Programs at Shenandoah University and Washington and Lee University (Rockbridge Teacher Education Consortium)**
- **First Review of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure's Recommendation to Amend the Licensure Regulations for School Personnel to Comply with House Bill 261 of the 2016 Virginia General Assembly (Fast Track).** The 2016 General Assembly passed House Bill 261 that requires the Board of Education to provide for the issuance of a provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years, to any former member of the Armed Forces of the United States of the Virginia National Guard who has received an honorable discharge and has the appropriate level of experience or training but does not meet the requirements for a renewable license.

- **First Review of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure’s Recommendation to Amend the Licensure Regulations for School Personnel to Comply with House Bill 279 of the 2016 Virginia General Assembly (Exempt Action).** The 2016 General Assembly passed House Bill 279 that requires the Board of Education to provide for the issuance of a three-year license to qualified individuals to teach high school career and technical education courses in specific subject areas for no more than 50 percent of the instructional day or year, on average.
- **First Review of the Virginia Department of Education’s Application for an Annual Waiver of the Teacher licensure Requirements for Trade and Industrial Education Teachers to Comply with House Bill 682 of the 2016 Virginia General Assembly.** The 2016 General Assembly passed House Bill 682 that permits any division superintendent to apply to the Department of Education for an annual waiver of the teacher licensure requirements for any individual whom the local school board hires or seeks to hire to teach in a trade and industrial education program who has obtained or is working toward an industry credential relating to the program area and who has at least 4,000 hours of recent and relevant employment experience, as defined by the Board pursuant to regulation. The bill requires the Department to establish a procedure for submitting, receiving, and acting upon such annual waiver application.

ACTION AGENDA ITEM

Review of the Standard-Setting Study and Recommendation for a Passing Score for the Praxis Algebra I (5162) Test for the Mathematics – Algebra I (add-on) Endorsement

Dr. Kendra Crump, Director of Licensure and School Leadership, provided the background on assessment requirements in Virginia. Lisa Hedrick, Client Relations Director for Teacher Licensure and Certification (Praxis), Educational Testing Service, made a presentation on the Praxis Algebra I (5162) test standard-setting study.

The Educational Testing Service (ETS) developed the Praxis Algebra I (5162) test. The Algebra I test is designed to assess the mathematical knowledge and competencies necessary for a beginning Algebra I teacher.

The Mathematics – Algebra I (add-on) endorsement requires individuals to hold a license endorsed in another teaching area to be eligible for the endorsement. The Praxis Algebra I (5162) test is not a required assessment for individuals who wish to seek the Mathematics – Algebra I (add-on) endorsement, but rather an option for certain licensees who may wish to add the endorsement by testing.

Upon Board approval, an individual holding a Virginia license with a teaching endorsement (who has met initial subject assessment requirements) may be eligible for the Mathematics – Algebra I (add-on endorsement) by passing the Praxis Algebra I (5162) test. This testing option does not apply to individuals who hold a technical professional license, vocational evaluator license, pupil personnel services license, school manager license, or division superintendent license.

In October 2016, a multistate standard-setting study was conducted by ETS for the Praxis Algebra I (5162) test. Participants from 13 states served on the multistate study panel. Virginia was represented by one teacher nominated by a Virginia school division and a teacher educator nominated by a Virginia institution of higher education. A detailed summary of the study, *Multistate Standard-Setting Technical Report – Algebra I (5162)* was provided in advance to Advisory Board members. The report includes names of participants, methodology, and recommendations. The purposes of the study were to: (a) recommend the minimum passing score for the Praxis Algebra I (5162) test and (b) confirm the importance of the Praxis content specifications for entry-level Algebra I teachers.

The Praxis *Test at a Glance* document describes the purpose and structure of the assessment. The Praxis Algebra I (5162) test contains 60 selected-response items covering three content areas:

Principles of Algebra (approximately 23 items);
Functions (approximately 18 items); and
Number and Quantity; Probability and Statistics (approximately 19 items).

The reporting scale for the Praxis Algebra I (5162) test ranges from 100 to 200 scaled-score points. *Test at a Glance* provides representative descriptions of topics covered in each category.

Costs associated with the administration of Praxis tests will be incurred by the ETS. Test takers are required to pay test fees.

Multistate Standard-Setting Study

The multistate standard-setting study is detailed in the report. The multistate panel recommended a passing score of 32 out of a possible 50 raw-score points. The scaled score associated with a raw score of 32 is 157 on a 100 to 200 scale.

