

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Education Professional Standards Board
COPY: EPSB Education Partners
EPSB Staff
FROM: Phillip S. Rogers, Executive Director
DATE: October 29, 2010
SUBJECT: November 2010 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

“Wisdom is oftentimes nearer when we stoop than when we soar.” -- William Wordsworth

Emergency Certificate Numbers Continue to Fall

The number of emergency certificates continues to fall in Kentucky. During the 2009-10 year, a total of 462 such certificates were issued, and, as of October 29, 2010, only 167 have been issued for the 2010-11 year. For purposes of comparison, 1,432 emergency certificates were issued during the 2000-01 school year.

It should be noted that at least half of the current emergency certificates are issued to teachers who are already certified in Kentucky for another subject area. Indeed, many of these certificates are issued only for partial schedules when no other teacher is available. It should also be noted that after this school year, due to regulatory changes made in 2009, no teacher in Kentucky can obtain a second emergency certificate during the teacher's career.

Update: Kentucky Teacher Internship Program

With October 15th as the final date for enrolling in KTIP, we currently have accepted all 2,586 FTE interns who have applied --- none have been denied due to budget. Of those denied for budget reason in previous years 87% have now been enrolled in KTIP.

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards

As of October 19, 2010, there are 423 first time candidates for the 2010 – 2011 cycle. This is just a few candidates shy of the number enrolled this time last year. Candidates of the 2009 – 2010 cycle are currently awaiting their National Board scores scheduled to be released in December 2010.

Speaking at Fall Meeting of the Prichard Committee

I am looking forward to speaking at the fall meeting of the Prichard Committee. On November 15 I will be presenting on the important work of redesigning educator preparation that the EPSB has been engaged in for the last six years. I will follow Arthur Levine, who has written extensively and critically, about the preparation of teachers and principals. Dr. Levine was President of the Teachers College at Columbia University and currently serves as President of the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation.

In addition, EPSB member and Dean of the College of Education at Morehead University, Dr. Cathy Gunn, will participate on a panel with Linda France, Director of UK's P20 Innovation Lab; Robin Lowe, teacher at Scott County; and Vicki Metzger, Co-Director of WKU's Sky Teach program. The panel will discuss recent changes in Kentucky's teacher preparation programs.

SB1: P-20 Data Collaborative University/College Work Group

The P-20 Data Collaborative University/College Work Group met September 20 and will meet again in November/early December. The group has completed and used a SB 1 Matrix that organized the responsibilities for teacher education programs and questions to lead discussions on how best to complete the requirements.

Group members are also working on the best way to roll out the professional development for the Kentucky Core Academic Standards for each institution.

SB1: Kentucky Common Core Academic Standards Roll Out

"EPSB, in cooperation with the KDE and the CPE, shall coordinate information and training sessions on revised content standards for faculty and staff in all teacher preparation programs."
KRS 158:6453 (2)(i) SB 1

EPSB is collaborating with KDE and CPE to provide a multi-pronged approach in the delivery of training sessions to postsecondary faculty to maximize the positive impact of SB 1. The training will include on-line modules and face-to-face sessions on an introduction to SB 1 and the Kentucky Core Academic Standards work. Both types of professional development will be focused on the five content areas (mathematics and four language arts areas) and each will include a Senate Bill 1 strand. The professional development will be open to all postsecondary faculty (full and part-time) and KCTCS faculty. The professional development will serve as an introduction to the standards, integrating the characteristics of highly effective teaching and learning as well as assessment for learning.

Most of the professional development funds appropriated to CPE are being distributed to the eight public universities and to KCTCS as non-competitive grants to meet the professional development needs of the individual institutions. Other funding will be distributed to offer ongoing regional professional development activities and to ensure that faculty at independent postsecondary institutions receive the same information.

