

ADVISORY BOARD ON TEACHER EDUCATION AND LICENSURE (ABTEL) MEETING

MINUTES

Meeting Date and Location: September 21, 2015
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

ABTEL Members Present:

Allen Lee Bierlair	Jeffrey Pennington	Joseph Whitmore
Dr. Rebecca Gates	Dr. Diane Simon	Vern Williams
Dr. Holly Gould	Cheryl Sprouse	Dr. Sherry Wilson
Katherine Lewis	Dr. Patricia Stohr- Hunt	Dr. Phillip Wishon
Dr. Brian Matney	Kate Sydney	
Nancy Moga	Ruth Wallace	

ABTEL Members Absent: Bonnie Bowling
Kathy Burcher
Thelma Hampton
Jane Watkins

ABTEL Member (Recognition): Dr. Janice Underwood*
**Dr. Underwood will be recognized for her service on ABTEL.*

Board of Education Liaison: Joan Wodiska

Ex-Officio Members: Dr. Monica Osei (absent)
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Dr. Daniel Lewis
Virginia Community College System

Patty S. Pitts
Virginia Department of Education

Department of Education Staff: Dr. Joan B. Johnson
Dr. Kendra Crump

Guests: Dr. Patricia Aldridge, Virginia State University
Sandra Barnstead, Virginia Education Association
Jim Batterson, Former Sr. Advisor to the Commonwealth for
STEM Initiatives

Dr. John Blackwell, Virginia State University
Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver, Educational Consultant
Dr. Syana Conway, Virginia State University
Phil Gullion, Pearson
Dr. Benjamin Haller, Virginia Wesley College
Dr. James Harris, Virginia State University
Paul Joseph, Educational Consulting Services
Dr. Donna Jones-Miles, Virginia State University
Dr. Antoinette Rogers, Virginia Education Association
Dr. Harriet Wynn, Virginia State University

FULL ADVISORY BOARD CONVENES

9:00 a.m.

- **Opening Remarks and Welcome**

Dr. Brian Matney, vice chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. and welcomed members and guests.

- **Introduction of New and Returning ABTEL Members**

New and returning ABTEL members were introduced.

- **Introduction of the Board of Education Liaison, Ex Officio Members, and Department Personnel to ABTEL**

Ms. Joan Wodiska, vice president of the Virginia Board of Education and liaison to the Advisory Board, was introduced to the membership, as well as ex officio members present from the Virginia Community College System and the Virginia Department of Education.

- **Introduction of Guest**

Guests attending the meeting introduced themselves to the Advisory Board members.

- **Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Nancy Moga made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Allen Bierlair seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Allen Bierlair made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2015, Advisory Board meeting with one technical edit (on page 5, 2045 should be 2015). Ms. Cheryl Sprouse seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Public Comment**

Mr. Jim Batterson made public comment on proposed regulations to establish an endorsement in engineering.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

- **Election of the Chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure**

Dr. Brian Matney asked for nominations for the chair of the Advisory Board. **Ms. Ruth Wallace made a motion to nominate Dr. Brian Matney.** Upon Dr. Matney's nomination and in the absence of no other executive committee member, Mrs. Patty Pitts, assistant superintendent for teacher education and licensure, presided. Mrs. Pitts asked for other nominations for the position of chair. **Dr. Nancy Moga seconded the nomination.** Mrs. Pitts asked for any additional nominations.

Mr. Allen Bierlair made a motion to close nominations. Dr. Phillip Wishon seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The main motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Brian Matney assumed the role of chair of the Advisory Board and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

- **Election of the Vice Chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure**

Mr. Allen Bierlair made a motion to nominate Ms. Nancy Moga as vice chair of the Advisory Board; Ms. Ruth Wallace seconded the motion. Dr. Gates made a motion to close nominations. Mr. Vern Williams seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The main motion passed unanimously.

- **Election of a Member-at-Large to Serve on Executive Committee**

Ms. Ruth Wallace made a motion to nominate Ms. Bonnie Bowen as member-at-large. Mr. Allen Bierlair seconded the motion. Ms. Nancy Moga made a motion to close the nominations, and Dr. Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The main motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Chairs to the Teacher Education Committee and the Licensure Committee

The chairs of the Teacher Education Committee and the Licensure Committee will be appointed by the chair, Dr. Brian Matney.

