

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

**MINUTES**

**Meeting Date and Location:** April 28, 2014  
Comfort Suites at Virginia Center Commons  
Glen Allen, Virginia

**ABTEL Members Present:**

Debra Abadie	Kathy Heil	Janice Bell Underwood
Allen Lee Bierlair	Kenneth LaLonde	Conner Waldron
Bonnie Bowen	Dr. Brian Matney	Ruth Wallace
Dr. Cathy Fisher	Patricia McGloine	Jane Watkins
Dr. Courtney Gaskins	Nancy Moga	Vern Williams
Dr. Rebecca Gates	Kate Sydney	

**ABTEL Members Absent:** Thelma Hampton  
Dr. Susan G. Magliaro

**Board of Education Liaison:** Winsome Earle Sears

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

Dr. Chris Pfautz  
Virginia Community College System

Patty S. Pitts  
Virginia Department of Education

**Department of Education Staff:** Dr. Mark R. Allan  
Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver

**Guests:** Dr. Cathy Owens-Oliver, Educational Testing Service  
Dr. Jan Stennette, Dean, School of Education and  
Human Development, Lynchburg College

## **FULL ADVISORY BOARD CONVENES**

### **9 a.m.**

- **Opening Remarks and Welcome**

Dr. Courtney Gaskins, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. and welcomed members and guests.

- **Introduction of ABTEL Members and Guests**

The Advisory Board members, ex officio members, Virginia Department of Education staff, and guests introduced themselves.

- **Approval of Agenda**

**Kathy Heil made a motion to approve the agenda. Bonnie Bowen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

- **Approval of Minutes**

**Dr. Cathy Fisher made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2014, Advisory Board meeting. Brian Matney seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

- **Public Comment**

There were no requests for public comment.

## **PRESENTATION**

### **Special Recognition of Advisory Board Members**

Dr. Courtney Gaskins, chair, and Ms. Winsome Earle Sears, vice president of the Virginia Board of Education and Board liaison to the Advisory Board, presented *Virginia Board of Education Certificates of Recognition* to the following members for their distinguished service to the Advisory Board:

- Debra C. Abadie  
Parent Teacher Association Representative  
July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2014
- Mr. Kenneth W. LaLonde  
Personnel Administration Representative  
July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2014

Mrs. Patty S. Pitts, assistant superintendent for teacher education and licensure, Virginia Department of Education, thanked both members for their service and contributions to ABTEL on behalf of the Department.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- ***Review and Approval of a Recommendation to Accredite the Teacher Education Program at Virginia Intermont College through a Process Approved by the Board of Education***

Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver, director of teacher education, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, Virginia Department of Education, presented the summary of the results of the *Professional Education Program Review Team Report of Findings* for Virginia Intermont College. Virginia Intermont College requested accreditation through the Board of Education approved process. An on-site visit to review the program was conducted on November 30 - December 3, 2013.

Based on the *Professional Education Program Review Team Report of Findings* for Virginia Intermont College, the overall recommendation by the on-site review team was “Accredited with Stipulations.” (The professional education program has met the standards minimally, but significant weaknesses have been identified.) Within a two-year period, the professional education program shall fully meet standards as set forth in Section 8VAC20-542-60 of the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (effective September 21, 2007, and amended January 19, 2011). The team made this recommendation based on information available in the 2013 *Institutional Report* and the evidence available during the November 30 - December 3, 2013, on-site visit.

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure discussed the *Professional Education Program Review Team Report of Findings* and *Virginia Intermont College’s Response to the Professional Education Program Review Team Report of Findings*. The Advisory Board also inquired as to the status of Virginia Intermont College’s regional accreditation. Dr. Carver reported that based on correspondence received from Provost Dr. Cynthia Ward, the College is currently a “member on probation” with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. No representative from Virginia Intermont College was available at the meeting to respond to questions from Advisory Board members.

**Jane Watkins made the motion that the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure recommend to the Board of Education that the Virginia Intermont College professional education program be “Accredited with Stipulations” provided that Virginia Intermont College maintain regional accreditation through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. [The professional education program has met the standards minimally, but significant weaknesses have been identified.]**

**Allen Bierlair seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 16-1 vote.**

- ***Review and Approval of a Recommendation to Accredite the Teacher Education Program at Lynchburg College through a Process Approved by the Board of Education***

Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver presented the summary of the results of the *Professional Education Program Review Team Report of Findings* for Lynchburg College. Lynchburg College requested accreditation through the Board of Education approved process. An on-site visit to review the program was conducted on October 26-30, 2013.

Based on the *Professional Education Program Review Team Report of Findings* for Lynchburg College, the overall recommendation by the on-site review team was ***Accredited with Stipulations***. (The professional education program has met the standards minimally, but significant weaknesses have been identified.) Within a two-year period, the professional education program shall fully meet standards as set forth in Section 8VAC20-542-60 of the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (effective September 21, 2007 and amended January 19, 2011). The team made this recommendation based on information available in the 2013 *Institutional Report* and the evidence available during the October 26-30, 2013, on-site visit.

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure discussed the *Professional Education Program Review Team Report of Findings* and *Lynchburg College's Response to the Professional Education Program Review Team Report of Findings*. Dean of the School of Education and Human Development, Dr. Jan Stennette, was available at the meeting to respond to questions from Advisory Board members.

