

**Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification  
And Licensure and Development  
Central High Building  
Fourth Floor Conference Room  
10:00 A.M.  
January 6, 2012**

**Members Attending:**

Kelly Fuller	Donna Loden	Doris Perkins
Pamela Manners	Dr. Angela Rutherford	Renee Moore
Johnny Donaldson	Dr. Janice Nicholson	Liz Michael
Marilyn McMillan		

**Members Absent:**

Brian Pearse	Robin Herrington
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**MDE Personnel:**

Dr. Daphne Buckley	Cindy Coon	Raina Lee
Gail Gettis	Amy Daniel	Liz Dungan
Mike Mulvihill		

The meeting was called to order by Pamela Manners, chair. A quorum was announced by Dr. Daphne Buckley. On a motion by Doris Perkins, seconded by Johnny Donaldson, the Commission approved the agenda. On a motion by Renee Moore, seconded by Liz Michael, the minutes were approved from November 4, 2011.

**Item 1. MDE Update**

- On November 17-18, 2011, the MS Teacher Appraisal System was taken to the State Board of Education. It was approved as a one-year pilot program within the teacher incentive fund grant before approved to be implemented state wide. The revised system was later approved. This year, focus groups will be held across the state with teachers and administrators to provide input on the system.
- A waiver has been requested by USDE to implement statewide field testing by the 2013-14 school year, with training in the 2012-13 school year.
- Teacher education programs will be included in the training. Dr. Joe Murphy, national expert in Educational Leadership from Vanderbilt University, has been asked to develop a principal evaluation system.

**Item 2. Discussion of Proposed License for School Business Officers**

Todd Ivey, Bureau Manager, Financial Services, MDE and Sheryle Coaker, CFO, Petal School District, presented this item. State Board policy currently states that districts need a certified school business officer or administrator who has nine hours of accounting courses or an accounting degree (if administrator). Mississippi Association of School Business Officers (MASBO) is proposing a new license for School Business officers

which will strengthen requirements by licensing these employees through the Office of Educator Licensure.

The proposal is for business officers/administrators to have a bachelor's degree from a four year college /university in a business related field with 15 specified hours of accounting. The first license issued will be a non-renewable three year license that no supplemental endorsements can be added to. To convert to a five year license, personnel must attend the MS Association of School Business Officers (MASBO) Academy.

Current business officers/administrators that may not have a bachelor's degree but have five years experience in the same school district and a recommendation letter from the superintendent could be grandfathered in; however, if the business officer/administrator leaves his current district, he would have to meet all license requirements.

After discussion, the Commission asked for this proposal to be brought back in March for approval. They also asked Mr. Ivey to provide the number of school business officers across the state that will qualify.

**Item 3. Discussion of Change to License Requirements for Vocational Counseling**

Mike Mulvihill presented this item to modify the current 314 license – “Vocational Guidance.” He is requesting two modifications: a name change to “Career Technical Counselor”; and modifying the requirements. The proposal is for an online module to be developed by MSU RCU to replace the current two, three-credit hour course requirements. There was no discussion. The item will be brought back in March for approval.

**Item 4. Discussion of Regenerated Praxis Test for Music Education 0113**

Mrs. Coon presented this item, reminding the Commission of Dr. Burnham's desire of increasing MS cut scores to meet nationally recommended cut scores. ETS has regenerated the current test for music education - 0113. They also developed a new test, 0114, and gave states the option to use either test. MS will retain the old test, but needs to consider a new cut score of 161 to meet the nationally recommended cut score. There was no discussion. The item will be brought back in March for approval.

**Item 5. Discussion of Regenerated Praxis Test for Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

Mrs. Coon presented the item. The standard setting panel has recommended a new test - 0272, with a recommended cut score of 160. There was no discussion. The item will be brought back in March for approval.

**Item 6. Approval of Proposal from the University of Southern Mississippi for Masters Degree Program in Educational Leadership**

Dr. Ann Blackwell, Dean of Education at USM, presented this item. Dr. Buckley mentioned that Dr. Joe Murphy, from Vanderbilt University, reviewed this program as part of the review of all Administrator Preparation programs, and that it did meet ISLAC standards. This program is entirely online, which has been well received by students. A

motion to approve the item was made by Renee Moore and seconded by Doris Perkins. The proposal was approved.

