



## NEBRASKA COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION

### Educator Preparation Advisory Committee to the Nebraska State Board of Education

#### Stakeholder Updates –

##### **Nebraska Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (NACTE)** – P. Blundell, NACTE Chair;

- Mark L. Peterson presented a new program evaluation process, the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP), at the NACTE meeting on March 7, 2019, which is similar to CAEP;
- Certification process updates were presented at the certification officers meeting;
- Election of officers for 2021-2022: S. Skretta-president; P. Barnes—president-elect; S. Holmes-secretary; J. Jansky-treasurer. NACTE reps to Educator Training are G. Trainin and E. Huber; S. Harms and A. Buschelman are NACTE reps to the NE Professional Practices Commission.

##### **Nebraska Community College Association (NCCA)** – No report given

##### **Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB)** – J. Vlach, NASB;

The core of work being done by NASB concerns legislative bills LB101, LB147, LB346, LB399, LB506, and LB6334, and how they will affect education if passed.

##### **Nebraska Council on American Private Education (NCAPE)** – M. Ashton, NCAPE Representative;

NCAPE is advocating for private schools to be included in legislative bill considerations, as the bills affect private schools as well as public schools.

##### **Nebraska Council on School Administrators (NCSA)** –M. Adler;

NCSA is working as an advocate for schools and children on the various legislative bills and issues. NCSA is also working to promote leadership in our schools.

##### **Nebraska State Education Association (NSEA)** – C. Copich, NSEA;

- NSEA is watching legislative bills that affect education;
- The NE Pathway to the Profession program has received a lot of funding - are working on recruiting students of color in an attempt to diversify future educators. The NE Pathways to the Profession helps students pass the CORE test, which has been a stumbling block sometimes for those wishing to enter the teaching profession.
- The Student Education Association group is looking for mentors to work on supporting new teachers in the classroom. There are grant monies available to support teachers and to keep teachers in the profession. If interested in developing a mentoring program, please contact NSEA.

#### State Legislative Update – C. Copich, NSEA (for B. Halsted);

- NSEA has a list of legislative bills that are a priority, including LB670, LB241, LB650, and LB668.
- NSEA supports the alternate certification bill (LB668) at this time. NSEA is supporting it because they want to be included in the conversation about this bill. The NCTE membership has many issues concerning LB668 that need further study before a final decision is made.

#### School Turnaround/Priority Schools Presentation –

L. Carr, NDE Director of Accountability and AQuESTT; S. Vargas, NDE Student Achievement Coordinator;

- A powerpoint presentation was given demonstrating processes used in determining priority schools, and the improvements made by these schools with help from NDE through AQuESTT and the Strategic Plan.
- The need for an accountability system was explained. The Nebraska Education Profile report card is available at NDE for reviewing data used in accountability. Schools are identified for support on 4 levels:

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- Excellent;
- Great;
- Good; and
- Needs Improvement.
- Currently these classifications/numbers exist:
  - 131 - Needs Improvement Schools;
  - 24 - Needs Improvement Districts;
  - 27 - Comprehensive Support for Improvement Schools; and
  - 3 - Priority Schools.
- 'A Schools' Guide to AQuESTT Systems of Support' is an NDE handout given to NCTE members to provide information concerning school improvement.

**LB 1052 Update** - B. Dirksen, NDE Administrator, Office of Accountability, Accreditation, and Program Approval; NDE has developed a document concerning dyslexia inclusion, and notified the necessary people concerning this bill. NDE is updating Rules 20, 51, and 10 to include necessary language on dyslexia. Question for consideration: How is dyslexia screening going to be implemented in the school systems?

#### **Rule Status Reports –**

- **Rule 20** - LB1052 bill on dyslexia inclusion needs to be done
- **Rule 23** - LB1052 is an ongoing discussion; are working on various recommendations concerning Basic Skills testing including the use of composite score for Basic Skills test, possibly using ACT test scores for fulfilling the Basic Skills requirement; another consideration is to require passing the Basic Skills requirement when trying to get certified as a teacher and not require Basic Skills when being admitted to a teacher education program. Also considering multiple measures including work experience being considered as part of student teaching and possibly be allowed to meet the Basic Skills requirement.
- **Rule 24** - Editing changes were done in Superintendent endorsement and the Skilled and Technical Science Education endorsement; inserting Health Sciences field endorsement and JOB endorsement; Assessment Leadership endorsement is being eliminated.

#### **LUNCH** - 11:51 a.m – 12:45 p.m.

Table conversations: LB 1052 Presentation - What have school districts and higher education institutions done (or plan to do) to meet the requirements of the new law? Also discuss ideas on the symbiotic relationship of P-12 schools / districts and higher education institutions when it comes to preparing a future teacher.

