

Proposal for the Visioning and Strategic Planning Committee of the CT Educator Certification and Preparation Standards Board

This proposal outlines the continuing value and strategic benefits of a standing committee for **Visioning and Strategic Planning** to operate in parallel with the technical work of the Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Standards Board ("Board").

Purpose & Charge

The Visioning and Strategic Planning Committee will serve as a strategic think tank and curatorial resource for the Board. Its primary purpose is to elevate and embed a system-wide vision for educator preparation and certification while the full Board focuses on meeting critical, near-term technical and regulatory deadlines.

The Committee's charge is to:

1. **Develop and Monitor the Board's Strategic Plan:** Create the processes, timelines, and content for the Board's Strategic Plan, ensuring progress monitoring with opportunities for growth, course correction, and reflection in the spirit of continuous improvement.
2. **Maintain System Vision:** Serve as a constant reminder of the "**Why**" behind the Board's work, ensuring technical decisions align with the long-term goal of fostering a high-quality, diverse, and sustainable educator workforce in Connecticut that prepares students for the dynamic world that awaits them upon graduation.
3. **Curate & Amplify Best Practices:** Identify, research, and document high-leverage best practices, innovative models, and successful state/national strategies in educator preparation, clinical practice, and certification pathways (building on what CPRL has already prepared).
4. **Support Board Leadership:** Function as an advisory group and research arm for the Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, preparing concise, vision-oriented presentations, white papers, and discussion starters for future Board meetings.

Value Proposition: Working in Parallel

While the full Board must prioritize statutory deadlines and the technical drafting of updated statute, regulations, and/or guidance, the Visioning and Strategic Planning Committee provides distinct, non-overlapping value as described in the table on the following page:

Board Focus (Technical/Regulatory)	Visioning and Strategic Planning Committee Focus (Strategic/Curatorial)
Technical: Meeting specific legislative mandates and timelines.	Ideation: Exploring and vetting next-generation models and innovative ideas.
Drafting: Writing and editing specific certification language and regulations.	Curation: Identifying and synthesizing key metrics of success (e.g., how do we assess progress on our strategic plan?).
Decision-Making: Voting on final language and proposals presented.	Informing: Developing high-level concepts and vision presentations to <i>inform</i> future board decisions.
Internal Focus: Addressing challenges specific to the current CT system.	External Focus: Scanning the national landscape for exemplary practice and trends.

By ensuring these functions can happen in parallel, the Board avoids "losing the forest for the trees." The Visioning and Strategic Planning Committee ensures the Board's technical work remains anchored in a forward-looking, high-quality system vision, preventing the immediate deadlines from becoming the sole driver of a bigger picture and the related policy proposals that will need to be developed to that end.

Strategic Plan for Operations

The Committee will be a small, nimble group (approx 5-7 members) comprised of current Board members and, potentially, one or two non-voting, outside content experts as invited guests.

Phase	Action Items	Deliverables

I. Launch (Initial 2 Months)	Define a common understanding of "best practice" and "system vision." Identify 3-5 key challenge areas (e.g., recruitment, clinical experience, certification flexibility) for initial focus.	Written Vision Statement Draft and an Initial Research Agenda for the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to consider, and for further discussion, review, and consideration by the full Board.
II. Research & Synthesis (Ongoing)	Divide research tasks among members and/or partner with CPRL to support the research. Synthesize data and models into short, digestible presentations suitable for a 15- to 30-minute Board discussion.	30-minute " Vision Report " presentation to the full Board every other meeting, focusing on one topic (e.g., "The Residency Model in Massachusetts").
III. Integration & Impact (Ongoing)	Work with the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to frame the Board's discussion topics. Provide a "vision lens" for reviewing any proposed standards/regulations.	Development of a " Visionary Metrics " framework for evaluating the long-term success of new standards.

This parallel operational structure allows the Board to meet both near-term and long-term goals, leading to a more robust and future-proofed educator preparation and certification system for Connecticut. It will also serve as a preemptive signal to outside stakeholders regarding the Board's broader vision/charge and the roadmap for how we plan to get there.