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

**MINUTES**

**Meeting Date and Location:** September 20-21, 2009  
DoubleTree Hotel – Richmond Airport  
Richmond, Virginia

**ABTEL Members Present:**

Debra Abadie	Charlotte B. Hayer	Angela S. Turley
Jeffrey A. Arco	Kathy Heil	Ann Y. Williams
Rena Berlin	Dr. Betty E. Hobbs	Dr. Philip L. Worrell
Susan E. Bridges	Larry W. Lenz*	
Tracey L. Dingus	Dr. Susan G. Magliaro	
Jaim L. Foster	Patricia McGloine	
Dr. Courtney Gaskins	Valeria C. Porter	
Dr. Carole C. Grove		

\*Attended September 20

**ABTEL Members Absent:** Larry W. Lenz (Absent on September 21)  
Dawn Rees-Blakeman

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

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

Julia Tucker-Lloyd for Bill Hightower  
Virginia Community College System

Patty S. Pitts  
Virginia Department of Education

\*\*Attended September 21

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

**Guests:**

September 20, 2009:

Kris Lewis, National Federation of the Blind-Virginia  
Glen R. Slonneger, Virginia Department of the  
Blind and Vision Impaired  
Beth Smith, Educational Testing Service  
Barbara Warren Jones, Hampton City Public Schools

September 21, 2009:

Florence Cucchi, Educational Testing Service  
Kris Lewis, National Federation of the Blind-Virginia  
Bekah Saxon, Virginia Education Association  
Beth Smith, Educational Testing Service  
Dr. Richard J. Tannenbaum, Educational Testing  
Service  
Dr. Linda L. Tyler, Educational Testing Service

**September 20, 2009**

**2:30-5:00 p.m.**

Jefferson and Madison Rooms

**FULL BOARD CONVENES**

**2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

- **Opening Remarks and Welcome**

Tracey Dingus, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and welcomed members and guests.

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

Tracey Dingus introduced new ABTEL members. The full Advisory Board introduced themselves.

- **Introduction of the Board of Education Liaison, Ex Officio Members, and Department of Education Personnel to ABTEL**

The above individuals introduced themselves to the Advisory Board.

- **Introduction of Guests**

Tracey Dingus acknowledged guests to the Advisory Board.

- **Approval of Agenda**

Ann Williams made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Jaim Foster seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved. Approval of Minutes

**Angela Turley made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 20, 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.

- **Election of Officers: Chair and Vice-Chair**

Dr. Betty E. Hobbs, ABTEL Member At Large, presided over the election of the chair of the Advisory Board.

**Ann Williams made a motion to nominate Tracey Dingus as chair of the Advisory Board. Debra Abadie seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.**

Tracey Dingus presided over the remainder of the proceedings for the election of officers.

**Susan Bridges made a motion to nominate Valeria Porter as vice chair of the Advisory Board. Jaim Foster seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.**

- **Election of a Member-at-Large to Serve on the Executive Committee**

**Dr. Carole Grove made a motion to nominate Dr. Betty Hobbs to serve as member-at-large on the executive committee of the Advisory Board. Dr. Philip Worrell seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.**

- **Appointment of Chairs to the Teacher Education Committee and the Professional Licensure Committee**

Tracey Dingus appointed Dr. Carole Grove as chair of the Teacher Education Committee and Jeffrey Arco as chair of the Licensure Committee.

- **Committee Assignments for 2009-2010**

Committee assignments were made for the year.

- **Review and Approval of 2009-2010 Meeting Dates:**

September 20-21, 2009  
November 16, 2009  
January 25, 2010  
March 15, 2010  
April 19, 2010

**Dr. Carole Grove made a motion to approve the meeting dates as presented. Dr. Betty Hobbs seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.**

### **Statutory Requirements of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure and Operational Procedures**

Mrs. Patty S. Pitts, assistant superintendent, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, Virginia Department of Education, read from the Code of Virginia the charge of ABTEL members.

#### **ACTION ITEM**

The 2009 Virginia General Assembly enacted the following House Bill 2224 regarding Braille: **Virginia General Assembly, House Bill 2224, Chapter 202:** *An act to direct the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, in consultation with the Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired, to make recommendations regarding the certification of Braille instructors.* Patty Pitts presented a review of the General Assembly charge and a summary of proceedings of the July 8 and August 5, 2009, meetings of ABTEL's committee on Braille, including the committee's recommendation to the Advisory Board.

The committee on Braille made the following recommendation to be considered by the full Advisory Board:

*The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure recommends to the Board of Education that a reliable, valid, and legally defensible assessment available statewide (to be determined) demonstrating Braille proficiency prescribed by the Virginia Board of Education be required for individuals seeking an initial license with an endorsement in Special Education-Visual Impairments. [The Department of Education shall follow policies and procedures relative to the procurement of such an assessment.] Additionally, contingent upon available funding, opportunities for licensed teachers with the endorsement in Visual Impairments be afforded additional professional development in the teaching of Braille through the Virginia Department of Education and the Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired.*

**Debra Abadie made a motion to approve the recommendation of the committee on Braille and that the recommendation be forwarded to the Virginia Board of Education for consideration. Jaim Foster seconded the motion. After discussion, Charlotte Hayer made a motion to amend the recommendation of the committee on Braille to state that the Advisory Board supports the Virginia Board of Education's efforts to include teachers of visually impaired students in the *Standards of Quality* funding formula. Rena Berlin seconded the motion. The motion to amend the committee on Braille's recommendation was unanimously approved.**

**Jaim Foster made a motion to request the Virginia Department of Education, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, make available at future meetings, a laptop computer to record language of recommendations made to ABTEL during discussion of action items. Charlotte Hayer seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

#### **Announcements**

There were no announcements.

