

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Education Professional Standards Board
COPY: EPSB Education Partners
EPSB Staff
FROM: Phillip S. Rogers, Executive Director
DATE: March 31, 2011
SUBJECT: April 2011 EPSB Update

Mission Statement

The Education Professional Standards Board, in full collaboration and cooperation with its education partners, promotes high levels of student achievement by establishing and enforcing rigorous professional standards for preparation, certification, and responsible and ethical behavior of all professional educators in Kentucky.

Worth Remembering

"A master can tell you what he expects of you. A teacher, though, awakens your own expectation." ~ Chinese Proverb

Update: World Language Work Group Meets

Representatives from universities and school districts met with EPSB staff on March 14 to further the discussion on developing a certification path for native/heritage speakers of a world language. Primary focus languages at this time, based on district requests, are Mandarin Chinese and Japanese, but the aim of the group is to develop a clear regulatory path for any emerging languages in the future. The group had a very productive meeting, and staff gathered valuable input for a proposed regulation based on the Option 6 alternative certification route. After the meeting, the regulation draft was sent back to members for each to review the changes made based on discussion at the meeting. It is hoped that the regulation will be ready for the Board's first reading no later than the August meeting. IHEs represented at the meeting were Murray, WKU, U of L, UK, NKU, and Georgetown.

Reminder: Renewal Time for Certificates

Superintendents are asked to check with their human resources office to ensure that all certified personnel are receiving timely notification concerning any certificates that expire on June 30, 2011. This is the best time of year for renewals to be processed by EPSB staff as there is very little wait time right now. Thanks to districts that are already informing their personnel about expirations. This helps our certification consultants process these now to avoid the summer rush season.

Annual Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) Reporting Period Ends

On March 31 all principals in the Commonwealth should be signed off on their annual HQT report with Cindy Godsey. Superintendents are asked to check with their district HQ contact

person to ensure that all schools have met this requirement. EPSB will be sending the final HQ report to KDE later this month. If a school fails to enter data, all teachers would be designated “not highly qualified,” which could have serious financial consequences for 2011-12.

Important Reminder: The End of Emergency Certificate Re-issuance

Next school year will be the first in which no teacher who has previously held a full-time emergency certificate may receive another such certificate. Districts should be planning for this new regulation, identifying those teachers within the district who are working on an emergency certificate. If the district wishes to employ these teachers during 2011-12, plans must be made this spring to get them into an alternative certification program or add an area via the [TC-HQ route](#). Information on this change in the regulation has been sent to superintendents and HR personnel since the regulation was passed in the spring of 2010; however, the implementation date for this provision was set for June 2011 to allow districts to prepare for the change.

FYI: Committees Appointed by the EPSB

During the March EPSB meeting the board appointed two new working committees whose work will be worth watching over the next year.

- **The Program and Accreditation Review Committee (PARC)** is charged with reviewing current program approval and accreditation processes and then making recommendations for improving those processes. PARC’s work will address recent legislation, EPSB committee recommendations, the changing accreditation landscape, and a desire to improve the efficiency of program approval and the value of the accreditation process to identify high quality educator preparation programs.
- **The Committee to Review Cut Scores for Assessments (CRCSA)** will examine assessment performance data and recommend a revised cut score framework to the EPSB. The goal of the revisions is to ensure that all minimum passing scores for educator certification tests are set at levels that identify the most knowledgeable candidates.

FYI: ETS to Begin Administration of KYPT

The Educational Testing Service (ETS) will begin administering the KY Principal Test (KYPT) beginning September 2011. The KYPT will initially be paper-based and administered on the same dates as the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA). The Test at a Glance document (outline and sample questions) and a study guide are also available online. This will provide for a more efficient and effective use of EPSB resources without an interruption in service to principal candidates. Principal candidates will begin registration for the KYPT through ETS in July of this year.

BTW: ETS has been able to assume the administration and maintenance of the KYPT without raising the cost: the test will continue to be offered at the current rate of \$80.

FYI: Elementary Education Test Development

Kentucky has joined several other states to collaborate with the Educational Testing Service (ETS) in the development of a new content knowledge test for elementary teachers. The new online test will include four subtests with scaled scores and separate minimum scores in the areas of mathematics, science, social studies, and reading/language arts. The current test has an overall minimum score that does not provide evidence a new teacher is proficient in all of the content

areas. If a new teacher fails to pass one section of the new test, he or she would only have to retake that particular subject area.

A multistate standard setting study is set for this summer. EPSB staff will be reviewing the new test with consideration by the EPSB planned for sometime this fall.

FYI: National Board for Professional Teaching Standards

Kentucky has been awarded federal subsidy from the U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Congress in the amount of \$525,000 to assist with the certification cost of first-time candidates seeking National Board Teacher Certification in the 2011 – 2012 cycle. In response to receiving these funds, the EPSB will be issuing contracts to support teachers seeking NBPTS certification. The contracts will be issued to begin July 1, 2011 and extend until June 30, 2012.