**Kathy Heil made the motion that the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure recommend to the Board of Education that the Lynchburg College professional education program be Accredited with Stipulations. (The professional education program has met the standards minimally, but significant weaknesses have been identified.) Within a two-year period, the professional education program shall fully meet standards set forth in the Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia. Bonnie Bowen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

- **Approval of Dates for ABTEL Meetings for the 2014-2015 School Year**

Patty S. Pitts presented the following proposed dates for the ABTEL meetings for the 2014-2015 School Year:

September 15, 2014  
November 17, 2014  
January 26, 2015  
March 16, 2015  
April 27, 2015

**Bonnie Bowen made a motion that the Advisory Board approve the proposed dates for the 2014-2015 meetings. Janice Underwood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

## REPORTS

- **Report on the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure's Recommendations to the Virginia Board of Education**

Patty S. Pitts provided a summary of the following Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure recommendations considered by the Board of Education at the April 24, 2014, meeting. Both agenda items will be presented to the Board of Education for final review at the May 22, 2014, meeting.

- Review of the Recommendation of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) for Passing Scores for the Reading and Language Arts Subtest (5002) and Mathematics Subtest (5003) of the Praxis II Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects Test
- Review of the Recommendation of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) for a Passing Score for the Praxis II Middle School Science Test (5440)

- **Report on Teacher Recruitment and Retention**

Patty S. Pitts made a presentation on Department of Education teacher recruitment and retention initiatives. She also provided a report on the status of regulatory revisions.

## LIAISON REPORTS

### Virginia Community College System (VCCS)

Dr. Chris Pfautz, director of student support technologies, Virginia Community College System, reported the following:

1. This spring, EducateVA students are completing career switcher programs at nine different community college sites across Virginia, including Lord Fairfax, Blue Ridge, Southwest Virginia, Virginia Western, the Community College Workforce Alliance in Midlothian, Tidewater, and Northern Virginia Community college sites in Manassas, Woodbridge and Annandale.

A total of 137 candidates are completing programs in the following teaching endorsement areas:

- career and technical education: business and information technology;
- career and technical education: family and consumer sciences;
- career and technical education: marketing education;
- career and technical education: technology education;
- English;
- foreign languages PreK-12: French, German, Chinese (Mandarin);
- health and physical education PreK-12;
- history and social sciences;

- mathematics;
  - middle education 6-8: English, mathematics, history and social sciences, science;
  - science: biology, chemistry, earth science; and
  - English as a second language PreK-12.
2. Students in all subject areas except English as a Second Language (ESL) will complete their programs on May 31, 2014. Students in the ESL program will finish on June 7, 2014.
  3. Including the fall cohort, the EducateVA program prepared 220 students this school year.
  4. The first EducateVA Recruitment Fair for career switcher program completers is being held in Richmond on May 15, 2014. Twenty-four school divisions are registered to attend. Plans are underway to make this an annual event.
  5. Three EducateVA graduates in their first year of teaching have been nominated for First-Year Teacher of the Year in their school divisions.
  6. An EducateVA student, Gail Ruschetta, was recently featured in an article on teaching as a second career in the *New York Times*.
  7. Since September, nearly 1,000 registrations have been recorded for EducateVA informational webinars. Two webinars are scheduled in May 2014.
  8. Currently, 113 EducateVA program completers have reported being hired during the 2013-2014 school year. Several graduates have been given early offers for positions for the 2014-2015 school year. Upcoming graduates are actively applying and interviewing for positions across the Commonwealth.

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

Dr. Monica Osei shared the following information on behalf of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia:

1. The State Council of Higher Education is sponsoring the Virginia Higher Education Research Summit on Monday, June 9, 2014, in coordination with the Virginia Chamber of Commerce, the Virginia Business Higher Education Council, the Center for Innovative Technology, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, and the Center for Excellence in Education. The purpose of the Summit is to increase research activity that supports economic development in high-demand industry sectors.

The Summit will highlight opportunities to increase research by Virginia's universities that will help fuel job growth and economic activity for the Commonwealth and will feature leaders from universities and the private sector representing high-demand industry sectors. The audience will include university research leaders, corporate leaders with a research portfolio, members and staff of the Virginia General Assembly and Governor's office, and others engaged in economic development and academic research.

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2. SCHEV staff will be working on a new Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) grant. The U. S. Department of Education has not yet announced the grant; however, an announcement is expected next month. SCHEV staff have secured the Governor's designation letter in support of the grant. Also, a grant development committee is being organized to include other stakeholders. Michael Bolling, director of mathematics and Governor's Schools, will represent the Virginia Department of Education on the committee.

Virginia Department of Education

Patty Pitts provided the following informational updates:

1. Dr. Steven R. Staples has been appointed the Superintendent of Public Instruction effective May 1, 2014. Superintendent of Public Instruction Patricia I. Wright retires on May 1, 2014.
2. Mr. Christian N. Braunlich was elected president of the Virginia Board of Education in February 2014. Ms. Winsome E. Sears was elected vice president of the Virginia Board of Education in February 2014 and has been appointed as the Board's liaison to ABTEL.

Announcements

ABTEL member Janice Underwood, announced that she has been selected as a White House Fellows Regional Finalist. A final decision will be made later this summer.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting adjourned at noon.