

Board of Education Agenda Item

Item: _____ A. _____

Date: _____ June 19, 2008 _____

Topic: First Review of a Recommendation of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) to Grant Approval to Requests to Add New Endorsement Programs at Emory and Henry College, Liberty University, Old Dominion University, Shenandoah University, Sweet Briar College, and The University of Virginia's College at Wise

Presenter: Mrs. Patty S. Pitts, Assistant Superintendent for Teacher Education and Licensure

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Origin:

Topic presented for information only (no board action required)

Board review required by

State or federal law or regulation

Board of Education regulation

Other: _____

Action requested at this meeting Action requested at future meeting: _____ (date)

Previous Review/Action:

No previous board review/action

Previous review/action

date _____

action _____

Background Information:

The *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8VAC20-542-10 et seq.), effective September 21, 2007, require colleges and universities that offer programs for the preparation of professional school personnel to obtain education program (endorsement) approval from the Board of Education. Current education programs have been granted “*Conditional Approval*.” By December 31, 2009, these programs must receive one of the following three ratings by the Board of Education: *Approved*; *Approved with Stipulations*; or *Approval Denied*.

Requests to offer new education endorsement programs are submitted to the Department of Education. Personnel in the Division of Teacher Education and Licensure and program specialists within the Department of Education review the programs to ensure competencies have been addressed. The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) reviews and makes recommendations to the Board of Education on approval of Virginia education programs for school personnel. Final authority for program approval rests with the Board of Education. Requests for new program endorsements approved by the Board of Education will receive a rating of “*Conditional Approval*.”

The *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia*, in part, stipulate the following:

8VAC20-542-20. Administering the regulations.

- D. Institutions of higher education seeking approval of an education program shall be accredited by a regional accrediting agency....
- H. Education programs shall be approved under these regulations biennially based on compliance with the criteria described in 8VAC20-542-40....

8VAC20-542-40. Standards for biennial approval of education programs.

Approved education programs in Virginia shall have national accreditation or be accredited by a process approved by the Board of Education and demonstrate achievement biennially of the following accountability measures:

1. Candidate progress and performance on prescribed Board of Education licensure assessments. Candidate passing rates, reported by percentages, shall not fall below 70% biennially for individuals completing and exiting the program. Achievement of an 80% biennial passing rate shall be required by July 1, 2010. Candidates completing a program shall have successfully completed all coursework, required assessments, including those prescribed by the Board of Education, and supervised student teaching or internship. Candidates exiting a program shall have successfully completed all coursework, regardless of whether the individuals attempted, passed, or failed required assessments, including those prescribed by the Board of Education, and/or who may not have completed supervised student teaching or required internship.
2. Candidate progress and performance on an assessment of basic skills as prescribed by the Board of Education for individuals seeking entry into an approved education preparation program....
3. Structured and integrated field experiences to include student teaching requirements....
4. Evidence of opportunities for candidates to participate in diverse school settings that provide experiences with populations that include racial, economic, linguistic, and ethnic diversity throughout the program experiences....
5. Evidence of contributions to preK-12 student achievement by candidates completing the program....
6. Evidence of employer job satisfaction with candidates completing the program....
7. Partnerships and collaborations based on preK-12 school needs....

Summary of Major Elements:

On April 20, 2008, the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure recommended that the Board of Education grant approval for the following new endorsement programs at Emory and Henry College; Liberty University; Old Dominion University; Shenandoah University; Sweet Briar College; and The University of Virginia’s College at Wise.

Institution	Endorsement Program Requested	Level of Program
Emory and Henry College	Special Education Curriculum K-12	Graduate
Liberty University	Early Childhood for Three- and Four-Year Olds (Add-on Endorsement) This add-on endorsement may be added to a teaching license with an endorsement in elementary education.	Graduate
Old Dominion University	Mathematics Specialist for Elementary and Middle Education	Graduate
Shenandoah University	Spanish preK-12	Undergraduate
	Special Education General Curriculum K-12	Graduate
Sweet Briar College	Special Education General Curriculum K-12	Graduate
The University of Virginia’s College at Wise	Music Education-Instrumental preK-12 and Music Education-Vocal/Choral preK-12	Undergraduate

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education waive first review and approve the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure’s recommendation to grant “conditional approval” for new endorsement programs at Emory and Henry College, Liberty University, Old Dominion University, Shenandoah University, Sweet Briar College, and The University of Virginia’s College at Wise.

Impact on Resources: There is a minimum impact on resources.

Timetable for Further Review/Action: 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.