FYI: Amgen Foundation Grant to NBPTS

The Amgen Foundation, a biotechnology company's charity foundation, said it believes in the National Board process and research showing it improves teachers' effectiveness. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards received a \$1.5 million grant to improve science teaching and science education nationwide over the next three years. The Amgen Foundation scholarships can be used to provide certification fee support for science teachers in the following locations: Ventura County and the San Francisco Bay Area in California; counties along Colorado's Front Range; Jefferson County in Kentucky; Middlesex and Suffolk Counties in Massachusetts; Puerto Rico; Rhode Island; and King and South Snohomish Counties in Washington state. In addition, the grant will support the development of two new online professional development courses to improve science teaching for middle school and high school teachers across the entire country.

FYI: EPSB to Partner with Kentucky Educational Television

The EPSB has reached an agreement with Kentucky Educational Television (KET) to move the professional development module, "New to Kentucky Teachers," to the KET professional development website. The partnership provides for the EPSB to support the module with annual reviews and content updates and for KET to provide an online instructional platform and 24/7 technical support. This partnership will prove to be more efficient as the EPSB will be able eliminate costs for online course management software. It will also prove more effective as teachers who participate will have access to the wide array of resources available on KET. The transition should be finished by this summer.

Update: Regulations

On March 8, 2011, the Administrative Regulations Review Subcommittee (ARRS) reviewed proposed amendments to [16 KAR 5:010](#), Standards for accreditation of educator preparation units and approval of programs, and [16 KAR 6:010](#), Examination prerequisites for teacher certification. Prior to the ARRS committee meeting, the Regulations Compiler's staff made suggested amendments to correct both regulations for form, which were approved by the ARRS committee.

On April 6, 2011, EPSB will be notified if the Joint Education Committee will review these regulations at its April meeting. If not, the amendments will become final on May 6, 2011.

FYI: WKU GRREC Job Fair and Presentation

Friday, April 22 will mark the annual spring job fair for new teachers in the GRREC/WKU service region (and beyond), and Mike Carr will be in attendance to answer certification questions from the over 200 new teaching prospects who will attend. After the morning fair, Mike will meet with human resources managers from the area to present the latest installment of the Top 10 Certification Pitfalls and answer any questions they may have. (Mike also presented this last month to Northern KY HR directors.)

Ethics Seminars

The EPSB Legal Staff provides ethics seminars and updates to school districts, universities, and colleges free of charge. To schedule an ethics seminar for your school or class, please contact Elise Borne at elise.borne@ky.gov.

Test Reviews

In March 2011 EPSB staff facilitated reviews of the new Principles of Learning and Teaching, Technology Education, and Art tests. Staff plans to bring to the Board this fall the review panels' recommendations to adopt these tests along with the multi-state Standard Setting Study passing score beginning with the 2012-2013 testing year.

Update on SBI: Kentucky's Core Academic Standards

Two documents are now available for mathematics educators to assist with aligning mathematics curriculum with the new Kentucky Core Academic Standards in mathematics. The first document, A Closer Look at the Progressions of the Kentucky Core Academic Standards, grades K – HS, provides teachers and administrators grade-band progressions of the standards, overviews of each grade level with expectations and standards by domain, and clusters for each grade level K-8. A progression table is also provided.

The second, Curriculum Shifts 2011, contains changes that are new in the Kentucky Core Academic Standards. These changes are compared to the concepts in Core Content for Assessment 4.1. This document shows concepts that have been shifted/moved to a different grade level in the Kentucky Core Academic Standards for Mathematics. This should not be considered an exhaustive list and may be refined.

Both documents can be found [here](#).

FYI: State Employee Furlough Period: April 1-15

The EPSB will remain open during the upcoming state employee furlough period of April 1-15. Our staff will stagger furlough days during this period, permitting the agency to remain open. We ask for your patience if we are unable to respond as quickly as usual, due to having staff on furlough. Our directors are working hard to arrange the required furlough days so they have limited negative impact on our ability to serve Kentucky schools and educators.

Meetings, Conferences, Etc

April 1 – Green River Regional Educational Cooperative meeting

April 1/15 – Furlough period

April 5 – EPSB Leadership staff meeting

April 6/8 – National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education regional meeting

April 12 – Redesigned Principal Preparation Program Review Committee meeting

April 12/13 – Jefferson County Public Schools' ACES accreditation visit

April 13 – Kentucky Board of Education meeting
April 19 – EPSB Leadership staff meeting
April 19 – Redesigned Master’s Degree Program Review Committee meeting
April 20 – Kentucky Educational Development Corporation meeting
April 20 – Central Kentucky Educational Cooperative meeting
April 21 – Southeast/South Central Education Cooperative meeting
April 21 – Kentucky Teacher Internship Program Regional Coordinators’ meeting
April 22 – Green River Regional Educational Cooperative Job Fair
April 22 – Good Friday holiday (EPSB closed after 12:00 PM)
April 22 – Commonwealth Collaborative on School Leadership Programs meeting
April 26 – Committee to Review Cut Scores for Assessments meeting
April 27 – Western Kentucky Educational Cooperative meeting
April 27 – Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative meeting
April 27 – Kentucky Valley Educational Cooperative meeting
April 27/30 – State Consortium on Educator Effectiveness conference
April 29 – EPSB employees participate in the March of Dimes’ Walk for Babies