

Washington Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (WACTE)
Certification Officers Subgroup Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2017 8:30 – 11:30
Red Lion Seattle Airport

Welcome and Introductions

Guests: Maren Johnson, Chelsea Whealdon and Jisu Ryu (All new staff from PESB as of spring 2017)

Tonya Bartlett and Mallory Torimino from OSPI

Doug Asbjornsen – Troops to Teachers

Certification Officers

Topics for Discussion

Maren – Program manager for policy development, educator credentialing, and continuing education

PESB: (See accompanying PPT presentation for summary)

- 1) **Updates on Certificate Maintenance for K-12 roles:** Maren Johnson
 - a) HB 1341 was passed end of June this year. Adopted by PESB in July, and implemented September 1.
 - b) Looked at implications for all programs and certification systems and then in September, PESB adopted changes to bring coherence to entire system.
 - c) Residency, professional, and continuing cert holders for teachers, administrators, and ESAs may renew with:
 - i) 100 clock hours/college credits, OR
 - ii) 4 annual PGPs (=25 clock hours each) during 5 year validity, OR
 - iii) Combination of PGP, clock hours, or credits, OR
 - iv) Complete National Board certification through NBPTS
 - d) Penalty periods are gone for expired certificate
 - e) Process -> Undated residency certificate -> 1.5 FTE of experience over at least 2 school years (on S275, public schools) -> 5 year residency certificate
-> can renew residency indefinitely with renewal requirements above.
 - i) PGP for certificate renewal is similar to PGP for program completion. For certificate renewal you need to provide evidence in addition.
 - ii) Each PGP is worth 30 clock hours currently, will be worth 25 clock hours starting July 1, 2018
 - iii) STEM area endorsement must complete STEM renewal requirements every 5 years.
 - iv) Professional Certification is optional through 2019 to complete ProTeach
 - v) National Boards Certification still in place – may choose to complete in 1, 2, or 3 years. Must have 3 years of experience to pursue.
 - f) Focus on residency renewal cycle increases focus on importance of continuing education.
 - g) Renewal of Professional and Continuing Teacher Certification

- i) 100 clock hours, 4 PGP, combination of both, or Valid National Board certificate (NB will be valid for 5 years)
- h) STEM Certificate (legislatively mandated)
 - i) Starting 9/1/19 will be attached to renewal for residency, professional, and continuing certificate
 - ii) Must have 15 hours with an emphasis on STEM integration – integration of 2 of the 4 STEM components OR 1 goal from PGP must have an emphasis on STEM integration
 - iii) Applies to multiple endorsement area not by job assignment
 - (1) Elementary, Early Childhood Education, Math, ML Math, Technology Ed, ALL CTE Teachers, ML Science, Science, Designated Science (Bio, Chem, ESS, Physics)
 - iv) NBCT are considered to have met STEM certificate renewal requirement and don't need to complete STEM separately.
 - v) PESB will offer micro-credentialing – looking at micro-credentialing as a form of continuing education/professional development. This would not be maintained in the same way as a certificate or endorsement.
 - vi) Teachers will verify this by affidavit
- i) TPEP Certificate renewal requirement (Legislatively mandated)
 - i) 9/1/19 – renewal apps for professional and continuing teachers and administrators must document at least 15 clock hours related to the knowledge and competencies of the evaluation criteria or at least one goal from PGP related to 1 of the state 8 TPEP criteria.
 - ii) Not be possible to do a PGP that didn't meet the TPEP criteria because of the alignment of the PGP.
- j) Principal and Program Admin
 - i) Undated residency until they have 2 years in the role (do not need to be consecutive and do not need a contract for a 3rd year in the same district *change*) -> 5 year residency administrator certificate -> available for renewal with 2 ways listed above.
 - (1) **NO options other than 5 year renewal. Cannot get a continuing or professional.
 - ii) Renewal – every 5 years: 100 clock hours, 4 PGPs, combo of CH and PGP and TPEP requirement
- k) School Counselors/School Psychology
 - i) Undated residency -> 2 years of experience in the role (do not need to be consecutive, do not need a 3rd contracted year in same district) -> can be renewed in same ways as teachers/principals.
 - (1) Clock hours or PGPS must be aligned in domains they are certified in
 - ii) 2nd tier certification now optional. Can do national boards (school counselors) or National Certification from NASP (school psychologist)
 - iii) Currently can use 150 clock hours for continuing certificate
 - iv) Additional suicide prevention training requirement (nurses, counselors, psychologist, social workers) must complete every 5 year
- l) PGP
 - i) Can complete PGP throughout their career
 - ii) *only one PGP may be completed per year*
 - iii) Idea is to give “credit” for what people are already doing