ABTEL MEETING DATES:

- **Review of ABTEL Meeting Dates**

The following 2015-2016 meeting dates were approved during the April 27, 2015, Advisory Board meeting:

September 21, 2015
November 21, 2015
January 25, 2016
March 21, 2016
April 25, 2016

- **Recognition of Advisory Board Member**

Dr. Janice Bell Underwood accepted a faculty position in the Department of Secondary Education, Old Dominion University, and resigned from the Advisory Board as a public school classroom teacher representative. Dr. Brian Matney, Ms. Joan Wodiska, vice president of the Virginia Board of Education, and Mrs. Patty Pitts presented Dr. Underwood with a certificate of recognition from the Virginia Board of Education for her exemplary service to the Advisory Board.

- **Comments from Ms. Joan Wodiska, Vice President of the Virginia Board of Education.**

Ms. Wodiska expressed her gratitude to the Advisory Board members for their service. She also commented on the importance of the recommendations of ABTEL. She shared highlights of the Board of Education's recent work.

REPORT AND PRESENTATION:

- **Review of Statutory Regulations of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure and Operational Procedures**

Mrs. Patty Pitts provided an overview of the responsibilities of the Advisory Board pursuant to Section § 22.1-305.2 of the *Code of Virginia*. Members received a copy of this section of the *Code*.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Action Item 1: Review of Requests to Grant Approval to Add New Education (Endorsement) Programs at Bluefield College, Emory and Henry College, James Madison University, Mary Baldwin College, and Virginia Wesleyan College.**

Dr. Johnson made a presentation on the requests from the following Virginia institutions of higher education to grant approval to add new education (endorsement) programs in areas noted on the chart below:

Institution	Endorsement Program Requested	Level of Program
Bluefield College	• Theater Arts PreK-12	Graduate
	• Theatre Arts PreK-12	Undergraduate
	• Biology	Graduate
Emory and Henry College	• Business and Information Technology	Graduate
	• English	Graduate
	• Foreign Language: French PreK-12	Graduate
	• Foreign Language: Spanish PreK-12	Graduate
	• Health and Physical Education PreK-12	Graduate
	• Mathematics	Graduate
	• Music Education: Instrumental/Vocal PreK-12	Graduate
	• Elementary Education PreK-3 • Elementary Education PreK-6	Graduate
Emory and Henry College	• History and Social Sciences	Undergraduate
James Madison University	• Special Education-Adapted Curriculum PreK-12	Graduate
Mary Baldwin College	• Reading Specialist	Graduate
	• English as a Second Language PreK-12	Graduate
Virginia Wesleyan College	• Foreign Language: Latin PreK-12	Undergraduate

The *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8VAC20-542-10 et seq.), effective September 21, 2007, amended January 19, 2011, set forth the requirements for the accreditation and approval of programs preparing teachers, administrators, and other instructional personnel requiring licensure. These regulations establish policies and standards for the preparation of instructional personnel, further ensuring educational quality for Virginia public school students. Colleges and universities that offer programs for the preparation of professional school personnel must obtain education program (endorsement) approval from the Board of Education. Requests to offer new education endorsement programs are submitted to the Department of Education. Personnel in the Division of Teacher Education and Licensure and program specialists within the Department of Education review the programs to ensure competencies and other requirements have been addressed. The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) reviews and makes recommendations to the Board of Education on approval of Virginia education programs for school personnel. Final authority for program approval rests with the Board of Education. Requests for new program endorsements approved by the Board of Education will receive a rating of *Approved*; *Approved with Stipulations*; or *Approval Denied*.

Ms. Nancy Moga made a motion to recommend that the Board of Education approve the following new education (endorsement) programs at Bluefield College, Emory and Henry College, Mary Baldwin College, and Virginia Wesleyan College. Mr. Allen Bierlair seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Bluefield College	• Theater Arts PreK-12	Graduate
	• Theatre Arts PreK-12	Undergraduate
	• Biology	Graduate
Emory and Henry College	• Business and Information Technology	Graduate
	• English	Graduate
	• Foreign Language: French PreK-12	Graduate
	• Foreign Language: Spanish PreK-12	Graduate
	• Health and Physical Education PreK-12	Graduate
	• Mathematics	Graduate
	• Music Education: Instrumental/Vocal PreK-12	Graduate
	• Elementary Education PreK-3 • Elementary Education PreK-6	Graduate
Emory and Henry College	• History and Social Sciences	Undergraduate
Mary Baldwin College	• Reading Specialist	Graduate
	• English as a Second Language PreK-12	Graduate
Virginia Wesleyan College	• Foreign Language: Latin PreK-12	Undergraduate

Ms. Cheryl Sprouse made a motion to recommend that the Board of Education approve the new education (endorsement) program [Special Education-Adapted Curriculum PreK-12] at James Madison University. Dr. Phillip Wishon recused himself. Dr. Diane Simon seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a 15-0 vote.

