



**Certification and Higher Education Committee**  
Maine State Board of Education  
Minutes of the October 27, 2021 Meeting

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a virtual meeting on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, via Zoom. The following were present: Committee Chair, Wendy Ault; Victoria Kornfield; and Fern Desjardins (Board Members). Deputy Commissioner Chuhta; Angel Loredo, Director of Office of Higher Education and Educator Support Services; Jason Libby, Higher Education Specialist; Stephanie Fyfe, Certification Coordinator; (Department of Education) and Mary Becker, State Board of Education Secretary Specialist.

Excused: Wilson Hess

Guests: No guests

Fern Desjardins called the meeting to order at 10:31 AM. Committee Chair Wendy Ault joined the meeting at 10:37 AM.

**Poem Reading:**

Poem Read by Victoria Kornfield – “Love Handles” by Wesley McNair, a Maine poet.

**Minutes for Approval:**

MOTION by Victoria Kornfield, seconded by Wendy Ault, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the May 26, 2021 minutes as presented.

MOTION by Victoria Kornfield, seconded by Wendy Ault, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the June 28, 2021 special committee meeting minutes as presented.

**Public Comment:**

No Public Comment

**Introductions:**

Chair Ault welcomed all members and guests to the meeting and reviewed the agenda. The focus of the October 27, 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
- Strategic Plan

**Chapter 115 Update:** *(Wendy Ault)*

Committee Chair Wendy Ault presented an update on Chapter 115.

- Rule Chapter 115 is moving forward. Deputy Commissioner Chuhta sent the latest version of Part I and Part II of Chapter 115 to Committee members on October 26, 2021. The State Board of Education held a special meeting on October 26, 2021 to authorize the filing of the substantive changes articulated in Chapter 115 rules and the Administrative Procedures Act forms with the Secretary of State’s Office.
- At the October 26, 2021 special meeting, of the State Board, the Board voted unanimously to amend Chapter 115 Part I Section 6.7 by moving B.1 into the introductory *B. Eligibility* statement; Part II Section 1 by eliminating “adolescent psychology” from 1.1.B.2.j; and to authorize the filing of the substantive changes as articulated above in Chapter 115 rules and the Administrative Procedures Act forms with the Secretary of State’s Office immediately following the October 26, 2021 Special State Board meeting.
- Substantive changes require that the State Board provide 30 days of public comment. A public hearing is not required. The topics included in changes are as follows:
  - Refine grade spans
  - Reinstatement of Adaptive Physical Education (APE) endorsement
  - Revise language per P.L.2021, Chapter 348, which requires that rules which used the term ‘hearing impaired’ be changed to ‘deaf or hard of hearing’

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

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

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

*Review Team upcoming schedules. All reviews will be virtual.*

- The University of New England (UNE) review took place the week of September 27, 2021. Wendy Ault was the Board Observer. The Committee will receive and review the report at the November 17, 2021 Committee meeting.
- The University of Southern Maine (USM) CAEP review is scheduled for November 7, 2021 and will conclude on November 9 or 10, 2021. Wilson Hess will be the Board Observer.
- The next CAEP review will be in 2024 at the University of Maine at Farmington.
- The University of Maine at Presque Isle (UMPI) review is scheduled for November 15, 2021. Fern Desjardins and Victoria Kornfield will be the Board Observers. Jason Libby will prepare an exhibit for the November 10, 2021 State Board meeting.

- UMaine CAEP Action Report – the Committee agreed that the State Board of Education, receive the University of Maine Educator Preparation Program Council for the Accreditation for Educator Preparation (CAEP) Review Team Report at the November 10, 2021 Board meeting. Jason Libby will prepare the exhibit.

MOTION by Victoria Kornfield, seconded by Wendy Ault, and unanimously voted by those present to recommend that the State Board of Education approve the proposed review team for the University of Maine at Presque Isle Educator Preparation programs at the November 10, 2021 State Board Meeting.

**SBE Strategic Plan:**

Continued conversation of the Strategic Plan for Certification and Higher Education was postponed until the November 17, 2021 Committee meeting.

**Announcement:**

No announcements

**Meeting Handouts:**

- 1) Agenda
- 2) Draft minutes of the May 26 and June 28, 2021 meetings
- 3) Certification update from Stephanie Fyfe

The next regular Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 10:30 AM.

**Adjournment:**

The October 27, 2021 Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting adjourned at 12:01 PM.

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