#### **ADDITIONAL ITEMS COVERED DURING THE TIME PERMITTED FOR LUNCH -**

##### **NDE Updates:**

- **Diverse Learner Teacher Update** – What is 'culturally responsible teaching' and how is it implemented in the classrooms? Work is being done to define 'culturally responsible teaching.' In Nebraska work has been done through a survey, and by working with diversified focus groups.

##### **Old and New Business** – P. Spethman;

- 2019-2020 Meeting Date are: ; October 11, 2019; March 13, 2020; and May 29, 2020 (tentative)
- President-Elect Nominations: M. Lenihan nominated Dr. Chad Dumas as President-Elect; S. Smith seconded the nomination; roll call vote will be taken at the May 31, 2019 meeting.

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#### **Program Approval** – Pat Madsen, NDE

- Union College Folio Review held November, 2018
- York College--State Approval On-Site Visit held December 2-4, 2018
- Bellevue University Annual Approval Visit – March 28, 2019
- Wayne State College CAEP Probationary On-Site Visit – April 7-8, 2019
- Doane University State Approval On-Site Visit – April 14-16, 2019
- Concordia University State Approval On-Site Visit – April 28-30, 2019
- Chadron State College Folio Review – July 11, 2019
- Union College State Approval On-Site Visit – October 20-22, 2019
- Nebraska Wesleyan University Folio Review – Fall, 2019 (tentative)

#### **Rule 24 Endorsements / Ad Hoc Updates** – Pat Madsen, NDE

- Science Endorsements Ad Hoc Meeting held February 27, 2019; Integrated Science will be included as a field endorsement (with a change of hours); propose to have subject endorsements become supplemental endorsements (21 hours); need to define ‘integrated science;’
- Possibility of Special Education Orientation and Mobility Endorsement to be added in the near future, as this is a new program addition at UNL beginning Fall, 2019;
- CORE Mathematics test is going to be revised; new test will be available this fall; candidates will get to choose current or new test to take just for this year—next year the new test will be the only test available. Follow multi-state guidelines in devising the test.
- JOB\_endorsement being included in Rule 24

#### **Announcements and Standing Committee Agenda Review** – P. Spethman;

In addition to the Standing Committee Agendas, each committee needs to generate a top-5 list of top concerns affecting education; also, discuss what the various individual institutions are doing regarding LB 1052.

#### **Standing Committee Meetings Sites:**

Committee ‘A’ – Olive Branch Room

Committee ‘B’ – Arbor Room

Committee ‘C’ – Hawthorne Room

**First General Session** concluded at 12:45 p.m.

**SECOND GENERAL SESSION** – P. Spethman reconvened the second general session at 2:05 p.m.

#### **Standing Committee Reports:**

**Committee ‘A’** – D. Casey; Discussions included:

- LB1052;
- Working/mentoring student teachers. To help cooperating (mentoring) teachers, financial incentive would help, or perhaps not teach a full caseload as a cooperating teacher, thereby improving the mentoring process with student teachers;
- Top 5 Topics of Importance in Education:
  - Alternative certification,
  - Teacher shortage and preparation,
  - Diversity and qualified candidates;

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- Shrinking resources in both time and money; and
- Disparaging achievement gaps

**Committee 'B' – S. Smith; Discussions included:**

- LB1052;
- Professional learning opportunities-higher education is working in conjunction with school districts/communities to support students teachers and mentor new teachers; pay for student teachers was discussed along with cooperating teacher compensations such as offering further education vouchers, or credit points;
- Top 5 Topics of Importance in Education:
  - Amount of required testing needing to be done by students reduces available instructional time;
  - Data points used by NDE broad reports do not necessarily tell the entire story and gathering input on what kinds of data to collect/interpret would be advised;
  - Changes at NDE have resulted in challenges with expectation, communication, etc. Want to continue to focus on high level conversations to move education forward and highly value NCTE to facilitate within the state;
  - Need to continue work on standards and accountability, with the legislature needing to be more enlightened on educational issues;
  - Need to try to grow and retain more teachers across the state.

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**Committee 'C' – M. Lenihan; Discussions included:**

- LB1052;
- Professional development at schools regarding dyslexia—need to look at this as an opportunity to grow students with dyslexia;
- Development of students/educator candidates in high schools with groups like Educators Rising;
- The use of 'highly effective educator' and 'talent' word - terminology;
- Incentives given by higher education institutions (like credit hours) for potential teacher candidates
- Top 5 Topics of Importance in Education:
  - Mental health issues in regards to current and future teachers is needed;
  - Early Childhood opportunities/program/teachers for all 3-5 year olds needed;
  - Funding;
  - Increased curriculum standards

#### **Full Council Action and/or Discussion Related to Standing Committee Reports:**

**Committee C made a motion:**

Recommendation for Implementation of a task force of NCTE members to study the issues that are necessary for full implementation of dyslexia screening and intervention in K-12 and teacher education programs. Roll call vote taken and approved.

**Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.