



Certification and Higher Education Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the July 28, 2021 Meeting

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a virtual meeting on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, via Zoom. The following were present: Committee Chair, Wendy Ault; Wilson Hess; Victoria Kornfield; and Fern Desjardins (Board Members). Deputy Commissioner Chuhta; Jason Libby, Higher Education Specialist; Stephanie Fyfe, Certification Coordinator (Department of Education) and Mary Becker, State Board of Education Secretary Specialist.

Guests: Vicki Wallack, Director of Communications and Government Relations, Maine School Management Association (MSMA); Holly Couturier, Executive Director-Professional Division, Maine Principals' Association (MPA); and Rose Angell, Chair of the Adapted Physical Education Task Force.

Chair, Wendy Ault called the meeting to order at 10:31 AM.

No minutes for approval.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment

Introductions:

Chair Ault welcomed all members and guests to the meeting and reviewed the agenda. The focus of the July 28, 2021 meeting was stated:

- Public Comment
- Chapter 115 Update
- Certification update from Stephanie Fyfe, Certification Coordinator
- Higher Education update from Jason Libby, Higher Education Specialist
- Bates College Review Team Report
- University of Maine CAEP- State Review Team Report
- Review of Annual Reports

Chapter 115 Update: *(Deputy Commissioner Chuhta)*

Deputy Commissioner Chuhta presented an update on Chapter 115.

- A DOE Priority Notice went out on July 28 on behalf of the State Board of Education for the public hearing and public comment period for Chapter 115.
- As required by law, a period of public comment opens today, July 28 through September 15,

2021.

- Written comments may be submitted to Jaci Holmes at the MDOE.
- A public hearing will be held in-person and virtually via Zoom on August 16, 2021 from 2:00 to 3:00 PM at the Cross Office Building in Augusta. The space in Room 500 is limited, participants are encouraged to attend virtually through Zoom.
- Wendy Ault, Fern Desjardins and Wilson Hess will attend the public hearing in-person.

Certification Office Update: *(Stephanie Fyfe)*

Certification News – January 1 to July 26, 2021 Processing:

Stephanie Fyfe presented a written certification news update and reviewed it with the Committee. (Copy of written report in file)

Wendy Ault asked Stephanie, on behalf of the Committee, to thank her team for all their work. Deputy Commissioner Chuhta also offered his thanks to Stephanie's team for their work with the changes from LD 1189.

Deputy Commissioner Chuhta announced that a meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 30, 2021 with College Deans of each PPE program relating to LD 1189. Wendy Ault will attend. Some deans at schools were part of the consensus-based rulemaking committee that reviewed Chapter 115.

Higher Education Update: *(Jason Libby)*

Review Team upcoming schedules. All reviews will be virtual.

- The University of New England (UNE) review is scheduled for the week of September 27, 2021 and will run throughout the week. Wendy Ault and Cynthia Murray-Beliveau will be the Board Observers.
- The University of Southern Maine (USM) CAEP review is scheduled for November 7 and will conclude on November 9 or 10, 2021. Wilson Hess and Victoria Kornfield will be the Board Observers.
- The University of Maine at Presque Isle (UMPI) review is scheduled for November 15, 2021. Fern Desjardins will be the Board Observer. A new Board member may join Fern for the review.

Bates College Review Team Report:

Jason Libby framed the conversation for the Bates review held virtually on April 26 to 30, 2021. Peter Geiger was the Board Observer. The review team reviewed the institution's self-study using Chapter 114 standards. Following review of the report and discussion, a motion was made.

MOTION by Wilson Hess, seconded by Victoria Kornfield, and unanimously voted by those present to recommend that the State Board of Education receive and approve the Bates College Review Team Report at the August 11, 2021 Board meeting.

University of Maine (Orono) CAEP State Review Team Report:

Jason Libby framed the conversation for the University of Maine CAEP review held virtually on December 13-15, 2020 concurrently with a review conducted by the Council for the Accreditation for Educator Preparation (CAEP). The state review team reviewed the institution's self-study using only Chapter 114 standards 5 and 6 as outlined in an agreement between the Maine State Board of Education and CAEP. Fern Desjardins was the Board Observer. The Committee reviewed the State Review Team Report and agreed that the Committee would review the CAEP report when available. Following a discussion, a motion was made.

MOTION by Wilson Hess, seconded by Victoria Kornfield, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the report and recommend that the State Board of Education receive the University of Maine State Review Team Report at the August 11, 2021 Board meeting.

Colby College Interim Report – Follow-up from Site Visit:

On December 20, 2020, the State Board of Education requested from Colby College an interim report of progress toward meeting Standards 1 and 2.

At the June 23, 2021 Committee meeting, Mark Tappan, Professor of Education and Program Director and Adam Howard, Professor of Education and Chair of Education Program at Colby College presented an interim report to the Committee.

- Standard One: Initial Teacher Candidate Performance
- Standard Two: Assessment System and Unit Evaluation
- Eighteen Appendix attached to the report
- Full report is in the meeting file

The Committee agreed to have a conversation and a decision would be made on acceptance of the report when they have a full slate of Committee members in attendance.

MOTION by Wilson Hess, seconded by Victoria Kornfield, and unanimously voted by those present for the Committee to accept the Colby College interim report and recommend that the State Board of Education receive the report at the August 11, 2021 Board meeting.

Review of Annual Reports for Chapter 114 approved programs:

16 colleges submit this report to the Committee. The reports are due each year by April 7.

The Committee reviewed the University of Maine at Augusta annual report. The Committee will continue reviewing annual reports at the August 25, 2021 meeting.

Meeting Handouts:

- 1) Agenda
- 2) Certification update from Stephanie Fyfe, Certification Coordinator
- 3) Bates College Review Team Report
- 4) University of Maine CAEP – State Review Team Report
- 5) Annual Reports (9 reports)

The next regular Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at 10:30 AM.

Adjournment:

The July 28, 2021 Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting adjourned at 12:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Johnson Becker
Secretary Specialist,
Maine State Board of Education