

**NCTE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Standing Committee: Certification**

**Date: October 5, 2012**

**Location: Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln**

**The meeting was called to order at 12:34 by Mark Adler.**

**Secretary: Please take attendance and indicate any absences, alternates, or guests.**

District	Name	Present/Absent	Designated Alternate Member Present	Guest
8	Adler, M.	X	Erin DeHart	
5	Bork, R.	X		
2	Casey, D.	X		
7	Coe, T.	X		
1	Cunningham-White, D			
5	DeHart, Bob			
3	Freese, D.	X		
3	Lenihan, M.	X		
5	Marymee, F.	X		
1	Peters, K.	X		
3	Rohwer, K.	X		
1	Schlieder, M.	X		
8	Schnabel, B.	X		
	Schweiger, B.	X		
1	Stake, S.	X		
3	Vlach, J.			
1	Wandzilak, T.	X		
				Freddie Gray
			Jenny Jansky (UNK)	Ed Scantling
			Doug Phelps	Phyllis Spethman
				Patricia Rippe

**Business Conducted:**

1. Introductions.
2. Sign Up Sheets -- Art and General Art Ad Hoc Committee  
Middle Grades Ad Hoc Committee
3. Discussion regarding proposed endorsements:  
Comments -- Once one endorsement level becomes Grades six (6) - twelve (12), then all of the endorsements will eventually move that way. We need to decide if that is the direction that we

want the endorsements to move. National models may cause us to shift the endorsement requirements and the rigor. There is a difference between a teacher who is qualified to teach sixth (6th) grade and one who is qualified to teach a subject, such as math, to sixth (6th) graders. Districts need to look at the assignments and the schools. Under the current rule, any grade seven (7) - twelve (12) endorsed teacher can teach a sixth (6th) grade class.

Science (field):

Mathematics (field):

Speech-Language Pathologist (field):

Speech Language Technician (Special Services):

English Language Arts (field) - If the base endorsement is strong, then there is not an issue with the changes. Concerns were raised with changing endorsement credit hours from 65 credit hours to 36 credit hours. We may be doing a disservice to new teachers. The Standards seem to be written with dissimilar pieces as part of the same statement. Don't tie the hands of institutions by limiting how many hours are available. Make it 48 credit hours for content, but leave the words for pedagogy in the language while removing the designation of nine (9) content hours. This would allow the institutions more flexibility to create an effective program. The job of an institution is to look at the Rules then figure out the best way to prepare teacher candidates. Institutions are worried about making sure candidates have the necessary content. Will the candidates still be as prepared if the hours are cut so drastically? Are we preparing candidates that schools will want to hire? There is a big difference between a one (1) course requirement and a three (3) course requirement. We want to encourage candidates in their area to have some choice in their classes. A possible suggestion is to have the endorsement contain the flexibility of the nine (9) content hours in the choice of humanities, giving candidates an advantage in districts where the expectation is to include a theater or speech responsibility in addition to teaching English. Right now, a person with an English endorsement can be assigned to teach anything in the Language Arts area, even if they are not prepared to work with that subject area. A recommendation is to make sure the teachers at the secondary level have the training to teach the reading courses, which they may not be prepared to teach. There is difficulty with the wording in the Rule (gray box) pertaining to the designation of the nine (9) content hours.

Speech (subject)

Theatre (subject)

Reading and Writing (supplemental)

Reading Specialist (graduate)

Propose to eliminate: Journalism and Mass Communications (subject), English (subject),  
Language Arts (field), Speech and Theatre (field)

4. Discussion concerning NCTE Organizational Structure/Policies Revision: It seems as if the three committees as structured are very specific. There are some questions about how the responsibilities will be divided up among the committees. Perhaps having a specific goal for each of the groups would be appropriate. How do we spread the load of the committees? Making sure each committee has 16 members is important due to the broad perspectives of the members.

5. Action Item - Language Arts Endorsement. A recommendation has been made to change the wording in section 006.38D to read:

006.38D Certification Endorsement Requirements: This endorsement shall require a minimum of 48 semester hours including content coursework in literature, writing, language, digital literacies and pedagogical content of literature, grammar, composition, and reading/literacy skills and strategies. Nine (9) of these content hours shall come from coursework in journalism, theater, and/or communication.

6. Other business concerning Certification Committee: No discussion.

7. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Standing Committee Recommendations for presentation to Full Council:

Minutes submitted by Diana Casey.