EPSB staff member Linda Nickel serves on the following CPE committees that are designing the professional development piece of Senate Bill 1: (1) Design and Planning Work for the Regional Professional Development provided by the Kentucky Center for Mathematics, Collaborative Center for Literacy Development, Kentucky Association of Colleges of Teacher Education, and the P-20 College and Career Readiness Lab at the University of Kentucky, (2) CPE Content Advisory Committee which has the responsibility to guide the development of the modules, and (3) the Review Committee for the Grants to Postsecondary Institutions for Professional

Development to Implement the Senate Bill 1 Kentucky Core Academic Standards for English/Language Arts and Mathematics. Also, she has served on the Interview Committee to screen and interview applicants for CPE's SB 1 Senior Associate-Project Manager, Professional Development Network position.

Modifications to the Praxis II Elementary Content Knowledge Test

Under the leadership of Division of Professional Learning and Assessment Director Robert Brown, EPSB staff has been working closely with the Educational Testing Service (ETS) to make important changes to the Praxis II elementary content knowledge test. Currently, the test required of all Kentucky elementary teachers provides assessment of four areas: math, English/language arts, social studies, and science. While remaining similar in most ways, the new test will permit the reporting of sub scores in math and English/language arts.

With the new design, there will be a comprehensive cut score for the overall test; however, the categories of math and English/language arts will have separate cut scores while science and social studies will have a combined score. A teacher candidate who does not meet the required cut scores in math and language arts would have an option of repeating only that section of the test. ETS anticipates completing the work in 2011 and having the test ready to administer during the 2011-2012 testing year. We hope to have more information to share with the EPSB in early spring.

Teacher Working Conditions Survey is now Available for Review

The TELL (Teaching, Empowering, Leading and Learning) Kentucky Survey creates a unique opportunity to gather information about school working conditions from those whose views matter most --- practicing educators. The purpose of the survey is to support sound educational policies and practices based on the views of teachers, principals, and other certificated educators in our public schools. The respondents will be asked for their perceptions on a variety of issues related to student achievement and teacher retention, including the adequacy of facilities and resources, time, empowerment, school leadership, community support, student conduct, professional development, mentoring and induction services, and student learning.

By documenting and analyzing how educators view critical teaching and learning conditions, this initiative focuses on providing each Kentucky school with its own data that can become a part of the ongoing improvement planning processes in our buildings, in our school districts, and at the state policy making level. It will be important for **all educators** in the district to complete the survey and share their opinions. The anonymous online survey may be completed from March 1 to March 26, 2011. Visit the TELL website to review the survey questions:

www.tellkentucky.com .

Regulations Update

Regulatory amendments to 16 KAR 2:150 and 16 KAR 6:020 were approved by the EPSB at its September meeting. The proposed amendments have been published in the November edition of the Administrative Register of Kentucky and are also available for view on the Legislative Research Commission's website at <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/kar/TITLE016.HTM>. The EPSB will be accepting public comments on the regulations until November 30, 2010, and a public hearing will be held on November 30, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. at the EPSB offices.

Thanks to Jefferson County Teachers Association (JCTA)

At the request of JCTA President, Brent McKim, Alicia Sneed and I met with Brent and other JCTA leaders and Jefferson County Superintendent Shelly Berman and members of his human resources staff regarding ways we can improve communication with Jefferson County teachers involved in EPSB disciplinary procedures. As a result of the meeting, Alicia was invited to speak at the JCTA Professional Representative Meeting on October 18, 2010 to explain EPSB complaint and disciplinary procedures. I am very appreciative to JCTA for giving Alicia a forum to discuss the process and provide tips to the elected JCTA representatives so they can assist their fellow educators should any find themselves going through the EPSB disciplinary process.

November 1: LEAD Report Sign-Off Date

Districts are required to complete all work on their LEAD reports and sign off by the end of the day on Monday, November 1. The process is moving along smoothly, with EPSB regularly receiving MUNIS data from KDE and districts working quickly to revise their reports before signing off. As of this writing, EPSB staff is seeing a “clearing” rate of near 98%, which means that most of the other 2% will be cleared in the coming days as final paperwork comes into the certification division. Of course, there will always be a few problems with out-of-field teachers/administrators, and any such problems will be forwarded to the KDE commissioner’s office in a preliminary report on November 15. If necessary, EPSB staff will continue working with districts to resolve problems until December.