• **Action Item 2: Review of the Standards for Biennial Approval of Education Programs in Virginia**

Dr. Joan Johnson presented the Review of the Standards for Biennial Approval of Education Programs in Virginia. The *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* state, in part, the following:

8VAC20-542-40. Standards for biennial approval of education programs.

...that approved education programs in Virginia shall have national accreditation...and demonstrate achievement biennially of the following accountability measures:

1. Candidate progress and performance on prescribed Board of Education licensure assessments. Candidate passing rates, reported by percentages, shall not fall below 70% biennially for individuals completing and exiting the program. Achievement of an 80% biennial passing rate shall be required by July 1, 2010. Candidates completing a program shall have successfully completed all coursework, required assessments, including those prescribed by the Board of Education, and supervised student teaching or internship. Candidates exiting a program shall have successfully completed all coursework, regardless of whether the individuals attempted, passed, or failed required assessments, including those prescribed by the Board of Education,

- and/or who may not have completed supervised student teaching or required internship.
2. Candidate progress and performance on an assessment of basic skills as prescribed by the Board of Education for individuals seeking entry into an approved education preparation program.
 3. Structured and integrated field experiences to include student teaching requirements.
 4. Evidence of opportunities for candidates to participate in diverse school settings that provide experiences with populations that include racial, economic, linguistic, and ethnic diversity throughout the program experiences.
 5. Evidence of contributions to PreK-12 student achievement by candidates completing the program.
 6. Evidence of employer job satisfaction with candidates completing the program.
 7. Partnerships and collaborations based on PreK-12 school needs.

8VAC20-542-50. Application of the standards.

- A. As a prerequisite to program approval, professional education programs in Virginia shall have national accreditation or be accredited by a process approved by the Board of Education as prescribed in 8VAC20-542-30 and 8VAC20-542-60. Failure to do so will result in the education program being designated as “approval denied.”
- B. The education program’s candidate passing rates shall not fall below 70% biennially for individuals completing and exiting the program. Achievement of an 80% biennial passing rate for individuals completing and exiting the program shall be required by July 1, 2010.
- C. The education program is responsible to certify documented evidence that the following standards as set forth in 8VAC20-542-40 have been met:
 1. The education program shall demonstrate candidate progress and performance on an assessment of basic skills as prescribed by the Board of Education for individuals seeking entry into an approved education preparation program.
 2. The education program shall provide structured and integrated field experiences.
 3. The education program shall provide evidence of opportunities for candidates to participate in diverse school settings that provide experiences with populations that include racial, economic, linguistic, and ethnic diversity throughout the program experiences.
 4. The education program shall provide evidence of contributions to PreK-12 student achievement by candidates completing the program.

5. The education program shall provide evidence of employer job satisfaction with candidates completing the program.
- D. The education program shall develop biennial accountability measures to be reviewed and approved by the Board of Education for partnerships and collaborations based on PreK-12 school needs.
- E. After submitting to the Department of Education the information contained in 8VAC20-542-50, education programs in Virginia shall receive one of the following three ratings:
1. **Approved.** The education program has met all standards set forth in 8VAC20-542-40.
 2. **Approved with stipulations.** The education program has met standards in subsections A and B of this section and is making documented progress toward meeting standards in subsections C and D of this section.
 3. **Approval denied.** The education program has not met standards in subsections A and B of this section. The program shall be denied and the public notified. The program may resubmit a request for approval at the end of the next biennial period....

Dr. Joan Johnson, director of teacher education, Department of Education, provided an overview of the *Biennial Report: SY2013-2015 Approved Teacher Education Programs Compliance-Accountability Measurements 1 through 7*. The report lists the education (endorsement) programs for each institution. Institutions of higher education are required to report passing rates for licensure assessments for each education (endorsement) program and verify that Standards 2 through 7 set forth in Section 8VAC20-542-40 of the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* have been met and documentation of the evidence is on file and available for review at the institution. All institutions verified that Standards 2 through 7 had been met.

