

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

Minutes
September 13, 2004

Meeting Date and Location: September 13, 2004
Sheraton Richmond West Hotel
Richmond, Virginia

ABTEL Members Present:

Rene Massey Ashjian	Mark L. Ingerson
Cynthia D. Baird	Linda W. Kelly
Sharon L. Condrey	Cheryl Lightfoot
Dr. Nancy Davenport	Donald Plank
Dr. Judy Davis-Dorsey	James B. Scott
Dr. Ronald E. Diss	Sandra Smith-Jones
Dr. William H. Graves, III	Gloria Talbott
Margaret Shibley Gray	Rena ´ White
Rebecca Hill	

ABTEL Members Absent: Nancy Miller
Suzanne Meyer

Board of Education Liaison: Dr. Ella P. Ward

Ex-Officio Members: Dr. Toni Cleveland (absent)
Dr. Harvey Carmichael (for Gary Krapf)

Department of Education Staff: Dr. Jo Lynne DeMary
Dr. Thomas A. Elliott
Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver
Susan T. Noble
Patty S. Pitts

Guests: Betty Lambdin, Virginia Education Association
Connie Smith, Fairfax County Schools
David Blount, Virginia Commonwealth University

FULL BOARD MEETING

Linda Kelly, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, called the meeting to order. The following three new members were introduced and welcomed to the advisory board: Sandra Smith-Jones, Gloria Talbott, and Donald Plank.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Judy Davis-Dorsey made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ron Diss seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

James Scott made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mark Ingerson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Linda Kelly requested that Thomas A. Elliott preside until a chair for the 2004-05 year was elected.

Election of Chair

Bill Graves nominated Linda Kelly for chair. Nancy Davenport seconded the nomination. Ron Diss made a motion to close the nominations. The motion seconded by Judy Davis-Dorsey was approved unanimously. Linda Kelly was elected chair by a vote of 13-0. [Rena´ White, Cheryl Lightfoot, and Rebecca Hill arrived later for the meeting; therefore, they were not present for the vote.]

Linda Kelly resumed as the presider of the meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Linda Kelly introduced Jo Lynne DeMary, superintendent of public instruction. Dr. DeMary thanked the members of the advisory board for their work and the importance of the recommendations presented to the Board of Education. She thanked Linda Kelly for the leadership she has provided to the advisory board.

Dr. DeMary indicated that in the past, all recommendations of the advisory board were presented annually in May. She asked ABTEL to bring recommendations to the board as they are developed. She acknowledged the many initiatives ABTEL would address this year—revisions to the licensure regulations, a multi-tiered licensure system, Praxis I scores, a partnership with the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC), approval of programs, a cut-score for the Virginia Reading Assessment (VRA), an interdisciplinary model curriculum for elementary and middle education, the use of the ACT as a substitute tests for Praxis I, and the proficiency level for the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language tests.

Linda Kelly thanked Dr. DeMary for attending the advisory board meeting and sharing comments on the initiatives that the advisory board would address this year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS CONTINUED

Election of Vice-Chair

Mark Ingerson nominated Nancy Davenport for vice-chair. The nomination was seconded by Sandra Smith-Jones. Ron Diss made a motion to close the nominations, and the motion was seconded by Sandra Smith-Jones. The motion to close the nominations was approved unanimously. Nancy Davenport was elected by a vote of 16-0.

Election of Member-At-Large

Mark Ingerson nominated Ron Diss as member-at-large. Jim Scott seconded the motion. Nancy Davenport made a motion to close the nominations. Gloria Talbott seconded the motion that was approved unanimously. Ron Diss was elected by a vote of 15-0 (Ron Diss did not vote.)

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Linda Kelly appointed Bill Graves chair of the Teacher Education Committee, and she appointed Judy Davis-Dorsey chair of the Licensure Committee.

