

Nebraska Council on Teacher Education

Educator Preparation Advisory Committee to the Nebraska State Board of Education

NCTE GENERAL MEETING

Friday, March 20, 2015

Country Inn & Suites – Lincoln room – 5353 N. 27th, Lincoln, NE

Present: HED – D. Acklie, N. Biggs, R. Bork, M. Crouse, N. Ingraham, J. Janksy, K. Mallette, D. Ponec, K. Rempp, B. Schnabel, P. Spethman, T. Wandzilak

NCCA –

NASB – J. Vlach

NCAPE –

NCSA – L. Fuller, H. Herzberg, B. McCann

TSB – D. Harder

NSEA – A. Bone, S. Brown, D. Casey, T. Coe, C. Gay, D. Jankovich, P. Ludeke, F. Marymee, L. Mihm, D. Moss, S. Ptacek, C. Rice, M. Schlieder, S. Stake

NDE – S. Katt, K. Peters

Guests:

HED – P. Blundell, J. Crotty, C. Townsend-Frey, K. Wheeler, L. Zeller

NCCA – P. Illich

NSEA – J. Sears

NDE – S. Anderson, M. Beiermann, K. Buller, D. DeFrain, P. Madsen

OTHER – M. Harouff, M. Peterson, S. Sarver

Absent Without Alternate Replacement:

HED – S. Alford, L. Forester, S. Evanich, D. White

NCCA – G. Smith

NASB – S. DeCamp

NCAPE – B. Schweiger

NCSA – D. Bird, M. Lenihan, D. Ludwig, K. Mathews, S. Smith, D. Wiseman

TSB – D. Freese

HED - Higher Education

NCCA-NE Community College Association

NASB-NE Association of School Boards

NCAPE-NE Council on American Private Education

NCSA-NE Council of School Administrators

TSB – Teachers State Board Appointed

NSEA - NE State Education Association

NDE – NE Dept. of Education

Meeting Called to Order – President Jankovich called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Declaration of Legal Meeting and Open Meetings Act – stated by President Jankovich

Public Comments –

Speaker: Susan Sarver of the Buffett Early Childhood Institute. There are currently 32,000 children ages birth – age 8 considered high risk. There is a strong need for high quality classrooms with qualified teachers. Possible solutions to getting more qualified teachers into classrooms include:

- Change Rule 21 to allow those with an Associate’s degree in Early Childhood to be certified as long as they are working toward completion of the Early Childhood Inclusive endorsement.
- Create a new endorsement for Birth-age 5 in Rule 24.
- Obtain an infant/toddler credential through the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

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The Buffett Institute is working statewide in Early Childhood. There is currently not an adequate Early Childhood pathway for those already engaged in this work to pursue.

Approval of October 3, 2014 General Session Meeting Minutes – Bork motioned, seconded by Casey to approve minutes. Roll call vote taken. Minutes approved.

Report of January 23, 2015 Executive Committee Meeting – The minutes from the January 23, 2015 meeting were reviewed by Jankovich.

Rule Status Reports –

Rule 21 – Summary of proposed Teacher Certification revisions – Peters

Discussion involved regular certificates vs. permits vs. provisionals. These revisions are being proposed in Rule 21:

- Issue permits rather than certificates, except for those in statute.
- Set 2-year time limit for those with provisional permits to complete their endorsement.
- Flexibility: How do we meet Rule 21 requirements, yet look to the future? The idea of an alternative permit is being proposed.
- Fingerprints: Will now cost \$35 rather than \$50.
- Professional Certificate: Will a professional certificate be given to these areas:
SPED Masters degree, Counseling, Education Administration, Speech Language Pathologist, and School Librarian?
This needs more study.
- No endorsements will be placed on state substitute certificate.
- Special Services certificate will be issued for School Nurse and Audiologist endorsements. A Special Services permit will be used for the Special Services Coaching endorsement.
- Career Education certificates will change to a 3-year permit; dual credit will become a post-secondary 3-year permit.
- A person must have taught in a dual credit area during the three years of the permit validity or complete three semester hours of college credit for renewal.
- Katt emphasized that the Higher Learning Commission regulates the post-secondary institutions and their requirements for faculty; NDE does not regulate this.