The multistate standard-setting study provides the estimated Conditional Standard Error of Measurement (CSEM). The CSEM is a statistical phenomenon and is unrelated to the accuracy of scoring. All test results are subject to the standard error of measurement. If a test taker were to take the same test repeatedly, with no change in the test takers level of knowledge and preparation, it is possible that some of the resulting scores would be slightly higher or slightly lower than the scores that precisely reflect the test taker's actual level of knowledge or ability. The difference between a test taker's actual score and their highest or lowest hypothetical score is known as the standard error of measurement.

The CSEM for the recommended passing scores for multistate standard-setting study are shown below. Note that consistent with the recommended passing score, the passing scores at the different CSEM have been rounded to the next highest number, and the rounded values are converted to scaled scores.

Conditional Standard Error of Measurement Summaries
Algebra I (5162)

Passing Scores Within 1 and 2 CSEM of the Recommended Passing Score – Multistate Panel

Recommended passing score (CSEM)	Scale score equivalent	
32 (3.43)		157
-2 CSEM	26	140
-1 CSEM	29	148
+1 CSEM	36	168
+2 CSEM	39	176

Mrs. Bonnie Bowen made a motion to recommend that the Virginia Board of Education approve the use of the Praxis Algebra I (5162) test as an option to add the Mathematics Algebra I (add-on) endorsement in accordance with licensure regulations and set a passing score of 148 for the test. The passing score recommended by the Advisory Board is one CSEM below the multistate panel recommended score. A friendly amendment was made and accepted to recommend that the passing score be reviewed after sufficient performance data become available for the test. Dr. James Meyers seconded the motion that was passed unanimously (20-0 vote).

REPORTS

Report 1: Report on the Development of Awareness Training on the Indicators of Dyslexia Required for License Renewal, effective July 1, 2017, in Response to House Bill 842 of the 2016 Virginia General Assembly

Mrs. Patty Pitts provided a summary of House Bill 842 passed by the 2016 Virginia General Assembly.

House Bill 842 requires Board of Education regulations governing teacher licensure to require every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license to complete awareness training, provided by the Department of Education, on the indicators of dyslexia and the evidence-based interventions and accommodations for dyslexia. The bill requires the Department of Education to collaborate with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to ensure that all teacher preparation programs offered at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth or otherwise available convey information on the identification of students at risk for learning disabilities, including dyslexia, other language-based learning disabilities, and attention deficit disorder. The act shall become effective on July 1, 2017.

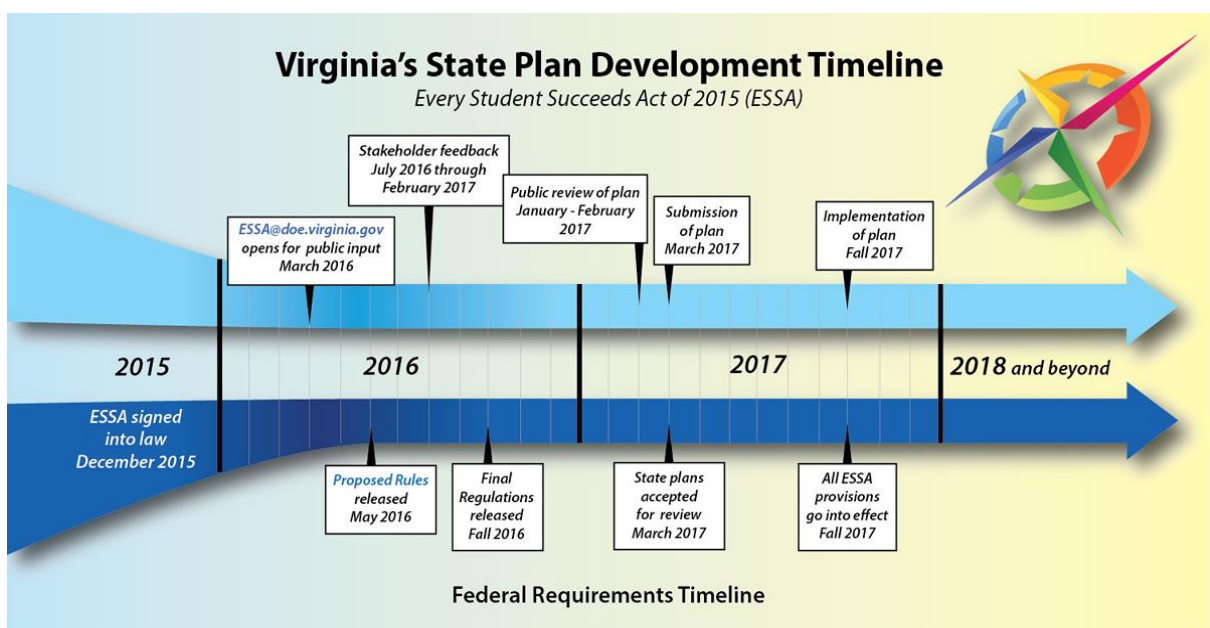
Ms. Kim Bausum-Brown, Specialist for Dyslexia and Specialized Reading, Virginia Department of Education, provided the status and timeline for the development and implementation of the online Awareness Training on Indicators of Dyslexia. The online tutorial to deliver awareness training on the indicators of dyslexia and the evidenced-based interventions and accommodations for dyslexia is expected to be made available in February or March 2017. The tutorial will be available to licensees free of charge. The one-hour module and supporting guidance documents will be available through the Virginia Department of Education website.