The *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* state that programs with candidate passing rates, reported by percentages, falling below 80% biennially for individuals completing and exiting the program will be denied approval. Candidates completing a program shall have successfully completed all coursework, required assessments, including those prescribed by the Board of Education, and supervised student teaching or internship. Candidates exiting a program shall have successfully completed all coursework, regardless of whether the individuals attempted, passed, or failed required assessments, including those prescribed by the Board of Education, and/or who may not have completed supervised student teaching or required internship.

Licensure assessments reported included the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA), Praxis II: Specialty Area Tests, Virginia Reading Assessment (VRA)/Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE) for specified endorsement areas, and the School Leadership Licensure Assessment (SLLA) for the administration and supervision endorsement. Programs with less than ten completers and exiters for an education program in a biennial period are required to be included in the next biennial report when there are at least ten completers.

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure received the report on the biennial measures. The following education program fell below the minimum prescribed candidate passing rate of 80 percent for the assessments required for that education program:

Institution of Higher Education	Education Program	Assessment	Pass Rate (%)
Bluefield College	English	Praxis II	70.0%
Lynchburg College	Mathematics	Praxis II	58.3%
Radford University	Mathematics	Praxis II	70.0%

All other education programs met or exceeded a candidate passing rate of 80 percent or higher for each assessment required per education program as required by Accountability Measure 1.

Mr. Allen Bierlair made a motion that the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure make a recommendation to the Board of Education that the education programs at James Mason University submitted for review be granted “Approved” status. Ms. Ruth Wallace seconded the motion. Dr. Phillip Wishon recused himself. The motion passed with a 15-0 vote.

Ms. Nancy Moga made a motion that the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure make a recommendation to the Board of Education that the education programs at Lynchburg College submitted for review be granted “Approved” status with the exception of the mathematics program recommended for “denial” status due to falling below the 80 percent pass rate requirement (Praxis II). Mr. Allen Bierlair seconded the motion. Dr. Holly Gould recused herself. The motion passed with a 15-0 vote.

Mr. Allen Bierlair made the motion that the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure make a recommendation to the Board of Education that the education programs at the Virginia Commonwealth University submitted for review be granted “Approved” status. Cheryl Sprouse seconded the motion. Dr. Diane Simon recused herself. The motion passed with a 15-0 vote.

Dr. Holly Gould made the motion that the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure make a recommendation to the Board of Education that the education

programs at the University of Richmond submitted for review be granted “Approved” status. Allen Bierlair seconded the motion. Dr. Patricia Stohr-Hunt recused herself. The motion passed with a 15-0 vote.

Mr. Vern Williams made the motion that the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure make a recommendation to the Board of Education that the education programs at the Old Dominion University submitted for review be granted “Approved” status. Ms. Nancy Moga seconded the motion. Dr. Brian Matney recused himself. The motion passed with a 15-0 vote.

Dr. Patricia Stohr-Hunt made the motion that the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure make a recommendation to the Board of Education that the education programs at the Sweet Briar College submitted for review be granted “Approved” status. Ms. Cheryl Sprouse seconded the motion. Dr. Holly Gould recused herself. The motion passed with a 15-0 vote.

Ms. Cheryl Sprouse made the motion that the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure make a recommendation to the Board of Education that the education programs at Virginia Tech submitted for review be granted “Approved” status. Allen Bierlair seconded the motion. Ms. Nancy Moga and Dr. Rebecca Gates recused themselves. The motion passed with a 14-0 vote.

Dr. Holly Gould made the motion that the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure make a recommendation to the Board of Education that all other Virginia education programs submitted for review be granted “Approved” status with the exception of recommending “Denied” status to the mathematics program at Radford University and the English program at Bluefield College due to falling below the 80 percent pass rate requirement (Praxis II). Ms. Nancy Moga seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 15-0 vote.

- **Report of Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure Recommendation to the Virginia Board of Education (June 2015)**

On April 27, 2015, the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure unanimously approved a recommendation to grant approval to add new education (endorsement) graduate programs in Music Education-Vocal/Choral PreK-12 and Music Education-Instrumental PreK-12 at George Mason University, including the accountability measurement of partnerships and collaborations based on PreK-12 school needs. The recommendation was presented to the Board of Education for first review in May 2015. The Board of Education approved the Advisory Board’s recommendation on June 25, 2015.

