



Certification and Higher Education Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the November 27, 2023 Meeting

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held an in person and virtual special meeting on Monday, November 27, 2023 in Augusta, ME. The following were present: Chair Thomas Keller; Fern Desjardins; Victoria Kornfield; Wendy Ault; and Denham Ward (Board Members). Deputy Commissioner Chuhta; Michael Perry, Director of the Office of Higher Education and Educator Support Services; Erin Reinhard, Certification Coordinator; and Sandra Bourget, State Board of Education Office Specialist.

Guests: Rose Marie Angell; Penny Bishop; Amy Johnson; Jon Doty; Gerald Durgin; Becki Dodge; Eileen King; Holly Blair; Dr. Andrew Dolloff; Gary Dugal; Vicki Wallack; Hannah Milne; Bobby Deetjen; Gay Anne McDonald; Donald Denico; Larry Worcester; Amanda Peterson; Kimberly Liscomb; Jean Rosner; Dan Holman; Christine Sullivan; Ben Lothrop; Katherine Johnson; Mallory Cook; Liz Blackwell-Moore; John Kosinski; Shawn Moody; Yvonne Thomas; and Steve Bailey.

Chair Keller called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM.

Agenda Format:

This is a special meeting for the Certification & Higher Education Committee. It is largely to receive comments on L.D. 485, Resolve, 2023, Chapter 54, and a subsequent letter that came from the Education & Cultural Affairs Committee in which they have asked the State Board of Education to conduct a study on certain topics.

Public Comment:

The following individuals gave public comment on L.D. 485, Resolve, 2023, Chapter 54.

Gerard Durgin; Jon Doty; Dr. Andrew Dolloff; Rose Marie Angell; Hannah Milne; Becki Dodge; Bobby Deetjen; Holly Blair; Gay Anne McDonald; Eileen King; Donald Denico; Dan Holman; Amy Tucker; Jean Rosner; Amanda Peterson; Lisa Knedler; Heather Perry; Jason Whittemore; Mary Whitten; Flynn Ross; Amy Johnson; Mallory Cook; Kimberly Liscomb; Kristen Shorey; Ben Lothrop; Liz Blackwell-Moore; Larry Worcester; Shawn Moody; and Deputy Commissioner Chuhta.

Topics mentioned are but not limited to: K-8 Generalist Certification 020; 215 Athletic Director Certification; 510 Physical Education endorsement; 515 adapted Physical Education, 520 Health Education, HE/PE dual endorsement, CTE Certifications and credentialing requirements; ensure

Athletic Directors have sufficient training and expertise to meet the growing demands of the position; adapt credentialing rules to align with researched best practices allowing for flexibility in instruction; enable apprenticeship pilot opportunities; adding language to the 660 ESOL endorsement; consider revising the requirements for certification for school nurses similar to social workers or bus drivers; emergency certification; residency models; approved programs vs transcript analysis; 292 Teacher of the Deaf Certification; 700 teaching endorsement; concerns with the scope of the Professional Service Board; confusion with report items for Pathway 1 vs. Pathway 2 - make things more clear; barriers around exceptionality course representation; table of contents; IDEA and 504 should not be lumped together; supportive of language change with lapsing; emergency certifications sunseting; in favor of changing the language around mandatory denial on criminal offenses; supportive of defining the word evidence; supportive of language clarifications for grade spans and being "holders of"; 700 Industrial Art/ Engineers certificates; Library Media Specialist and School Psychologist; supportive of native language to Wabanaki language; and developing certification reciprocity. Written materials that were submitted were catalogued and are available upon request.

The next regular Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 29, 2023, at 10:30 AM.

Adjournment:

The November 27, 2023, Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Bourget, Office Specialist
Maine State Board of Education