Rule 24 – Endorsements - Madsen

- Public Hearing held January 15, 2015.
- Final State Board of Education approval was February 6, 2015, with expected implementation August 1, 2015 (pending all approvals.)

Rule 24 First and Second Hearings – Debbie DeFrain, NDE Fine Arts Curriculum Specialist and Chair of Art and Music Ad Hoc Committees explained the Art and Music endorsements revisions:

➤ **Art (Field)** (First Hearing)

- PK-12 grade level proposed. No additional major changes.
- National standards are now included in the endorsement guidelines.
- Ad Hoc Committee proposal includes eliminating the General Art Endorsement.

○ **Music (Field) PK-12** (First Hearing)

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- PK-12 grade level proposed. No additional major changes.
- National standards are now included in the endorsement guidelines.
- Ad Hoc Committee proposal includes eliminating the Instrumental Music Endorsement. The Ad Hoc committee also discussed removing the Vocal Music endorsement. Many other states only have a Music field endorsement.

➤ **Vocal Music (Subject) PK-12** (First Hearing)

- National standards are now included in the endorsement; increase in minimum semester hours required. Crouse asked if the endorsement would meet NASM requirements, as Chadron State is planning to seek SPA approval.

Pat Madsen, NDE, explained the proposed Middle Level Endorsements:

➤ **Middle Level (Field)** (First Hearing)

- The *Ad Hoc* committee recommended changing the grade level to 5-9 or 5-8. Middle schools in Nebraska include various combinations, some 5-8, 6-8, 7-8, but none include grade 9.
- The minimum semester hours requirement is reduced from 66 to 54.
- Requires 18 hours in professional education (not including student teaching) middle level content work.
- Academic areas now include only English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Guidelines include Middle Level content where applicable. (National Social Studies standards are currently under revision.)
- This endorsement will require a content test. One will need to be chosen for this endorsement.
- Clarification is needed regarding the Special Education section of the endorsement.

○ **Middle Level (Supplemental)** (First Hearing)

- New endorsement.
- Grade Level – 5-9 or 5-8.
- National Middle Level (AMLE) standards are included in the guidelines.
- May need to limit the endorsements this can be attached to—possibly only a secondary subject or field endorsement, as it targets working with middle level-aged students.

- **Health Sciences Endorsement** *Ad Hoc* committee met on March 4, 2015 for the first time. This endorsement will be presented to the NCTE Executive Committee at the May 1, 2015 meeting.

NDE Updates –NDE Staff

New HEA Title II Regulations - Katt

Increased assessment and accountability of teachers is more prevalent in the regulations.

NCTE Membership Timeline – Katt

The timeline has been adjusted to give institutions more time to nominate/renominate members to NCTE and be approved by the State Board.

Capstone Assessment Discussion – Katt

The use of PPAT and edTPA instruments as a performance assessment is still ongoing.

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1st Year Teacher Employer Follow Up Survey – Katt

These will be sent out in mid-May to principals of first year teachers who graduated from Nebraska institutions and are teaching in NE schools in 2014-2015. The emphasis is on the training the candidate received, and if the person is prepared for the first year of teaching. It is not meant to be an evaluation of the teacher.

Revised State Approval Process – Madsen

The revised state approval process has been piloted; clarifications or needed changes in the new version of the State Approval Process Manual need to be submitted to Pat very soon.

AQuESST Presentation - Sue Anderson, NDE

Anderson explained that AQuESST (*Accountability for a Quality Education System Today and Tomorrow*) is the new accountability system in Nebraska, and will be implemented to provide a quality education for generations to come. AQuESTT is made up of six tenets. Specific indicators, measures, and timelines are being developed for each tenet. More information on AQuESTT will be forthcoming as development continues.

Statewide Equity Plan (USDE) – Madsen and Marilyn Peterson, NDE Associate

The revised state plan must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education by June 1, 2015. Nebraska will use AQuESTT as the over-arching structure, and use what is already in place, along with existing groups and stakeholder engagement input to help meet the new Equity Plan requirements.

Legislative Update – Jay Sears

Sears explained the various education bills currently proposed in the Legislature. These include LB519 – Lottery Funding for tuition reimbursement; LB239 – Use of wind energy monies for education funding; and LB 547 and LB489 involving Early Childhood Education.

Nomination of President-Elect – Jankovich

Phyllis Spethman is nominated as the president-elect candidate, with no further nominations at this time. The election will be held at the June 12 NCTE meeting.

