

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** The Education Professional Standards Board

**COPY:** EPSB Education Partners  
EPSB Staff

**FROM:** Phillip S. Rogers, Executive Director

**DATE:** October 1, 2007

**SUBJECT:** October 2007 EPSB Update

### **Mission Statement**

*The Education Professional Standards Board promotes high levels of student achievement by establishing and enforcing rigorous professional standards for preparation, certification, and responsible and ethical behavior of all professional educators in Kentucky.*

### **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Teacher Quality Summit**

Both Marilyn Troupe and I will be presenting at the upcoming Teacher Quality Summit. I will be presenting on the overall plan for a coherent and effective educator preparation model, and Marilyn will be presenting on the specifics of the master's redesign.

The summit, which is jointly sponsored by the Council on Postsecondary Education, Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions, and the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities, will be held October 29-30 at the Brown Hotel in Louisville. The Council is coordinating with the Kentucky Association of Colleges of Teacher Education and the Education Professional Standards Board in planning the event. The University of Louisville is hosting this year's Summit.

The focus of this year's summit is on preparing teachers and school and district leaders to use data and research so that K-12 students graduate ready for college and the global workplace.

### **Ethics Seminars**

During October our Legal staff will be conducting ethics seminars at Brescia College, Lindsay Wilson College, and Kentucky Wesleyan College.

During the seminars, our staff members discuss the code of ethics with teacher candidates and describe some of the common pitfalls for practicing teachers, using recent cases before the board as examples. These hour long sessions also focus on awareness of the disciplinary process and the character and fitness component of the application process. The teacher candidates, who are often in the middle of their student teaching semester, have the opportunity to meet and ask legal questions of the board's prosecuting attorneys. The staff enjoys providing these seminars and strives to make them both informative and entertaining.

### **Dr. Troupe Appointed to the NCATE UAB**

The EPSB has enjoyed a long and successful partnership with the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). This partnership is the result of hard work for many years by dedicated educators. One of those educators, Dr. Marilyn Troupe, has recently been appointed to NCATE's Unit Accreditation Board (UAB).

NCATE's UAB is responsible for determining the accreditation status of professional education units across the nation. The board makes accreditation decisions at meetings held twice a year. The UAB conducts its review of accreditation cases through the use of audit committees; Marilyn will serve on the Process and Evaluation Committee. Marilyn's outstanding national reputation reflects well on her and the EPSB.

### **ELR Task Force**

As you know, the 2006 General Assembly passed House Joint Resolution 14 (HJR14) which instructed the executive director of the EPSB in cooperation with the president of CPE and the Commissioner of Education to convene a task force to present recommendations on the redesign of Kentucky's system for preparing and supporting principals. I am delighted to announce that the report is finished and has been sent to Representative Frank Rasche and Senator Ken Winters, the co-chairs of the 2007 Interim Joint Committee on Education. You may find the report on the EPSB web site at: <http://www.kyepsb.net/documents/ExecOffice/ELRReport.pdf> . I plan to have a discussion item at our January meeting on next steps for implementing the report's recommendations.

### **Focus: Teaching Math and Science**

As a result of board conversation during our 2007 summer retreat, I asked Terry Hibpshman to prepare a white paper for you on the preparation of math and science teachers ([click here to review Terry's paper](#)). Terry presented his paper during the August meeting and in response to discussion, Chair Jim Cibulka will appoint a committee during the October meeting to explore and bring recommendations on the preparation of math and science teachers. I anticipate that the committee will have its report to the board by late spring or early summer.

### **October Sunday Evening Study Session**

During the October 21st Sunday evening study session, board members will discuss the decision rules currently used to establish minimum passing scores for required teacher certification assessments. It has been several years since the current rules were reviewed by the board, so I have asked Cindy Owen to present this information. Our discussion will guide the EPSB staff members who must make recommendations for cut scores to the board.

### **EPSB Outreach Programs**

During September, EPSB division directors met extensively with human resources directors across the state. First Mike Carr spoke to the KY Human Resources Managers conference in Lexington on a variety of topics related to changes and trends in certification during the past year. A question and answer session was also held with the over 100 HR representatives in attendance. Mike, along with Cindy Owen and Cindy Godsey, also spoke this month with the OVEC Personnel Directors in a more personal and interactive setting on a variety of topics, ranging from new regulations to the LEAD process and KTIP.

## Updates on EPSB Technology

- Cooperating Teacher Payment Program Enhancements

Additional features have been implemented in the CoOp system that provide more information to the user and will also enable us to process payments to cooperating teachers faster.

- KYVC (Kentucky Virtual Campus) Project

The Information System Branch has developed a process to retrieve KTIP training records from the KyEducators website and automatically import them into the EPSB data systems. To date, this process has eliminated the need to manually enter over 5,400 training records.

- KEN (Kentucky Education Network) Update

The [KEN project](#) provides a universally available high-speed network between education communities to support advanced research, education, and life long learning. The EPSB has received \$112,500 in KEN funding to begin the initial network upgrades necessary for utilization of the proposed secondary data warehouse and data sharing capabilities between the educational partners participating in the KEN initiative.

- Legal Case Tracking System

The Legal Services Division and the Information System Branch staff are in the final testing phase of the tracking system. This phase also includes the testing of modifications to the Certification (WebE03) and Kentucky Educator Certification Inquiry (KECI) systems required by the legal system.

Existing case information has been successfully imported into the system, and a test docket has been generated. Once we have verified that all business and data requirements have been met, the system will be ready to “go live.”

- Emergency Substitute Report Automation

This system will enable emergency substitute teacher applicants to enter their information on-line and will assist the school districts in reporting their emergency substitute teacher usage to the EPSB. Development of this system is nearing completion, and testing will soon begin.

Once implemented, this system will allow the EPSB to automatically check each applicant against the NASDTEC Clearinghouse data, notify the Division of Legal Services of potential character & fitness issues, and provide new detailed and statistical reporting capabilities.

- Intern Management System Enhancements

Enhancements made to the system include increased data validation for the COE, report cycles, and time sheet processes, as well as additional internship information and increased management capabilities provided to the district coordinators and committee principals.

A new feature has also been added that will allow us to evaluate whether COE's and report cycles can be automatically approved via the system. This feature will be tested during the 2007-2008 school year and, if successful, will be fully implemented for the 2008-2009 year. The automatic approvals will potentially eliminate the need for EPSB staff to manually process over 7,000 certification transactions per year.

### **Long-time Interim Employee Retires**

Charlie Kinney, who has worked for the EPSB in a summer interim role for over seven years, most recently handling the prompt return of phone calls to the Division of Certification, has retired. Charlie and his wife Barbie, who recently retired from the Jefferson County School District, have moved to the Lake Cumberland area near Burnside. Charlie is a retired teacher, principal, and KDE employee who has been invaluable each summer to the Certification staff, and he will be missed by all of us.

### **2007 KECC update**

Finger licking good...It's the only way to describe the latest in a series of "FUNraising" events at the EPSB for the 2007 KECC Campaign. The Legal and Ed Prep Divisions hosted a bake sale on September 21 which had folks running from all directions. In only the first hour, well in excess of \$100 was raised! Cupcakes, pies, cakes, brownies, cookies...you name it and it could be had for a donation to the KECC campaign. The staff at EPSB has exceeded the 2007 agency goal of raising \$7,500 dollars. To date, the generosity has raised more than \$7,700. Between payroll deduction, basket auctions, blue jean days, and the upcoming annual Certification chili dog luncheon, funds are still rolling in. Stay tuned for more news as we wrap-up the 2007 campaign on October 24.

### **Meetings, Conferences, Etc.**

October 1 – Professional Development Task Force meeting  
October 1/2 – Safe School Conference  
October 2 – SE/SC meeting  
October 3 – KBE meeting  
October 3 – IECE KTIP meeting  
October 3 – GRREC meeting  
October 8 – Interim Joint Education Committee meeting  
October 9 – Leadership meeting  
October 9 – EPSB Executive Office Chili and Soup Lunch for KECC  
October 10 – NKCES meeting  
October 11 – CKEC meeting  
October 12 – Human Resource Advisory Group meeting  
October 12 – Math Achievement Committee meeting  
October 15/18 – ISLLC Review meeting  
October 16/19 – NASDTC Professional Practice Conference  
October 17 – KEDC meeting  
October 18 – Principal PD Academy Advisory Committee meeting  
October 18 – SAELP Work Team meeting  
October 19 – KY National Board Certification Collaborative meeting  
October 20/24 – Union College Accreditation Visit  
October 22 – EPSB regular meeting  
October 22 – Deadline for District LEAD Reports  
October 23 – Leadership meeting  
October 29/30 – Teacher Quality Summit  
October 31 – OVEC meeting

**FYI: Acronyms and abbreviations:**

*CEO – Continuing Education Option*

*CPE – Council on Post-Secondary Education*

*ELDC – Education Leadership Development Collaborative*

*IECE – Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education*

*KACTE – Kentucky Association of Colleges for Teacher Educators*

*KASA – Kentucky Association of School Administrators*

*KBE – Kentucky Board of Education*

*KECC – Kentucky Employee Charitable Campaign*

*KEDC – Kentucky Education Development Cooperative*

*KPIP – Kentucky Principal Internship Program*

*KTIP – Kentucky Teacher Internship Program*

*LEAD – Local Educator Assignment Data*

*NASDTEC – National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification*

*NBPTS – National Board for Professional Teaching Standards*

*NCTAF – National Commission on Teaching and America's Future*

*OVEC – Ohio Valley Education Cooperative*

*SAELP – State Action for Education Leadership Project*

*SESC – Southeast South Central Education Cooperative*

*TPA – Teacher Performance Assessments*

*VAA – Value-Added Assessment*

*WKEC – Western Kentucky Educational Cooperative*