#### **Adjournment**

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting adjourned.

**September 21, 2009  
9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Jefferson and Madison Rooms**

#### **FULL BOARD**

**9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

#### **Full Board Convenes**

- **Opening Remarks and Welcome**

Tracey Dingus, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed members and guests.

- **Introduction of Guests**

Tracey Dingus acknowledged guests to the Advisory Board.

- **Public Comment**

No individuals requested to speak during the public comment period.

### **REPORT**

Dr. Linda L. Tyler, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Teacher Licensure and Certification Programs, Educational Testing Service, presented a research report: “Useful Signal or Unnecessary Obstacle? The Role of Basic Skills Tests in Teacher Preparation.” Dr. Tyler provided information regarding the following aspects of the report: a) questions pursued; b) competing hypotheses in the educational establishment about Praxis I; c) study set-up (design); d) analysis of data; e) findings; f) most influential academic variables related to outcome of passing Praxis II; and, g) policy and educational implications of the study. The Advisory Board received the report.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- **Review of the Standard-Setting Studies and the Recommendation for a Passing Score for the *School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA)***

Dr. Richard J. Tannenbaum, Research Director, Validity Research Center, Educational Testing Service; Florence Cucchi, Client Relations Director, Educational Testing Service; and Dr. James Lanham, director of licensure and educational leadership, Virginia Department of Education, presented information on standard-setting studies and the recommendation for a passing score for the *School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA)*.

A Virginia standard-setting study was conducted for the new *SLLA* on March 24 and 25, 2009. The Educational Testing Service conducted the study on behalf of the Virginia Department of Education. The new *SLLA* will be administered in Virginia for the first time in January 2010.

The purposes of the study were to a) recommend the minimum *SLLA* score judged necessary to award the endorsement in administration and supervision and b) confirm the importance of the *SLLA* content specifications for entry-level school leaders in Virginia. The Advisory Board will forward a recommendation for a passing score to the Virginia Board of Education. The Board of Education will set the final cut score for the revised assessment. Detailed information on the standard-setting study may be obtained from the Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, Virginia Department of Education.

**Dr. Philip Worrell made a motion that the Advisory Board recommends the Virginia Board of Education approve the Virginia Standard-Setting Panel's recommended cut-score for the revised *SLLA* with the condition that the cut-score will be reviewed after three administrations of the *SLLA*. Dr. Susan Magliaro seconded the motion. After discussion, Dr. Worrell withdrew the motion.**

**Dr. Worrell made a motion to delay making a recommendation on the cut-score for the *SLLA* until the November 2009 ABTEL meeting in order to review the test scores from other states for the September 2009 *SLLA* test administration. Charlotte Hayer seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

- **Review of the Report on the Biennial Approval of Education Programs in Virginia**

Patty Pitts provided an overview of the *Report on the Biennial Approval of Education Programs in Virginia*. The *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8VAC20-541-10 et seq.), effective September 21, 2007, require colleges and universities to submit a biennial report to the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) that includes information about candidate performance in each institution. The first report, *Biennial Report for Accountability Measure*, was due to the VDOE by August 7, 2009. The biennial report, partnership information, and matrices will be reviewed by ABTEL for program approval recommendations in November 2009.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The Teacher Education Committee and the Licensure Committee met from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

### **LUNCH**

Members of the Advisory Board convened for a working lunch.

### **REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

#### Teacher Education Committee

#### **Agenda Item: *Title II Higher Education Opportunity Act Update***

Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver, director of teacher education, Division of Teacher Education and licensure, Virginia Department of Education provided an update on the *Title II Higher Education Opportunity Act*, including the new reporting requirements for institutions of higher education and state departments of education.

Licensure Committee

**Agenda Item: *Update on Praxis II Test Regeneration***

Dr. James W. Lanham, director of professional licensure and school leadership, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, Virginia Department of Education, presented an update on *Praxis II Test Regeneration*. The Educational Testing Service is continuing its test regeneration process for Praxis II examinations.

The regeneration for Praxis II tests in French, German, Spanish, and Business Education has been concluded, resulting in significant changes to each test that will require the Virginia Department of Education to complete a standard-setting study and determine a new passing score for each test. The standard-setting studies for Virginia will be conducted later this fall. The panels for German and French will convene on November 30 and December 1, 2009. The panels for Spanish and Business Education will convene on December 2 and 3, 2009. Recommendations regarding proposed scoring for the tests will be forwarded to ABTEL for review in early 2010.

**REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

- Teacher Education Committee

The Teacher Education Committee received the report on the *Title II Higher Education Opportunity Act*.

- **Licensure Committee**

The Licensure Committee received the report on *Praxis II Test Regeneration* and confirmed support for the efforts of the VDOE to move forward with the process of standard-setting, as appropriate, in conjunction with the Educational Testing Service.

**LIAISON REPORTS**

The Virginia Community College System (VCCS)

Ms. Julia Tucker-Lloyd represented Dr. Bill Hightower, and reported the following information on behalf of the Virginia Community College System:

- The VCCS Career Switcher Program currently has enrolled 97 students in preparation programs across the critical shortage areas.



State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)

Dr. Gary Krapf reported the following on behalf of the SCHEV:

- A statewide GEAR-UP meeting will be held on November 2, 2009, at the Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, Virginia. Approximately 25 school divisions and 37 high schools will be represented.
- Gaining access (to higher education opportunities) remains a significant objective in addressing students entering higher education in Virginia.

Department of Education

Patty Pitts reported the following on behalf of the Virginia Department of Education:

- The 2010 Mary V. Bicouvaris Teacher of the Year Awards Program and Banquet will be held on Friday, October 16, 2009, at the DoubleTree Hotel Richmond Airport.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting adjourned.