ATTENDANCE OF ABTEL MEMBERS

Thomas A. Elliott requested that ABTEL members inform the Department of Education staff when they cannot attend meetings. Suzanne Meyer had notified the chair of ABTEL and Dr. Elliott's office of her absence. Dr. Elliott will contact Nancy Miller to determine if she would like to continue to serve on the advisory board due to several consecutive absences.

MENTORS APPOINTED FOR NEW ABTEL MEMBERS

Linda Kelly appointed the following mentors for the new ABTEL members:

ABTEL Mentor	New ABTEL Member
Cheryl Lightfoot	Sandra Smith-Jones
Sharon Condrey	Gloria Talbott
Mark Ingerson	Donald Plank

APPROVAL OF MEETING DATES

The following meeting dates were approved by consensus:

November 15, 2004
January 24, 2005
March 21, 2005
April 18, 2005

The March meeting may be held at a college or university; Department of Education staff will make arrangements and notify ABTEL members of the location of the meeting. All other meetings are scheduled in Richmond.

PRESENTATION AND STATUS OF ABTEL'S INITIATIVES FOR THE 2003-04 YEAR

Linda Kelly presented an overview of the status of the following ABTEL recommendations issued for the 2003-04 school year.

- 1) American Council on Teaching Foreign Language tests: The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure recommended that the Board of Education approve the American Council on Teaching Foreign Language (ACTFL) Oral Proficiency Interview and the Writing Proficiency Test as alternative assessments for the MLA test. The Board of Education approved the use of the tests; however, the board requested a validation and standard-setting study by foreign language practitioners before approving a proficiency level for the test.
- 2) Virginia Reading Assessment (VRA): ABTEL recommended that individuals seeking initial licensure in the following three areas of special education be excluded from the VRA: speech/language disorders, early childhood special education, and severe disorders. The Board of Education approved the ABTEL recommendation.
- 3) Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC): The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure recommended to the Board of Education that the Teacher Education Accreditation Council be accepted as an option for program approval of college and university teacher education programs. The Board of Education approved the ABTEL recommendation.
- 4) Program Approval: The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure recommended that the Board of Education receive information on the approval and continued approval of teacher education programs reviewed during the 2003-2004 year in Virginia institutions of higher education. The Board of Education approved the ABTEL recommendations.

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON TEACHING AND AMERICA'S FUTURE (NCTAF), JULY 2004

Susan Noble, Linda Kelly, Betty Lambdin, Bernice Cobbs, and Sarah Finley were members of the Virginia team that attended the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future Partnership meeting in July 2004 in Orlando, Florida. Susan Noble provided a report of the meeting. The meeting focused on enhancing the teaching profession, including teacher retention, mentoring, multi-tiered licensure systems, and funding initiatives. The purpose of the symposium was to serve as a clearinghouse of initiatives and share strategies among states.

PRESENTATION OF MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR THE 2004-05 YEAR

Thomas A. Elliott presented the major initiatives for the 2004-05 year as listed in the meeting agenda.

PRESENTATION OF THE RE-VALIDATION AND STANDARD-SETTING STUDY OF PRAXIS I ON JULY 22, 2004

Patty Pitts presented an overview of the re-validation and Standard-Setting Study of Praxis I conducted on July 22, 2004. The advisory board received the full report provided by the Educational Testing Service.

PRESENTATION OF THE SCHOOL LEADERS LICENSURE ASSESSMENT VALIDATION AND STANDARD-SETTING STUDY AND THE SCORE SETTING REVIEW PANEL MEETING CONDUCTED ON JULY 21, 2004

JoAnne Y. Carver presented the highlights of the School Leaders Licensure Assessment Validation and Standard-Setting Study and the Score setting Review Panel Meeting conducted on July 21, 2004. The advisory board received the study, including the panel's recommended passing score.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Teacher Education Committee and the Licensure Committee met.

FULL BOARD RECONVENES

The full board reconvened. Linda Kelly, ABTEL chair, presided.