Ethics Seminars

The legal division staff will be conducting an ethics seminar at Kentucky Christian University on November 10, 2010. If you would like to schedule an ethics seminar for your institution or school, please contact Elise Borne at elise.borne@ky.gov.

EPSB Employee Furloughs and Office Closures

As mentioned in the September newsletter, all state agencies under the Executive Branch will be required to take six furlough days during the 2010-2011 fiscal year. The Governor has required that three of the six days be on a Friday adjacent to three holidays (Labor Day, Veterans Day, and Memorial Day). The remaining three days will be taken during the months of October, March, and April with agencies having some flexibility on when employees are furloughed during the first pay period of each month. Both EPSB employees and contractors will be furloughed an equivalent number of days in accordance with the Executive Branch directive.

Please note that the EPSB will be closed on Thursday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day. The EPSB will also be closed on Friday, November 12 in observance of a statewide furlough day as a part of a budget balancing measure.

Cindy Godsey Leaving for China

EPSB will be temporarily losing the services of Cindy Godsey for approximately 12 weeks due to her impending trip to China. Cindy and her husband are traveling to adopt their first child, Kaitlin XiuHai Godsey, after their long journey through the adoption bureaucracy. They plan to leave for China on November 4, and they hope to have Kaitlin back home by Thanksgiving. Cindy is planning to be back at work sometime in mid-January. We wish the new Godsey family

well as they embark on their journey. If you like, you can track their progress and see pictures at www.questforkaitlin.com.

Good Luck, Katie!

Katie Morgan, one of our contract attorneys in the Division of Legal Services, is leaving us for a position as a clerk for Judge Glenn E. Acree of the Kentucky Court of Appeals. We have thoroughly enjoyed having Katie as part of the EPSB family for the last year, and she will be missed. Congratulations to Katie on her new opportunity; we wish her the best of luck.

Final Year's Total for EPSB: \$8,150

As anyone who reads this update memo knows, I am very proud of the generosity of those who work at the EPSB. As we near the end of the year—a year with budget reductions and furloughs—I am proud to announce that this year we have raised \$5,935.05 through the Kentucky Employees Charitable Campaign!

That means that including the March for Babies and Bowl for Kids fundraising that were held last spring, the EPSB staff has raised more than \$8,150 in 2010 to help those in need.

Meetings, Conferences, Etc

- November 1 – Sign off on LEAD reports
- November 3 – Continuous Assessment Review Committee meeting
- November 3 – Principal Evaluation Steering Committee meeting
- November 5 – Green River Regional Education Cooperative meeting
- November 6/10 – Eastern Kentucky University Accreditation visit
- November 8 – Interim Joint Education Committee meeting
- November 9 – EPSB staff leadership meeting
- November 9 – South east/south central educational cooperative meeting
- November 9 – Governor's Transforming Education in Kentucky Task Force meeting
- November 10 – Ethics presentation at Kentucky Christian University
- November 10 – Northern Kentucky Educational Cooperative meeting
- November 10 – Kentucky Leadership Academy meeting
- November 11 – Veteran's Day (EPSB office closed)
- November 12 – Mandatory furlough day (EPSB office closed)
- November 15 – Prichard Committee fall meeting
- November 16 – TELL Kentucky Steering Committee meeting
- November 16 – Kentucky Principal Test committee meeting
- November 17 – Kentucky Educational Development Cooperative meeting
- November 17 – Western Kentucky Educational Cooperative meeting
- November 17 – Central Kentucky Educational Cooperative meeting
- November 18 – EPSB staff Thanksgiving luncheon
- November 19 – Kentucky Advisory Committee on Internships meeting
- November 23 – EPSB staff leadership meeting
- November 24 – Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative meeting
- November 25/26 – Thanksgiving Holiday (EPSB office closed)
- November 29 – Principal Redesign Committee meeting
- November 30 – Master's Redesign Committee meeting

