



Certification and Higher Education Committee
Maine State Board of Education
April 24, 2024

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a virtual monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 24, 2024 via Zoom. Members present were: Tom Keller, chair, Tori Kornfield and Denham Ward. SBE Vice Chair Paulette Bonneau was also present.

Guests: Eileen King, Rose Marie Angel, Gerry Durgin, Larry Ronco, Laura Cyr, Penny Bishop, Mallory Cook, Jon Moody, Kathy Yardley, Deb McIntyre, and Cynthia Alexander.

Tom Keller called the meeting to order at 10:10 am after some difficulties with getting all online at the proper URL.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Tori Kornfield, seconded by Denham Ward to approve the minutes from the March 27 meeting. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

Public Comment

None were offered.

Higher Education Update

Michael Perry reported the following:

1. UMaine has asked for an off cycle EPP review since they are adding new programs. Tori agreed to serve as the SBE observer since she is so close. This will occur toward the end of October.
2. Thomas College will have an EPP review, probably in the third week of September. Fern will seek an SBE Observer.
3. Colby College is due for an EPP review in March of 2025 and Fern will seek an SBE Observer for that review team.
4. Michael will meet with UM and UMM leadership on May 3 to map out a course for a UMM EPP review. They were due in 2015 but with COVID, becoming a regional campus and defining the relationships for educational programming, all has been in flux.

5. There will be a review of Syracuse University's program at Edward Little High School. This will occur in the fall of 2024 and Tori will be the SBE Observer, as a proud alum of Syracuse and an ELA expert.
6. Progress has not been made on the status of Beal University. Michael and AAG Sarah Forster are to meet on this.
7. There is no update on the Commission to Update Maine's Public Policy on Higher Education for which Tori is the SBE representative. Considering that the legislature has adjourned, this item will be dropped from future agendas.
8. Michael will provide us with the Annual EPP Reports when all are submitted. We will begin reviewing these at the next meeting.
9. Kathy Yardley and Larry Ronco described a new crosswalk they created for CAEP to Maine Chapter 114 standards. With the revision of the CAEP standards, they now address all state standards. (crosswalk attached)

Certification Update

Michael Perry reported that:

1. 2,946 applications were processed in March, 2024; processing time is approximately 3 to 4 weeks; hold time on phone calls to certification are around 5 minutes.
2. For the violation update, 1,317 violations have been noted, these are in CHRC reports, mostly mis-entered data.

Denham Ward reported on the Regional Longitudinal Data Study. They are driven by vital questions such as what data do we want from SAUs? What constitutes a vacancy? How to reduce the reporting load on SAUs? They are engaged in a pilot study now, to pilot the instruments and gather data on how long they take to complete. They have a range of SAUs participating from large, urban systems to small, rural systems though none in Washington or Aroostook counties.

Update from EPPs

Penny Bishop from UMaine gave the update. She had Kathy Yardley describe the opening of UMF's new childcare and early education center, UMPI has a lunch & learn session with administrators to strength collaboration, the University of Maine System received a Congressionally Directed Spending grant of \$3.3 million for Rural Teacher Resilience through which they will be working with new and novice teachers, mid-career teachers on teacher leadership, and pathways for building administrators. She noted that TEAMe is meeting this coming Friday, and that Tom and Michael are on the agenda for that. She spoke about the certification team being closer to filling all seats and hoped that this would allow work to resume on the matrix that has been presented for Pathway 2. Finally, she noted that UMPI has been having issues with the MEIS on new grade spans – Michael said the website was being reviewed and renewed.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm