

Kentucky Board of Education Special Meeting July 25, 2017

SUMMARY MINUTES

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) held a special meeting on July 25, 2017 in the State Board Room on the Fifth Floor of the 300 Building, 300 Sower Blvd., Frankfort, Kentucky. The board conducted the following business:

I. Call to order

Chair Twyman called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. ET.

II. Roll Call

Chair Twyman requested that Leslie Slaughter call the roll of members. There were ten (10) voting members present and one (1) absent. Ex-officio member, Bob King, was not present. Board advisors Tracey Cusick, Wayne Lewis and Joe Papalia were also in attendance for the meeting, but advisor Kathy Gornik was absent.

Attendance Taken at 1:06 PM:

Present Board Members:

Mr. Grayson Boyd
Mr. Ben Cundiff
Mr. Richard Gimmel
Mr. Gary Houchens
Ms. Alesa Johnson
Mr. Roger Marcum
Ms. Nawanna Privett
Mr. Milton Seymore
Mr. William Twyman
Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler

Present Advisors:

Ms. Tracey Cusick
Mr. Wayne Lewis
Mr. Joe Papalia

Absent Board Members:

Mr. Samuel Hinkle
President Bob King

Absent Advisors:

Ms. Kathy Gornik

III. Review and Approval of EPSB Administrative Regulation: 16 KAR 1:015, Teacher Leader Standards

Jimmy Adams, Executive Director of Kentucky's Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB), began discussion by providing an overview of the strategic work of the EPSB and the agency's structure. Adams also described the authority, roles and responsibilities of the EPSB.

Adams then went on to describe the amendments to the administrative regulation. He noted that work regarding standards for teacher leadership programs in Kentucky began ten years ago in 2007. He explained that the national InTASC standards, designed by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) as model core teaching standards, were the basis for the proposed changes. He noted that several education leaders in Kentucky had been involved in the development of the InTASC framework.

Adams indicated that the current changes are a reflection of the recommendations that came forth from a committee, which began its work in 2016. He stated that the changes, if approved, would become effective in 2018 and that the standards are designed to measure the quality of the Educator Preparation Providers (EPPs) for those offering a teacher leader master's degree program.

Several questions were noted by board members. Chair Twyman asked for clarity regarding the accrediting body for EPPs in Kentucky. Adams explained that the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAPE) is the governing body that provides such standards for program accreditation. He went on to explain how an EPP in Kentucky receives approval for a new educator preparation program.

Board member Grayson Boyd inquired if reciprocity agreements existed with other states for the teacher leader program. Adams noted that the standards are nationally recognized and that many states do recognize Kentucky's programs for certification.

Mary Gwen Wheeler asked what typical "teacher leader" roles were most prevalent in schools and districts. Adams referenced a graphic to explain the Kentucky Teacher Leader Framework, which describes the numerous responsibilities that can guide such leadership by educators. He noted the importance of school administrators to recognize the need for shared leadership models, which can present a number of opportunities for classroom teachers to grow professionally. Ben Cundiff inquired about guidance counseling and whether or not these standards could guide teachers to lead in this area, given the need for more student coaching and mentorship. Adams explained that teacher leaders could certainly assist with areas such as career coaching; however, he indicated that other roles and responsibilities associated with guidance counseling would need to be conducted by individuals with certification in the area of school guidance counseling.

Board advisor Joe Papalia asked about program evaluation and how the EPSB will measure the impact of such programs on students. Adams explained that the direct impact on students is difficult to measure at a state level, but that the goal is certainly to provide relief for classroom teachers to more fairly distribute responsibilities, which should in turn make them more effective educators. Papalia also inquired about the fiscal analysis of this program. Adams noted that, while the process itself is changing, there is no financial impact on the EPSB to continue approving such programs.

Mary Gwen Wheeler noted that this degree provides an opportunity for career progression among educators by offering an increase in rank and salary. Such programs provide professional learning for educators who are not interested in pursuing administrative certification. Board advisor Wayne Lewis noted that the state had seen a decline in discipline-specific content masters degrees since this program's inception in 2007. Board member Gary Houchens agreed with this assessment of the

decline in content masters degrees and stated that the initial vision in 2007 was for districts to create more formal structures to build teacher leadership; however, he noted that it doesn't appear that such structures have emerged over the last ten years. Houchens stressed the importance for state agencies such as EPSB and KDE to support local schools and districts in developing action plans to accomplish such growth among their teaching workforce. Houchens also stated that a critical question for the state to answer relates to the value of a teacher leader master's degree over that of a more content-specific master's degree. He expressed the need for EPPs and state policymakers to continue exploring this question.

Ben Cundiff asked the EPSB to provide more detail regarding the measurement and accountability components for program evaluation. Adams noted that such information was included in the official draft of the regulation. Joe Papalia and Ben Cundiff both agreed that the regulation language could provide greater clarity. Adams indicated that internal policy was also addressing these concerns.

Following the discussion, Mary Gwen Wheeler moved to approve administrative regulation 16 KAR 1:015. The motion was seconded by Roger Marcum and it carried by voice vote.

Chair Twyman inquired about the next steps as they relate to the review of future EPSB administrative regulations by the KBE. Adams noted that, due to the nature of the special-called meeting, this topic would need to be discussed at the board's next regular meeting on August 3.

IV. Adjournment

Chair Twyman called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Grayson Boyd and seconded by Rich Gimmel. The motion carried by voice vote and the special meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m. ET.