- iv) Allows people to use out-of-state learning experiences that aren't typically for credit, etc.
- v) PGP template, attach evidence, certificated educator (ANY, not just administrator) can review and sign. Educator turns in verification form to HR office and record in OSPI e-cert for renewal.
 - (1) Multiple steps to completing and documenting
 - (2) Can indicate in e-cert if it was STEM related or TPEP related content

2) **Pre-Residency Clearance and Limited Certificates** – *Request for input from PESB:*

Maren Johnson

a) Pre-Residency “Certificate”

- i) Catherine Slagle will be presenting at November board meeting about what Office of Professional Practices (OPP) has encountered; staff will begin working on potential solutions to present to the Board at a later date.
- ii) The Problem (from OPP): Currently interns earn “clearance” NOT a “certificate.”
 - (1) Because of this, OPP has no jurisdiction to investigate or act if the individual violates the code of professional conduct. Cannot be tracked if this is not a certificate.
 - (2) “Potential” solution: Make clearance an actual type of limited certificate.
- iii) Areas for consideration that would need to be addressed prior to implementation:
 - (1) Who would apply for it? Currently individuals make applications. For limited certificates districts initiate.
 - (a) Recommendation is for student to continue to do it. It would be highly inefficient otherwise. Keep it the same as now and have the student apply.
 - (b) Students aren't in the district when they do this, we work with different districts, etc., so having the district do it would be inefficient as well.
 - (2) Eligibility to sub? (PESB question)
 - (a) For example: included ability to sub during internship, or graduated subbing privileges.
 - (b) Cert Officers made it clear that they would NOT recommend sub options be a part of this
 - (c) Suggestions from Cert Officers:
 - (i) Change name (do not call it Pre-Residency)
 - (ii) Eliminate Intern Sub Cert completely
 - (iii) Transfer current Intern Sub Cert rules to the Emergency Sub Cert ***while a candidate is in a teacher education program.*** In other words, a candidate may have an Emergency Sub Cert, but if they are in a teacher education program, they must receive approval by the university to be assigned as a sub and ONLY in the classroom where they are currently assigned for internship.
 - (d) If it's a cert they have to pay for it but with no benefit if it's not attached to certification. Perhaps OSPI would be willing to lower the fee for Residency Cert to help counteract this additional fee?
 - (3) Validity Period?
 - (a) 1, 2 or 3 years? Cert Officers recommend 3 years which would be helpful for undergrads.

- (b) Would this cover the requirement of fingerprinting or WA Certification?
 - (i) If so would cover MOA for districts
 - (ii) Wouldn't need to be re-fingerprinted if they have this clearance.

3) WEST-B Equivalents and Alternatives for Undergraduate Programs: Jisu Ryu

- a) Alternatives – assessments designated as equal rigor by PESB
 - i) Only alternative is SAT and ACT
- b) Exemptions – are for out-of-state candidates who are applying for PB or MA programs
 - i) ONLY for out-of-state candidates
 - ii) No in-state or undergrads
 - iii) “Equivalent” test published by PESB – on PESB website
 - (1) Will add cut scores to website (cut scores are already on certificate webpage)
 - iv) PESB understands there are inequities in this policy and are currently investigating equality related issues with regard to testing exemptions.
 - (1) Work group meeting 5 times between Nov-Feb. Chelsea and Jisu are on this workgroup so we can email them for questions and comments.
 - (2) Pearson website isn't clear about what to do/ what tests to take, etc.
 - (a) Pearson will be connected to work that the group is doing so hopefully some of this will be addressed.
 - (b) Working with Pearson for better transparency

