

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT EDUCATOR PREPARATION AND CERTIFICATION BOARD

Monday, April 21, 2025 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

450 Columbus Blvd.

Plaza North Conference Room C and D

<https://www.youtube.com/live/43zC0NFO930?si=gc8bxUDAI2S2nDz8>

MINUTES

Call to Order: 1:55 p.m.

Attendance:

Attendees (in person): Kristen Basiaga, Elsa Batista, Dr. Rebecca Good, Jennifer Rodriguez, Sinthia Sone-Moyano, Margaret Gustafson, Patrice McCarthy, Dr. Cynthia Ritchie

Attendees (virtual): Dr. Anne Dichele, Shannon Marimon, Tiffany Caouette, Dr. Katherine Roe, Bob Sartoris

Guests: Benjamin Feit, Tong, Salimi Scheherazade, Dr. Kaylan Ricciardi, Julianne Frost, Lauren Tafrate

Absentees: Jennifer Delaney, Sarah Lahr Fitzsimons, Jenny Graves

Review and Approval of March 10, 2025 Minutes: No revisions or corrections, approved.

Adjustment to Agenda:

- Public Act No. 24-41 Sec. 12(a) (1–6) update by Jennifer Rodriguez
- Public Act Sec. 13(a)(3) update by Kristen Basiaga
- Ajit Gopalakrishnan is unable to attend the meeting to provide a data update on Bridges Pilot. He will attend the May meeting.

Announcements:

Administrator Hiring Process Update

- Chloe Cummings does not have an official update on the hiring process. She will receive assistance within the next couple of weeks.

Proposal Update (SBE)

- Update on proposal voted on and submitted to the State Board of Education. SDE helped facilitate getting a meeting in advance of the SBE meeting to ensure the policy committee could review before presenting it to the State Board of Education. It was presented, approved, and moved to the education leaders.
- Bill 1392: As of 4/10/2025, it has gone to legislation commission office. It had a favorable report and was tabled for the Senate calendar #343. We have not heard of any additional updates.
- Chloe will keep everyone apprised if she hears that bills might move forward.

Updates from Ad Hoc Committees:

Public Act No. 24-41 Sec. 12(a) (1–6): Standards and Proposals for Regulations and Legislation

- (1) Two meetings ago, the ad hoc committee voted to have CPRL assist us with the report legislative and regulations language.
 - CPRL is continuing its research on this criteria for additional pathways to transition from initial to professional certification. This work will be presented at the next ad hoc committee meeting for additional discussion and action.
- (2) Jennifer Rodriguez questioned where we find the steps or protocols that SDE uses to ensure the EP's programs are aligned with the endorsement codes.
 - SDE (Lauren Tafrate) commented – when new programs are deployed, they have to show alignment to the regulations to the national content standards and to the CAEP standards. Endorsement codes are just the numerical number that is given.
 - SDE (Julianne Frost) added further clarification using world language as an example.
 - CPRL had nothing to add.
 - Action Item: Request a breakdown of steps or protocols from SDE.
- (3) The ad hoc committee voted for ECE, SDE, and CPRL to collaboratively draft proposed language for regulatory legislative general guidance related to endorsements. This draft will be discussed and action scheduled at the next ad hoc meeting with the goal of moving it forward to the Board on May 12th [meeting] to discuss and have action taken.
- (4) Our partnership agreement with CAEP is expiring and we have an opportunity to negotiate some terms.
 - Ben and Tong commented on options.
 - 5-year agreement period.
 - Contract ends in November.
- (5) There is no required change for the 90-day certificate because it is in statute currently. We voted to keep that because the art program still needs it.
- (6) The ad hoc committee voted for performance [office] to process a report outlining the current status of this, including ideas for addressing any criteria in the statute that have not yet been met. This report should be presented at the May 12th meeting.

Public Act Sec. 13(a)(3): Review and Reporting on Educator Preparation and Certification

- We want the residency program as one of the five existing methods to waive the content knowledge assessment.
 - Considering it is already in state statute and being done, do we vote that our board wants to continue?

- There is a requirement waiver process the Bureau of Certification and State Board of Education jointly go through that allows teachers missing part of the requirements for their initial certificate. That method cannot currently be used as an alternate minimum content knowledge assessment because that method requires the students already have passed Praxis or the content knowledge examination for their subject area.
 - SDE (Dr. Kaylan Ricciardi) provided clarification on the waiver and DSAP process.
- We voted unanimously to support using the Praxis II Bridge as one of the methods for students being able to get their alternative minimum content knowledge.
 - Ajit will attend the next meeting to present more information to us.
 - A representative from ETS was able to answer questions about a large number of examinations that are going to start to fall under the Praxis II Bridge category.
- Kristen Basiaga proposed a pathway similar to the existing SDE waiver process. It would be for prospective educators who have met all the other requirements for initial certification except passing the content knowledge assessment. It would be available if this candidate achieved a score within two standard error measurements of the cut score and does not have a Praxis II Bridge already available for their content knowledge assessment.
- We looked at several different ways to show alternate minimum content knowledge assessment.
 - For (A) we discussed one way to show content knowledge and (B) for certain subject areas: math, biology, chemistry or science, general science and physics. Their bachelor's degree or master's degree within the subject area replaced taking a content area assessment.
 - We are considering the portfolio option that was suggested from CPRL.

Items Requiring Action:

Actions Stemming from Ad Hoc Committee Updates

- Rebecca Good moved to continue to use Praxis II Bridge and future bridge options as next steps [alternatives to passing] to minimum content assessment.
 - Jennifer Rodriguez seconded.
 - Vote: Unanimous
- Shannon Marimon moved to ask CPRL to draft, in coordination with the committee and the larger standards board, a final document that captures all of our recommendations relative to content mastery whether that ends up getting used in statute, regs, or guidelines by the July 1st deadline.
 - Jennifer Rodriguez seconds.
 - Vote: All yes except 1 (Katherine Roe)
 - CPRL confirms they have the capacity to assist us by our June meeting.
 - Action Item: Kristen Basiaga will reach out to CPRL to attend the next ad hoc meeting.
- Patrice McCarthy moved to ask SDE to prepare a document that indicates the steps or protocol they use for the alignment of educator preparation programs with the revised endorsement codes.
 - Vote: Unanimous.

- Rebecca Good moved the Board discuss what contract options could be possible in the renegotiation with CAEP.
 - Patrice McCarthy seconds.
 - Vote: Yes – 11 No – 1 (Dr. Anne Dichele) Abstentions – 1 (Sinthia Sone-Moyano)
 - Action Item: Invite CAEP to the next meeting.
- Jennifer Rodriguez addressed the necessity for the temporary 90-day certificate under section 10-145b of the general statute, as amended by this act.
 - No action or vote needed.

Next Steps: Timeline of Tasks

Review/Update of timeline for Sec. 13(b)

- **“Not later than July 1, 2025,** the board shall submit a report on its findings, as well as any recommendations for legislation...”
- Patrice McCarthy moved to ask CPRL to assist us with the items covered in 13(b) and develop the research and recommendations.
 - Rebecca Good seconded.
 - Vote: All yes except 1 (Katherine Roe)

Reviewing Aims/Wish Lists for Each Organization

- Rebecca Good moved to start a working group to vision set what modernizing and aligning educator preparation and certification pathways into the profession.
 - Dr. Cynthia Ritchie seconds.
 - Vote: Unanimous
 - To align with current bylaws, Jennifer Rodriguez is calling it an ad hoc group.
 - Rebecca Good will Chair the “Vision Setting Ad Hoc Group”.

Public Participation: None.

Adjournment: 3:55 p.m.