Additionally, Patty Pitts reported that Dr. Monica Osei is the representative from the State Council of Higher Education who will work with the Department of Education to collaborate to ensure that all teacher preparation programs offered at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth convey information on the identification of students at risk for learning disabilities, including dyslexia, other language-based learning disabilities, and attention deficit disorder.

Report 2: Report on the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, the Virginia State Plan, and Opportunities for Stakeholder Input

As a follow-up to the presentation made on September 19, 2016 meeting, Ms. Carol Sylvester, Specialist in the Program Administration and Accountability Office, Virginia Department of Education, returned to provide an overview on the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, the Virginia State Plan, and opportunities for continued discussion.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 was signed into law on December 10, 2015. The new law replaces the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001. ESSA requires states to provide opportunities for stakeholder input throughout the development of the federal accountability plan.



The Virginia Department of Education has completed a series of stakeholder sessions and work group meetings to receive stakeholder feedback on key areas of Virginia’s plan. ABTEL members are encouraged to provide feedback on the key areas of the plan that include:

- Teacher Effectiveness Definitions;
- School Leadership/Leadership Preparation;
- Teacher Preparation Programs;
- Equity/Access to Excellent Teachers;
- Teacher Recruitment/Retention;
- Professional Development; and
- Funding Priorities.

Ms. Carol Sylvester shared that states must establish a definition of an “ineffective teacher” and requested feedback from the Advisory Board. She provided one suggested draft definition for discussion from stakeholder meetings -- “An ineffective teacher is one who consistently does not meet expectations of performance with regard to Virginia’s professional teaching standards after proper supports have been provided.” In ABTEL discussions, additional language was suggested that an ineffective teacher is one who has failed to improve after collaboration and placed on an improvement plan with documented support and resources. Advisory Board members were encouraged to provide any additional feedback or suggestions for appropriate language to Ms. Sylvester by November 30, 2016.

LIAISON REPORTS

- **Virginia Community College System (VCCS)**

Dr. Dan Lewis presented the following report from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia:

EducateVA students have reached the midterm, and 60 students are anticipated to complete Level 1 of the program and apply for a Provisional (Career Switcher) License in January. Additionally, eight former program completers participated in a workshop series addressing instructional practices for English Language Learners. These workshops helped prepare students for the newly-approved English to Speakers of Other Languages test. Two students have taken and passed the test and became employed in Virginia school divisions as teachers of English language learners.

One hundred thirty two (132) first-year teachers have completed their first month in classrooms and are beginning to meet with mentors and begin Level II training. Upon completion of Level II, these teachers may become eligible for their five-year renewable licenses at the end of this academic year. On October 8, these first-year teachers participated in ongoing professional development in Richmond. They attended sessions on Effective Parent Communication, the Virginia Performance Standards for Teachers, and Teaching in a Diverse Classroom. Four additional students have reported that they have obtained teaching contracts.

- **State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)**

No report was provided.

- **Virginia Department of Education**

Mrs. Patty Pitts provided a report on the status of the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* and the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel*. Both sets of regulations must be filed and will continue through the Administrative Process Act (APA).

Patty Pitts shared that a stakeholder group convened to develop a model teacher exit questionnaire as required by Senate Bill 360 from the 2016 Virginia General Assembly.

Additionally, Patty reported that the U.S. Department of Education recently released its revised regulations for teacher preparation programs. A presentation on the federal regulations is scheduled for January 2017.

ANNOUNCEMENT AND DISCUSSION

The next ABTEL meeting will be held on Monday, January 23, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting was adjourned.