4) Clarity on conflicting language in WAC 181-78A-300: Jisu Ryu

- a) Beginning 9/1/17 – may admit without but WEST-B must be passed prior to student teaching
- b) Beginning 9/1/17 Candidates must also attempt at least 1 WEST-E/NES or equivalent assessment prior to student teaching.
- c) What about students who need accommodations? The process can take so long to get the accommodations actually through Pearson.
- d) What is the rationale?
 - i) Candidates were complaining that they completed the program but were not getting certified.
 - ii) Districts were encountering situations where they had to rescind offers because those they offered jobs to couldn't be certified because they did not pass exam.
 - iii) Give the program a sense of where the candidate is to provide support for areas needed.

5) Competencies Based vs National Standards: Chesea Whealdon

- a) Continuing transition to national standards for endorsements
- b) Background
 - i) In 2013 board decided to shift WEST-E to NES tests
 - ii) 2013-2016 – programs went to Board for re-approval
 - iii) 2016 – Board made decision to shift to IBPR model for evaluation/re-approvals suspended indefinitely.
- c) Areas of confusion
 - i) Some programs went through re-approval process but many did not
 - ii) Standard 5 is also transitioning to national standards (inTASC standards) and happening concurrently with IBPR and is connected but a different transition.
 - iii) PESB has taken chart and added national standards that NES tests are based on.

- iv) Some endorsements will transition to NES by 9/1/2018
 - (1) Some endorsements will stay WEST-E. (Business and Marketing, Computer Science, ELL, FCS, Library Media, Special Education)
- v) Some are undecided and the Board needs to make final decisions
- vi) New programs need to use national standards for endorsement areas
- vii) WA standards were aligned to National standards
 - (1) IHEs should have access to WA competencies. Currently we are getting a permission access denied when trying to access but Chelsea is now aware of the issue.
 - (2) Some endorsements are currently based on WA competencies (Elementary) and those who apply to offer these now will use National Standards. We asked PESB for a crosswalk between WA competencies and National Standards so that we can start to transition on our own.
- d) 3 newsletters from PESB
 - i) PESB News of Note – monthly letter that goes out regarding board decisions, policy, etc.
 - ii) Pathways newsletter – grant opportunities and initiatives around teacher diversity and shortage
 - iii) Para-educator board newsletter
 - iv) Subscribe on PESB website, archive on website:
<http://www.pesb.wa.gov/media/email-newsletter-subscription>

OSPI: Tonya and Mallory Presentation

1) Operational Processes

- a) Tonya looks for degree information and testing information
 - i) Looking for BA or higher; applicant gets a deficiency unless system shows this
 - ii) IHE will enter appropriate degree and test information
 - iii) Different ways to enter testing/degree information
 - (1) Enter directly under degree or test tab
 - (2) Enter within the wizard when recommending
 - iv) Candidate can't enter degree information themselves in degree tab
 - v) If there is a major that is missing, contact Tonya so that she can update
 - vi) Sometimes you have to pick the degree name that is the closest
 - vii) Question from field: Can you build testing into recommendation? – Maybe.
 - (1) Even a link (like with fingerprinting with PRC) back to testing would be helpful
 - viii) Principals/Supt – Do you need us to upload certificate?
 - (1) Yes, please. The candidate will receive a deficiency notice if it is not uploaded.
 - ix) College/University administrator guide will be updated by Tonya
- b) Let Tonya know if a student went rogue and applied to the wrong program. She can typically hold application fee for up to 6 months. You can make notes in the comm log but it doesn't notify Tonya if there are notes so it helps to let Tonya know.
- c) Don't fill out Institutional Verification of Program Completion and Character from OSPI. Form 4020E, 4020E-1, 2098E