Teacher Education Committee Report

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

1. School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA): **The committee made the following four-part recommendation: (1) set a cut score of 165 for the SLLA for the period**

from July 1, 2005, to June 30, 2010; (2) increase the score to 170 on July 1, 2010; (3) conduct a revalidation study of the SLLA after July 1, 2005, and before June 30, 2015; and (4) require a 70 percent pass rate for the SLLA for approval of administration and supervision programs. After much discussion, the original recommendation was withdrawn by agreement by the committee. The committee substituted the following recommendation: Set the cut score for the SLLA at 165 to be effective July 1, 2005. The committee also recommended that the Department of Education study the feasibility of increasing the score in five years to 170 and requiring the same 70 percent passage rate for administration and supervision programs as is required for other programs. The committee's recommendation was approved with a vote of 15-0 with one abstention.

2. Teacher Education Approved Programs: The committee recommended the following: (1) full approval of Averett University's programs; (2) full approval of Bluefield College's programs; (3) no action on Ferrum College; (4) follow-up on the status of program approval at St. Paul's College. After discussion, ABTEL approved the recommendation with a vote of 16-0.

Licensure Committee Report

Judy Davis-Dorsey, chair of the Licensure Committee, presented the following report and recommendations of the Licensure Committee:

1. Revisions on the Licensure Regulations for School Personnel: A task force will convene September 14 to review the special education licensure regulations. An additional task force will be convened to make proposed recommendations to other areas of licensure.
2. Multi-Tiered Licensure System: The committee suggested that ABTEL receive a report on the work completed on the multi-tiered licensure system at the November meeting.
3. ACT Scores as a Substitute for Praxis I Scores: **The Licensure Committee recommends the following ACT scores as a substitute for Praxis I:**

ACT Taken Prior to April 1, 1995--a composite score of 21 (concordance with the combined SAT 1000 score), with the ACT mathematics score no less than 21 (concordance with the 510 SAT mathematics score), and an ACT English Plus Reading score no less than 37 (concordance with the 450 SAT verbal score).

ACT Taken After April 1, 1995--a composite score of 24 (concordance with the combined SAT 1100 score), with the ACT mathematics score no less than 22 (concordance with the 530 mathematics score) and an ACT English Plus Reading score no less than 46 (concordance with the 530 SAT verbal score).

The advisory board approved the recommendation with a vote of 16-0.

4. ACTFL Tests: **The Licensure Committee recommended proficiency levels of “Advanced Low” and above for the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) and the Writing Proficiency Test (WPT). The advisory board approved the recommendation with a vote of 16-0.**

5. Review of Praxis I Re-Validation and Standard-Setting Studies: **The Licensure Committee recommended that the Board adjust the Praxis I scores as follows: Mathematics-175; Reading-178; and Writing-176 with a Composite Score of 530. Dr. Davis-Dorsey indicated that the licensure committee’s recommendation was not unanimous; three committee members indicated that they wanted to review the test prior to making a recommendation on the scores. After discussion, the advisory board approved the recommendation with a vote of 10-4 with 2 abstentions.**

LIAISON REPORTS

The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV): Harvey Carmichael reported that new members on the Council have been appointed—Alan Wurtzel, chairman, and James W. Dyke, Jr. Dr. Dan LaVista has been appointed executive director of SCHEV.

Work continues on the transfer initiative. This initiative will assist students transferring credits to a four-year institution. SCHEV also continues with Project Gear-Up.

The Department of Education: Thomas A. Elliott presented information on the Meritorious New Teacher Candidate. He provided a brief report on the Governor’s Hard-to-Staff Mentor Teacher Initiatives and announced that the Virginia Teacher of the Year recognition and banquet will be held October 29. The Governor’s Second Great Virginia Teach-In: *A Call to Teach* will be held March 4-5, 2005.

ADJOURNMENT

The ABTEL meeting was adjourned.