



## **Certification and Higher Education Committee**

Maine State Board of Education  
Minutes of the January 22, 2020 Meeting

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following were present: Committee Chair, Jane Sexton; Jana Lapoint; Wendy Ault; and Wilson Hess (Board Members). Angel Loreda, Director of Higher Education and Educator Support Services; Stephanie Fyfe, Certification Coordinator; and Jason Libby, Higher Education Specialist (Department of Education) and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Specialist.

Guest: Cynthia Alexander, CCSA Representative, RSU #5

Chair, Jane Sexton called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

### **Public Comment:**

Cynthia Alexander thanked Committee members for allowing her to continue participating in Committee meetings. She has missed a couple meetings due to other commitments at her school.

Jane Sexton complimented Cynthia Alexander on her attendance to Committee meetings and her contribution participating in discussions.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

MOTION by Jana Lapoint, seconded by Jane Sexton, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the December 18, 2019 minutes as written.

### **Certification Office Update:** *(Stephanie Fyfe)*

MEIS Info – Online System:

- 0-15 minutes phone wait time
- Advertising three weeks
- 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM – Monday through Friday for call-ins
- Calendar Year over Year 2018-2019 update
- Meets with developer on a regular basis – once a week

Stephanie updated the Committee on the following projects:

- Legislative Work Update
  - Met with Representative McCrea to discuss one of his sponsored bills
  - Career and Technical Education (CTE)
    - an example of one licensed teacher not qualified to teach CTE (experience in a restaurant business from many years ago) Stephanie shared an example of the experience that one individual has called and shared with her in frustration.
- **Endorsement Chart**

Stephanie shared a three-page chart with the following as of January 21, 2020:

- Endorsement Code
- Endorsement Description
- Active Count
- Employed in Position Count

**Examples:**

- Guidance Counselor
    - active – 865/employed - 648
  - Teacher of Students with Disabilities
    - active – 6,456/employed – 3,764
  - Educational Technician I
    - active – 10,591/employed – 1,266
- Notes: Ed Tech I
- high school graduate only
  - can work as substitute
  - some Ed Tech II want to stay as Ed Tech – do not want to be teachers

**Chapter 115 Update:**

***Chapter 115 – Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel:***

- Public Hearing took place on December 16, 2019 from 9:30 to 11:00 AM in Room 500 of the Cross State Office Building.
- Comment Period ended on December 27, 2019 at 5:00 PM.
- Wilson Hess signed off on the APA paperwork filed on January 10, 2020.
- The Professional Standards Board will assist with the consensus-based rule making process for Chapter 115.

**Higher Education Update:** (*Jason Libby*)

Update on Team Reports:

- *Thomas College Team Report (Peter Geiger was the board observer)* – Committee reviewed the report (page by page) and voted to have the full Board receive the report at the February 12 meeting.
- *University of Maine at Augusta (Fern Desjardins was the board observer)*

- *Colby College (Wendy Ault was the board observer)* – Committee will review the report at the February 26 Committee meeting – report received today by the Committee and will go before the full SBE at the March 11 meeting.

Upcoming Reviews:

- *Reviews coming up in 2020 but have not all been scheduled to date.*
  - University of Maine at Machias will be held in April. Martha Harris will be the Board Observer.
  - College of the Atlantic Review is scheduled for May 3 to 5, 2020. Wendy will be the Board Observer.
  - Bates College will be in September – need a Board Observer.
  - University of New England (UNE) will be in October – need a Board Observer.

Annual Report – Due date is April 7:

- The cover letter has been sent out and each report will be delivered to Jason Libby.
  - Reporting period is from September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019
  - Minor changes to the form

Other Higher Education News:

- Angel Loreda met with Beal College regarding a new program.
- There will be an announcement on Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup> in Portland.
- There will be a NASDEC conference in Boston in June.

MOTION by Jana Lapoint, seconded by Wendy Ault, and unanimously voted by those present to bring the Thomas College Review Team Report to the Board to receive at the February 12, 2020 meeting.

**Meeting Handouts:**

- 1) Agenda
- 2) Draft Minutes of the December 18, 2019 meeting
- 3) Certification News from Stephanie Fyfe
- 4) Endorsement Code/Description from Stephanie Fyfe
- 5) Thomas College Team Review of Findings
- 6) Colby College Team Review of Findings – February 26 Committee Review

**Homework:**

- 1) Each committee member will continue working on the standards related to Higher Education Reviews – Chapter 114

The next Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 9:30 AM. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the Burton Cross State Office Building.

**Adjournment:**

The Certification Committee meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.