- i) UNLESS you have a candidate who completed the program but did not get their certificate. Tonya will take this form in this one case.
- ii) Tonya can overwrite date of recommendation to previous years if we want to do an online verification/recommendation.
- d) Will be making verification of program enrollment form for the system
- e) College/University seal is no longer necessary on forms and we can upload it directly to candidate's record.
- f) Only need copy of certificate for Principals
- g) If doing an in-state program don't need verification of good standing in other states.
- h) What is the definition of "enrolled" for these forms?
 - i) Up to the university. Cert Officers just need to be comfortable signing the form.
 - (1) Example: one school defined "substantial" as, complete at least 25% of program, has to have content test completed, and field experience set up.
- i) Takes about 3 days to issue cert once they are recommended.
 - i) Districts have a variety of limited certificates at their disposal
 - ii) Tonya will be in office the week between Christmas and New Years. If she takes time off it's the second/third week in September after the summer rush is over. 😊
- j) Tonya is the contact with districts with limited certificates and communicates with them about this so if we see a district trying multiple certs, let Tonya know and she can work with the district.
- k) Validity dates for limited certificates and other information on slideshow that Tonya provided. <http://www.k12.wa.us/certification/Webinars/10-25-2017WACTEConference.pdf>
- l) Best for educator with expired residency to contact OSPI directly because there are so many nuances to certification.
- m) Tonya's direct number: 360-725-6408

2) **Handbook for Certification Officers**

- a) In the works but there have been so many changes that have happened that work done needs to be revised.
 - b) Tonya updating the college/university personnel guide; will likely be more helpful initially.
- 3) Still need to wait overnight to have e-certification access once login is created.
- 4) If IHEs want webinars please let Tonya know. Webinars are also posted to websites.

Doug Asbjornsen – Troops to Teachers

- 1) OSPI program back up, funded and running again. National program that is funded through Dantes.
- 2) Doug works for OSPI remotely and lives in Spokane
- 3) Troops to Teachers
 - a. 20 bases in WA state
 - b. People leaving the military and many are on post 9/11 GI bills
 - c. Want to attach people to WA state certification programs.

- d. 2 people have a caseload of veterans who contact them and try to hook them up with a certification program and will help the veteran. Counseling services for vets.
 - i. Let current vet students know that troops to teachers exist. For example they can help counsel them to move into the teaching landscape from the military landscape
 - ii. Bonus to help people in underserved schools – get into teaching positions (route 4 folks), DOD funded
 - e. Proudtoserveagain.com
 - i. Free program for vets to take people who have passion for teaching and hook them up with certification programs.
 - f. 43% minority
 - g. Within 3 years of separating from military, they need to register with troops to teacher to get bonus but troops to teachers will still serve them (counseling, networking, etc.)
 - h. Not paid under the federal program to help spouses but will try to serve them if they can.
- 4) OSPI has priority for military folks and spouses

OTHER:

- 1) Probably will meet at 9:00 or 9:30 in January
- 2) Send Cathy Stephens burning topics as you think of them before the January meeting
- 3) Will invite someone from OPP to January meeting if there are questions for them
- 4) Will likely invite Chelsea back regarding transition to national standards
- 5) Clock Hours
 - a. (Prior to being a clock hour provider) Mentor teachers can get clock hours for mentoring, OSPI can be used as provider since it's a PESB ruling.
- 6) If people add endorsement via test only they are not connected with IHE. Only connected with IHE if we verify them.

January Meeting:

- Policy around file retention for student files
- Archiving guidelines; what to keep/discard at various program levels and after certification.
- What do we do for admissions for each of our programs?
- PESB list would be nice if it's more helpful for students who are looking for programs and endorsements offered in actuality.
- Salary schedule changes? –Can someone talk to us about this? WEA? PESB? OSPI? ESD superintendent might provide better clarify on this. – Possibly better in April since they might have more information.

Adjourn

Next Meeting: January 24, 2018 (Location near SeaTac TBD)