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

**MINUTES**

**Meeting Date and Location:** March 16, 2009  
DoubleTree Hotel – Richmond Airport  
Richmond, Virginia

**ABTEL Members Present:**

Jeffrey Arco	Dr. William H. Graves, III	Susan Shoap
Cynthia D. Baird	Dr. Carole C. Grove	Angela S. Turley
Susan E. Bridges	Charlotte B. Hayer	Ann Y. Williams
Tracey L. Dingus	Dr. Betty E. Hobbs	Dr. Philip Worrell
Jaim L. Foster	Lawrence Lenz	
	Dawn Rees-Blakeman	

**ABTEL Members Absent:** Debra Abadie  
Rene Massey Ashjian  
Valeria Porter

**Board of Education Liaison:** Dr. Ella P. Ward

**Ex-Officio Members:** Dr. Gary Krapf (Absent)  
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Rebecca Waters for Bill Hightower  
Virginia Community College System

Patty S. Pitts  
Virginia Department of Education

**Department of Education Staff:** Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver  
Dr. James Lanham  
Mrs. Anne Wescott

**Guests:** Elisa Bennett, Seven Puentes  
Kitty J. Boitnott, Virginia Education Association  
Dr. Patricia Shoemaker, Radford University  
Beth Smith, Education Testing Services  
Julia Tucker-Lloyd, Virginia Community College System

## **FULL BOARD CONVENES**

- **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.

- **Introduction of Guests**

Tracey Dingus acknowledged guests to the Advisory Board.

- **Approval of Agenda**

**Charlotte Hayer made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Susan Shoap seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.**

- **Approval of Minutes**

**Dawn Rees-Blakeman made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2009, Advisory Board meeting. Jaim Foster seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

- **Public Comment**

No individuals requested to speak during the public comment period.

## **PRESENTATIONS ON TEACHER EDUCATION AND LICENSURE ITEMS TO THE FULL BOARD**

- **Report on the 2009 Virginia General Assembly**

Mrs. Anne Wescott, assistant superintendent, Division of Policy and Communications, reported on the recently concluded Virginia General Assembly session. She reviewed the Legislative Tracking Report for all bills and resolutions related to education that were considered in the session and their current status. These tracking reports will continue to be updated each Friday until the April 8, 2009, veto session. A final report will be posted after the veto session has concluded and the Governor has taken final action on all bills and resolutions forwarded to him. Mrs. Wescott gave particular attention to House Bill 2224 concerning the certification of Braille instructors that was forwarded to ABTEL for a recommendation. This recommendation to the Board of Education and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health must be completed by December 31, 2009.

- **Report on Radford University's Approved Education Program**

Dr. Patricia Shoemaker, Dean of the College of Education and Human Development at Radford University, made a presentation regarding the approved education programs at Radford. She highlighted the programs and research projects at the institution.

- **Board of Education Action on February 19, 2009, on the First Review of a Recommendation of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure to Grant Approval to Request to Add New Endorsement Programs at Norfolk State University and Virginia State University**

Mrs. Patty S. Pitts, assistant superintendent, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, made a presentation on the following item:

- ABTEL Recommendations to the Board of Education on February 19, 2009:
  - First review of a Recommendation of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure to Grant Approval to Requests to Add New Endorsement Programs at Norfolk State University and Virginia State University. The Board of Education waived first review and approved ABTEL's recommendation to grant "Conditional Approval" for new endorsement programs at Norfolk State University and Virginia State University. Colleges and universities must meet requirements for continued approval in accordance with the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* effective September 21, 2007.

#### **ACTION ITEM**

- Continued Discussion and Recommendation on the Assessment of Basic Skills for Entry Into a Virginia Approved Education Preparation Program.

Patty Pitts presented a summary of past discussions regarding options for the assessment of basic skills for entry into a Virginia approved education preparation program. The option of developing a composite score using the Reading and Writing scores from the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA) and the Mathematics Score from Praxis I was discussed. Additional work and investigation will need to be conducted to determine the feasibility of using a composite of the two tests as a possible option. The Advisory Board members were interested in staff pursuing a review to determine the possibility of a composite score as an option. This item will be discussed further at the April 20, 2009, meeting.

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

### **The Virginia Community College System (VCCS)**

Mrs. Rebecca Waters reported the following information on behalf of the Virginia Community College System:

1. The VCCS Career Switcher Program currently has 97 individuals completing Level II placements in various school systems.
2. Forty-six individuals completed Level I of the Career Switcher program in fall, 2008. An additional 74 students are enrolled in the Level I spring cohort.
3. Thirty-six individuals are enrolled in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program Level I spring cohort.

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

There was no report for SCHEV at this meeting.

### **Department of Education**

Patty Pitts reported that the non-public school teacher representative to the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure is vacant, and a nomination is being sought. She announced that Rene Massey Ashjian, Cynthia Baird, and Dr. William Graves are completing their second term this year and are not be eligible for reappointment. Dawn Rees-Blakeman, Carole Grove, Susan Shoap, and Ann Williams will be completing their first term this year and are eligible for reappointment.

Ms. Pitts reminded the Advisory Board that the School Leadership Licensure Assessment (SLLA) Standard Setting Study would be conducted on March 24 and 25 in Richmond.

She also announced that a workshop on Advancing Virginia's School Leadership Agenda would be held on March 31 in Richmond, and that spaces were available for any ABTEL members who are interested in attending.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The Teacher Education Committee and the Licensure Committee met from 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 noon.

## **LUNCH**

Members of the Advisory Board convened for a working lunch.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting adjourned.