



**Mississippi Board of Education
Educator Quality Subcommittee
October 20, 2021
4:00 P.M.**

**Room 311
Central High School Building/Microsoft Teams
Mississippi Department of Education (MDE)
359 North West Street
Jackson, Mississippi**

I. Call to Order

Dr. Karen Elam called the meeting of the Educator Quality Subcommittee to order on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, at 4:03 P.M.

Educator Quality Subcommittee Members Present:

Dr. Karen Elam

Dr. Angela Bass

Dr. Ronnie McGehee

Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Staff Present:

Dr. Cory Murphy

Dr. Debra Burson

Brian McGairty

Mary-Catherine McGregor

II. Updates from Educator Quality Committee Members

Dr. McGehee reported that he has been visiting principals in various districts to see how changes are being made in relation to COVID-19 and to determine what additional changes might need to be made. He states that there may need to be revisions in process standards in statutes.

Dr. Elam reported that she had no updates at this time.

Dr. Bass reported that she had no updates at this time.

III. Discussion of Office of Teaching and Leading related Mississippi State Board of Education October 21, 2021, Consent Agenda Items (Brian McGairty/Dr. Debra Burson)

Dr. Murphy reported that the items for discussion are listed as they appear on the SBE's October 21, 2021, Meeting Agenda

K. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Miss. Admin.Code 7 – 3: 14.6, 14.6.2, 14.6.3, and 14.6.4, State Board Policy Chapter 14, Rules 14.6, 14.6.2, 14.6.3, and 14.6.4, related to Licensure Commission, Discipline Procedures, Hearings and Appeals (Brian McGairty)

Mr. McGairty reported that the primary changes would be:

- Revising the requirement that notification of hearings be delivered via certified mail, in response to the U.S. Postal Service having to change hand delivered certified notifications due to COVID-19
- Changing the automatic suspension of an educator license for breach of contract, to allow special circumstances to be presented and considered

L. Approval of educator preparation programs as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development (Debra Burson)

M. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Miss. Admin.Code 7 – 4: Part 4: Licensure Guidelines K-12 to establish a new K-6 Elementary Education supplemental endorsement as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development (Debra Burson)

N. Approval to modify the existing K-12 Reading endorsement as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development (Debra Burson)

O. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Miss. Admin.Code 7 – 4: Part 4: Licensure Guidelines K-12 to require all initial Special Education licensure candidates to earn a passing score on a rigorous test of scientifically research-based reading instruction, interventions, and data-based decision-making principles as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development (Debra Burson)

Dr. Burson gave a brief overview for SBE Agenda items L, M, N, and O, specifically as they related to a focus on literacy and special education so that Mississippi's most vulnerable populations are served effectively.

Dr. Elam questioned why so many of the changes to educator preparation programs recommended by the Commission related specifically to Jackson State University (JSU). Dr. Burson reported that the Educator Preparation Programs are reviewed on a rotation, and that it was currently JSU's time to be reviewed.

Dr. Bass questioned what test would be used to satisfy the requirements of requiring all initial Special Education licensure candidates to earn a passing score on a rigorous test of scientifically research-based reading instruction, interventions, and data-based decision-making principles. Dr. Burson reported that the Foundations of Reading Assessment, which is currently utilized for Elementary Education licensure purposes will be used.

Dr. McGehee introduced the topics of Reciprocity and Teacher Shortages for additional discussion.

- Dr. McGehee questioned how or if reciprocity applied to residents of Mississippi who obtained their teaching degree out of state, since there are a number of potential educators who live in areas that border neighboring states. Dr. Murphy reported that effective February 22, 2021, those who are applying for an initial license who obtained their education degree outside of Mississippi would apply for licensure in that state first, and then obtain a Mississippi license through the process of reciprocity. Dr. Burson explained that we know that the EPP's in Mississippi offer programs that meet our standards for licensure, but that we do not have the same knowledge/oversight with programs offered by out of state EPP's. Having an applicant apply for reciprocity rather than initial licensure makes sure that the out of state program they attend meets the licensure guidelines for the state that offers it.
- Dr. McGehee questioned whether there was a way to track and compare the number of people applying for licensure with the number of educator's retiring to predict potential shortages. Dr. Murphy reported that currently, the MSIS program is not connected to ELMS.

IV. Adjournment

On a motion by Dr. Karen Elam, seconded by Dr. Ronnie McGehee, the subcommittee adjourned the meeting at 4:52 P.M.

Approved:



Dr. Karen Elam, Chair
Educator Quality Subcommittee



Dr. Cory Murphy, MDE Advisory
Office of Teaching and Leading