

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

MINUTES

Meeting Date and Location: November 19, 2007
Holiday Inn Koger South Conference Center
Richmond, Virginia

ABTEL Members Present:

Jeffrey Arco	Dr. William H. Graves, III	Dawn Rees-Blakeman
Rene Massey Ashjian	Dr. Carole C. Grove	Susan Shoap
Cynthia D. Baird	Dr. Betty Hobbs	Angela Turley
Diane Bialkowski	Linda Kelly	Rena White
Dr. Nancy Davenport	Mary Kolman	Ann Williams
Tracey Dingus	Valeria Porter	Dr. Phillip Worrell

ABTEL Members Absent: Gloria Talbott

Board of Education Liaison: Dr. Ella P. Ward

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

Bill Hightower for Dr. Susan Wood
Virginia Community College System

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

Guests: Stella Edwards, Virginia Council of PTA's
Brenda Gilman, Director of Teacher Education
Randolph Macon College
Barbara Warren Jones, President, VASPA
Betty Lambdin, Virginia Education Association

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 ABTEL member**

Tracey Dingus was introduced as a new ABTEL member. Rene Massey Ashjian was assigned as her mentor.

- **Introduction of Guests**

Guests were introduced to the Advisory Board.

- **Approval of Agenda**

Ann Williams made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Susan Shoap seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Carol Grove made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2007, Advisory Board meeting. Dr. Nancy Davenport seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

- **Public Comment**

No individuals asked to speak during the public comment period.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE FULL BOARD

Status of Licensure Regulations

Dr. James Lanham, director of licensure, provided an update on the implementation of the new licensure regulations. The regulations became effective on September 21, 2007, and they are posted on the Department of Education Web site. The new routes to administrative endorsement, new professional studies requirements, career paths to teaching, addition of endorsements by testing, and the new International License were discussed. Board members requested that Department of Education personnel investigate tracking the number and type of endorsements added through testing.

Status of Approved Program Regulations

Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver, director of teacher education, discussed the implementation of the new approved program regulations. The regulations became effective September 21, 2007. Currently, the 37 teacher education programs at Virginia's colleges and universities are conditionally approved. Letters explaining this status change will be sent to all college and university presidents. A draft implementation plan is under development. A telephone conference call occurred between college and university program representatives and DOE personnel concerning the National Council for Teacher Education and the Teacher Education Council Partnership agreements.

Action on ABTEL's Recommendations to the Board of Education

Dr. JoAnne Carver reported that the Board of Education approved the addition of an endorsement program at Hampton University in Administration and Supervision Prek-12 at the October 18, 2007, meeting. At that same meeting the Board of Education voted to grant continuing accreditation to the Teacher Education Program at Ferrum College.

Dr. James Lanham reported that the Board of Education approved the use of the Sign Communication Proficiency Interview (SCPI) as an option for demonstrating proficiency in American Sign Language in order to add the endorsement. The Board approved a proficiency level of "advanced" for this assessment.

Oral Language Proficiency of Pre-service Foreign Language Teachers

Dr. JoAnne Carver discussed the results of the survey of colleges and universities concerning the oral proficiency of their pre-service foreign language teachers. Of the 27 programs offering foreign language endorsements, 15 responses (55%) were received. A chart showing the results of the survey was presented and reviewed. Information concerning the anticipated changes in the Praxis II assessments in French, Spanish and German (including a speaking component) will be distributed to college and university programs.

Report on Advancing Virginia's Leadership Agenda

Dr. James Lanham provided an update regarding efforts to improve instructional leadership across the state. As part of the continuing efforts to improve leadership preparation and support leaders across the Commonwealth, the Department applied for and received an additional grant from the Wallace Foundation to do additional work in the area of leadership. A request for proposals was distributed to all public colleges and universities with approved programs in administration and supervision. After a review of the responses, the University of Virginia, under the leadership of Dr. Pamela Tucker, was awarded the contract to provide revised and aligned standards for school leadership, performance standards for both novice and experienced principals, and a guidance document for division superintendents to assist in identifying candidates for the Level II administrative endorsement. One of the factors influencing the contract

award was the extensive network of both higher education and professional organization partners the University of Virginia proposed to use in this project. The first draft documents are due in early March 2008 with final drafts due in May 2008. The task force supervising the grant met for the first time on November 5, 2007. There will be a second meeting on January 17, 2008. Three separate workgroups have been assigned to work on various components of the project. The Commonwealth Education Roundtable, an advisory group for education leadership issues authorized by the General Assembly and chaired by Dr. William C. Boshier from Virginia Commonwealth University, also will review the work produced by this grant.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Teacher Education Committee and the Licensure Committee met from 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

FULL BOARD

The full Board reconvened.

REPORTS FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEES

Teacher Education Committee Report

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

Agenda Item 1: Dr. Graves reported that the Teacher Education committee discussed the draft implementation manual for approved program regulations and made several suggestions for improvement and requests for additional information for the next meeting.

Agenda Item 2: **The Teacher Education Committee made a motion that the Advisory Board recommend to the Board of Education that new foreign language Praxis II tests (including oral language proficiency) under development be implemented no earlier than July 1, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.**

Teacher Licensure Committee Report

Jeffrey Arco presented the report from the Teacher Licensure Committee.

Agenda Item 1: **The Teacher Licensure Committee made a motion that the full Advisory Board endorse the Draft Virginia Teaching Standards as a resource to enhance classroom instruction. The motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item 2: The Teacher Licensure Committee does not recommend adopting the Latin Praxis II assessment at this time.

Agenda Item 3: The Teacher Licensure Committee recommended that further clarification be provided concerning the implementation of new Praxis II assessments in French, Spanish, and German. Even though the new tests may be field tested in Spring 2008 and ready for use by Fall 2008, the Board of Education will determine the Virginia timeline for test implementation that will allow adequate time for standard setting as well as for colleges and universities to make adjustments to their preparation programs as needed.

The Teacher Licensure Committee also discussed teacher retention and recruitment initiatives across the Commonwealth.

LIAISON REPORTS

The Virginia Community College System (VCCS)

No report was provided.

The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)

Dr. Gary Krapf reported that a summit will be held on November 8, 2007, for Virginia HELP – Higher Education Leadership Partners. This group is examining the transition of Special Education students from high school into higher education with a goal of improving the process and making this transition easier for these students.

Department of Education

Dr. JoAnne Carver announced the winners of the 2007 Milken Education Awards: Kimberly Colbert, Richmond City Public Schools and Amy Macaleer, Prince William County Public Schools. Dr. Carver announced that Thomas Smigiel, Norfolk City Public Schools, was the 2008 Virginia Teacher of the Year.

ADJOURNMENT

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting adjourned.