- ***Presentation on the Status of Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia and the Licensure Regulations for School Personnel***

In preparation to review regulatory comments, Mrs. Patty Pitts made a presentation of the recommendations from the Advisory Board to the Board of Education in June 2013. The status of both sets of regulations is as follows:

Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia

On June 27, 2013, the Virginia Board of Education (VBOE) approved proposed revisions to the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia*. Due to the significant number of revisions, the Board recommended repealing the current regulations (8VAC20-542) and promulgating new, revised regulations (8VAC20-543).

The proposed regulations were published in the *Virginia Register of Regulations*, VOL. 31 ISS. 26, August 24, 2015.

A public hearing on the proposed regulations will be held Thursday, October 22, 2015, in the James Monroe Building, Jefferson Meeting Room (the 22nd Floor, 101 North 14th Street, Richmond Virginia 23219). The public hearing will begin immediately following adjournment of the Virginia Board of Education business meeting.

An online comment period is now open on Town Hall. Public comments will be accepted through Saturday, October 31, 2015.

Licensure Regulations for School Personnel

On June 27, 2013, the Board of Education approved proposed revisions to the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel*. Due to the significant number of revisions, the Board recommended repealing the current regulations (8VAC20-22) and promulgating new, revised regulations (8VAC20-23).

The proposed regulations were published in the *Virginia Register of Regulations* VOL. 32 ISS.1, September 7, 2015.

A public hearing on the proposed regulations will be held Thursday, October 22, 2015, in the 22nd Floor, Jefferson Meeting Room, James Monroe Building (101 North 14th Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219). The public hearing will begin immediately following adjournment of the Board of Education business meeting.

An online comment period is now open on Town Hall. Public comments will be accepted through Friday, November 6, 2015.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Advisory Board Initiatives for the 2015-2016 Year

The Advisory Board briefly discussed major initiatives for the 2015-2016 academic year. Some of the major recommendations to be submitted to the Board of Education will be related to the following:

- Regulatory revisions to the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel*
- Regulatory revisions to the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia*; and
- Approval of education programs.

LIAISON REPORTS

Virginia Community College System (VCCS)

Dr. Daniel C. Lewis, Director of Educational Programs, Virginia Community College System, made the following report:

EducateVA, the Career Switcher programs offered by the Virginia Community College system geared up for the fall semester. The English as a Second Language endorsement cohort includes 10 students.

EducateVA's cohort began August 1, 2015, and includes 72 students. These students should complete the Level 1 phase of the program on December 5, 2015, and will apply for a Career Switcher provisional license. In the fall semester, students are meeting in seven community college sites, with the largest cohorts meeting across three campuses in Northern Virginia. More than 60 percent of the 112 May program completers are teaching in classrooms across the state. Upon successful completion of a year of teaching experience, these participants will apply for their five-year renewable teaching license.

Virginia Department of Education

Mrs. Patty Pitts reported the following:

Advisory Board members will want to keep informed about the policy work of the Board of Education. Board of Education meetings are streamed and recorded [<http://doe.virginia.gov/boe/meetings/index.shtml>].

The Virginia Department of Education is participating in a Cross-State Learning Collaborative with Pennsylvania. This collaboration is sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). Both Pennsylvania and Virginia posed an initiative to focus, and states will assist each other with the development of responses to our respective challenges. Virginia is researching and developing a document including knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed for working successfully in challenged

schools. The team is seeking information from teachers, school leaders, institutions of higher education educators on what additional knowledge or specific skill sets must teachers, principals, superintendents, and central office need when serving in challenged schools and school divisions. Advisory Board members are invited to share information with Mrs. Pitts.

The following eight 2016 Regional Teachers of the Year were announced on September 14:

- Christopher Averill, a history teacher at Cosby High in Chesterfield County (Region 1)
- Lauren Osborn, a high school English teacher (Region 2)
- Stacey Rice-Lee, an English teacher at Northumberland Middle in Northumberland County (Region 3)
- Kimberly Scott, an English teacher at Franklin Middle in Fairfax County (Region 4)
- Kenneth White Jr., a theater arts and public speaking teacher at Jefferson Forrest High in Bedford County (Region 5)
- Natalie DiFusco-Funk, a fifth-grade teacher at West Salem Elementary in Salem (Region 6)
- Ruthanne Cole, a science teacher at Bland County High in Bland County (Region 7)
- Edward McCann Jr., an agricultural education teacher at Appomattox County High in Appomattox County (Region 8)

Announcements

Dr. Matney asked for recommendations for the chair of teacher education and licensure committee. He will announce the assignments during the November Advisory Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting was adjourned.