Standing Committee Agenda(s) Review – Jankovich reviewed the agenda(s) materials. Proposed endorsements are given Second Hearing at Standing Committee meetings, and each committee is to take action on their 'assigned' endorsement(s).

Announcements - Jankovich

- **On-site visits** – Grace University, February 8 & 9, 2015
Midland University, February 23 & 24, 2015
Peru State College – September 27-29, 2015
University of Nebraska Omaha – November 1-3, 2015
- **Other announcements** – Presentations by higher education programs will be held at the June 12 Full Council meeting, time permitting.

11:50 a.m. Working Lunch; Standing Committee Meetings Convened

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2:40 p.m. **Second General Session Reconvened** – D. Moss (acting chair in place of D. Jankovich) called meeting to order.

Standing Committee Reports:

Committee 'A' – Vice-Chair Diana Casey reported:

- Art Field Endorsement – Committee recommends moving this endorsement to final vote.
- Middle Level Endorsements – strong preference to change grade 9 level to grade 8.
- Buffett Institute – would like more discussion concerning the Buffett Institute's ideas—would like to hear more about their stand on highly qualified population.
- Rule 21 – discussed permits; Rule 21 changes should help to clarify issues and prepare for future.
- State Equity Plan – include parenting classes; need for smaller class sizes; poverty issues have great impact on outcomes.

Committee 'B' – Jankovich and Alan Bone chaired committee. Bone reported:

- No recommended changes to the proposed Art, Music, and Vocal Music endorsements; however, there was some question about NASM accreditation if the Vocal Music endorsement hours are set at 45 credit hours. DeFrain will research and try to get updated information to Pat.
- Recommend to change both Middle Level endorsements to Grades 5-8. There are some changes that need to be made to the language in the endorsement – recommend the current Special Education language continue in the revised endorsement.
- Buffett Institute Discussion – more collaboration needed between entity groups; need to move ahead with this, perhaps with a Focus Group; Need transition to get more people into this area sooner rather than later. Rule 21 – do not want to see major changes in this rule, and do not want to set a precedent granting teacher certification to individuals who do not have Bachelor's degree.
- Rule 21 – No problems with proposed changes.
- Statewide Equity Plan – no discussion.

Committee 'C' – Donna Moss reported:

- Committee recommends moving the Music and Vocal Music endorsements to final approval with no changes.
- Middle Level endorsements—the committee found parts of both endorsements unclear.
- Buffett Institute – Recommendation to have a targeted focus group of individuals for NDE to contact for further input on this issue. Passed sign-up sheet around for volunteers.
- Statewide Equity plan – no discussion. Representatives of the committee met after the meeting to provide input regarding the Statewide Equity plan and recommended to focus on high poverty populations, including urban and rural. 6-year cohort data compared to 4-year cohort data should show that more students are graduating. Strengths include NE has high standards for teacher certification, and each district is to have a professional development plan. With increased attention to early childhood, NE should see improvement in student achievement over time if poverty issues are addressed. It was suggested to work through the 23 regional planning teams across the state and to continue to build early childhood partnerships, such as Early Childhood Consortiums to help address qualified staffing issues.
- Rule 21 – Approve the changes.

Full Council Discussion and/or Action related to Standing Committee Reports:

- Committee A: Art: Recommend Art Field forward to final reading: Motion by Coe to bring it to full council today for full council approval. Roll call vote taken. Proposed endorsement approved.

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- Committee B recommendation is to continue the Middle Level endorsements discussion at the June meeting, and do not send it back to ad hoc. Vote taken and approved to table both endorsements for more discussion at June meeting.
- Committee C: Recommend to move Music Field and Vocal Music forward for final approval at the June meeting.

Adjournment: 3:10 p.m.

UPCOMING MEETINGS – 2015

NCTE Executive Committee – Friday, May 1, 2015 – NSEA Building, 605 S. 14th Street, Lincoln

NCTE Full Council Meeting – Friday, June 12, 2015 – Country Inn & Suites, Lincoln

NCTE Executive Committee – Friday, August 21, 2015 – TBA

NCTE Full Council Meeting – Friday, October 9, 2015 – The Cornhusker, 333 S. 13th Street, Lincoln (second Friday)