**Item 7. Approval of Proposal from the Mississippi University for Women Masters Degree Program in Educational Leadership**

Dr. Sue Jolly Smith, Dean of Education at MUW and Dr. Bob Fuller, Chair of Ed Leadership at MUW presented this item. This program was also approved by Dr. Murphy’s review. A motion to approve the item was made by Doris Perkins and seconded by Angela Rutherford. The proposal was approved.

**Item 8. Approval of New License Code for Chinese**

Educator Licensure is proposing a new license code 132 to be issued as a supplemental endorsement with 21 hours of coursework in Chinese *or* by taking a new Mandarin Chinese Praxis test that ETS is currently developing. A motion to approve the item was made by Liz Michael and seconded by Doris Perkins. The motion was approved.

**Item 9. Approval of New Praxis Test and Cut Score for Economics**

The current test (0910) has been regenerated with a new cut score of 150. The Commission reviewed the standard setting report at the last meeting and had a presentation by one of the participants. A motion to approve the item was made by Angela Rutherford and seconded by Doris Perkins. The motion was approved as follows: passed with 7 votes, with Renee Moore abstaining.

**Item 10. Approval of Proposal from Office of Career Technical Education**

Mrs. Coon presented new licenses and name changes as indicated on the table below. A motion to approve the item was made by Janice Nicholson and seconded by Liz Michael. The motion was approved.

<b>Endorsement Code</b>	<b>License Name</b>
984	Technology Foundations (to replace Computer Discovery)
986	Career Pathway: Architecture and Drafting
990	Career Pathway: Agriculture and Natural Resources
952	Career Pathway: Finance and Accounting
961	Career Pathway: Healthcare and Clinical Service (to replace Health Sciences)

**Item 11. Ratification of Voluntary Surrenders**

Three educators had court convictions, violations of MS Code Section 37-3-2, and were served a Complaint by Sworn Affidavit stating the charges, and offered the opportunity to voluntarily surrender their licenses before being served notice of a hearing. Katryna Martin, Stephen Risher, and Walton Jeremy Edwards all opted to surrender licenses. A motion to approve the item was made by Renee Moore and seconded by Doris Perkins. The motion was approved.

**Item 12. Report on Hearings for January 5, 2012**

On January 5, 2012, the Commission's Hearing Subcommittee comprised of Pamela Manners, Dr. Janice Nicholson, and Brian Pearse conducted the following disciplinary hearing:

Educator License No. 198257, held by Tiffany Jones was revoked after the Respondent was found to have violated Section 37-3-2(12)(d) of the Mississippi Code, in that she pled guilty to Grand Larceny, on or about November 29, 2010. It was also the decision of the Commission that the Respondent be allowed to apply for reinstatement only after she is no longer under the custody of the Mississippi Department of Corrections and proper release of probation documentation is provided.

**Item 13. Licensure Update**

Mrs. Coon gave an update on the implementation of the MS Educator Code of Ethics. A task force developed made recommendations to the Legislature in 2011. The Code of Ethics was developed due to an increase in sexual misconduct. Many of the districts were allowing the educators to resign, rather than terminating. Reporting of sexual misconduct is now mandatory, whether the educator was terminated or not. Training was done in the summer with superintendents and administrators. A video was also presented to districts. Contracts were modified to include the Code of Ethics. Handbooks were mailed to school superintendents.

The current law gives responsibility of decisions regarding licensees to the Commission. MDE needs members to volunteer to serve on hearing panels. There was some discussion for hearings to occur monthly or to be moved to the month that is not during Commission meetings, due to the increase in reported cases from the Code of Ethics. A technical amendment has been submitted to the legislature to create an ethics division at MDE to handle the increased caseload due to Standard 4 violations.

Volunteers for March 1, 2012, hearings include Angela Rutherford, Liz Michael, and Doris Perkins

**Item 14. Other Business**

Renee Moore shared that there was a December meeting for the Commission on Effective Teachers and Teaching. The commission is made up of 21 members, who are outstanding teachers, administrators, and school board members. The Commission prepared a report addressing teacher preparation, recruitment, and retention. Mrs. Moore will provide a copy or send a link to Commission members before the next meeting.

**Adjourn**

On a motion made by Renee Moore and seconded by Angela Rutherford, the meeting was adjourned.