

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Education Professional Standards Board

FROM: Phillip S. Rogers

DATE: April 4, 2006

SUBJECT: EPSB April Update

Thanks for the hard work that you all did during our March meeting. We covered a variety of important issues, and your participation through thoughtful questions and insightful observations added value to each one. We are putting the final touches on the May agenda; it appears to be no less challenging. Here are a few updates that relate to our work this month:

EPSB Speakers

We often receive requests for someone to speak at teacher preparation programs and to districts on the issue of educator misconduct. When I asked several Board members about sharing this responsibility, you thought the proposal was worth presenting to the entire Board. Certainly no one would be obligated to speak; doing so would be contingent upon your availability. Nearly all of those polled thought it important for speakers to be trained. EPSB staff would be glad to provide the training. I can think of no one more qualified to address both future and current educators than those of you who regularly have to wrestle with the consequences of educator misconduct.

We will discuss this more thoroughly during the retreat.

Legislative Update

Please join me in expressing a “job well done” to both Brenda and Marcie on their coverage of the 2006 General Assembly. They managed to keep your legislative agenda moving and, while there were a few close calls, we managed to avoid having any unrelated amendments tacked on (no easy task). Several of you expressed appreciation for the great job Marcie did in posting our legislative tracking sheet on the web for you to use. It sounds like this will be a “keeper” for the next session.

Also, both Jim Cibulka and Lorraine Williams did an excellent job of representing the EPSB during their confirmation hearings. We anticipate that the Governor will make an appointment soon for the remaining vacancy on the EPSB. Confirmation hearings for the appointee would be held during the 2007 legislative session.

Agenda Format

I am delighted that several of you requested more documentation and background on some of the issues I present during my Executive Director's report. After discussing ideas with the Leadership staff and our Chair Tom Stull, as of the March agenda, we now include as an Information Item any updates on issues the EPSB will eventually have to vote on. Also, we have now built additional time into the development of the Board Agenda book, allowing Tom to review the items in my report. I hope this change proves helpful. As always, I appreciate your ideas and welcome your suggestions.

You will also notice that we have worked on the arrangement of agenda items so that non-regulatory items appear first and regulatory changes follow. Not much of a change but in my OCD mind it seems better.

Retreat

As our retreat agenda takes shape, I hope you are looking forward to this annual time of important conversations that guide the overall work and focus of the EPSB. As you know, this year our June EPSB meeting will follow the retreat. In looking ahead to our June meeting, it appears that we may have a lighter than normal agenda, something I thought you might appreciate after two days of retreat discussions.

Budget Update

I have waited as long as I can on news of how the EPSB fared in the Conference Committee budget, but as of this date (April 4), it has yet to be released (I decided this after one last call to Secretary Fox who had as little information as I do). I am on my way to the annual American Education Research Conference, but Brenda will notify you as soon as we hear something. We know we will be straight lined (no increase in operating funds for the next two years), but the House did provide some additional money (\$300K) for NBPTS Incentive Fund that was not in the Senate or Governor's Budget. We are also anxious about whether the Conference Committee will insert language that would prevent us from offering KPIP (that is how it happened last time). In my conversations with leaders in both the Senate and House, they have assured me they would watch for the KPIP language, but "it ain't over till it's over." Brenda will be in touch when the budget is final.

Online Agenda Book and Minutes

If you get the chance, please take a look at the great job Ashley has done on the online version of our [meeting agenda](#). By inserting hyperlinks, she has made moving around in the online document much easier, and she now posts the documents as both a Word document and as a PDF file (which non-Word users will appreciate).

FYI: 2006-07 LEAD/MUNIS Report

We are already thinking about next year's LEAD report. As you may know, this past year was the first year we looked at proper certification for school and district administrators. To do this we must use the district's MUNIS report. Last year we had slightly over 900 "kick-outs" due to what we suspect were mostly coding errors. Since we have never reviewed administrators (LEAD has typically only looked at teacher assignments), we did not report these. Instead we worked with the districts to try to correct them. In March I emailed all the superintendents, asking them to check their coding of school and district administrators in anticipation of a more accurate report this year. It appears that the superintendents did appreciate our heads-up on this issue.

Meetings, Etc.*

- April 5: Northern Kentucky Education Cooperative (Cold Springs)
- April 10: Reading Committee (EPSB office)
- April 12: South East/South Central Education Cooperative (Lexington)
- April 12: Meeting with institutions regarding the Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education programs and internship
- April 12-13: Asbury College Mock Visit (Wilmore)
- April 13: Teacher Work Sample Task Force meeting (EPSB office)
- April 14: EPSB office closed half day for Good Friday
- April 19: Central Kentucky Education Cooperative (Lexington)
- April 19: Kentucky Education Development Cooperative (Lexington)
- April 20: Kentucky Valley Education Cooperative (Lexington)
- April 20-21: Kentucky Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (KACTE) Conference (Georgetown)
 - We will have the EPSB booth set up.
- April 21: Mike Carr speaking to the Green River Region Education Cooperative Human Resource Directors and participating in their teacher job fair (Bowling Green)
- April 21: Commonwealth Collaborative of School Leadership Programs (CCSLP) meeting on redesign of principal preparation programs
- April 26-28: ETS Client Conference (Princeton, NJ)
- April 27: Western Kentucky Education Cooperative (Lexington)
- April 27-28: Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant (TQEG) Curriculum Alignment conference at Shakertown

** If you would like additional information on any of these meetings, please contact Ashley and she will assist you.*

An Invitation

All EPSB members have been invited to attend a two-day event planned for April 10 and 11, 2006, at Morehead State University. I highly recommend the featured speaker, Dr. Willard Daggett, President of the International Center for Leadership in Education. Dr. Daggett is a captivating speaker who does an excellent job of

helping educators look over the horizon and see how we need to be preparing children for tomorrow's world. Even if you can only attend one day, I believe it would be well worth your time.

Of course, we will cover all your expenses, including a substitute for those teachers who would like to take advantage of this opportunity. If you would like to attend, please contact Ashley, and she will take care of the arrangements. (I apologize for the late notice, but we were not contacted until Thursday, March 30.)

FYI: Board members are encouraged to seek out training opportunities that support your work on the EPSB. I will try to inform you of different opportunities that I am aware of, but certainly if you would like to attend a training or conference, please send the request to me.