

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**333 Market Street | 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA**

July 10, 2019

The meeting of the Council of Higher Education was called to order by Council Chair Jonathan Peri at 1:10 P.M.

Attending:

James Agras	Ann Griffin	Jonathan Peri
Carol Aichele	Pamela Gunter-Smith	Ashley Svec
James Barker <i>(via phone)</i>	Kirk Hallett	Jillian Sweigard
Jamie Bracey Green	Jeffrey Keeling	Karen Farmer White
Sandra Dungee Glenn	Maureen Lally-Green	Lee Williams

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 8, 2019, meeting of the Council of Higher Education were approved on a **Gunter-Smith/Dungee Glenn** motion.

**COMMITTEE REPORT ON TEACHER AND
SCHOOL LEADER EFFECTIVENESS (CHAPTER 49)**

Sandra Dungee Green provided an update on the activities related to the major review of Chapter 49. Four public hearings were held throughout the Commonwealth with testimony from 44 individuals and 482 written comments. The one concern prevalent throughout the various testimonies was that the State Board consider recognizing accredited Montessori Teacher Programs as approved alternative certification providers. As this cannot be included in the regulations, Board staff members did conduct a follow up meeting with the Montessori community to discuss the existing avenues in state law through which alternative certification requests can be considered and approved. PDE staff also attended these meetings and will be following up with the Montessori community to continue discussions. Evaluation of Chapter 49 will continue through the fall and a recommendation will be submitted to the Council for their review and approval.

**UPDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF
POSTSECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION**

Debra Heath-Thornton, Director of the Bureau of School Leadership and Teacher Quality, offered highlights on the activities of the Office of Postsecondary and Higher Education (OPHE):

- Chapter 49 – OPHE staff have met with the Montessori community to continue the discussions as mentioned in the previous committee report. Continued dialogues are

scheduled with the Montessori community and updates will be provided to the State Board.

- Supporting Clinical Residencies – OPHE continues to review the 23 applications received from various stakeholders throughout the commonwealth and should be finalizing selections for submission to the Secretary of Education in the next two weeks. The pool of proposals includes applications from projects based in the Southeast, South Central, North Central, and Northwest regions in large and small areas with outreach to rural areas in Pennsylvania. Applicants included PA State System of Higher Education, private institutions of higher education (IHEs), and state related IHEs.
- Computer Science Guidelines – A Request for Application is being developed for companies to develop, administer, and score educator certification tests for the newly approved Computer Science 7-12 certificate. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) anticipates that some colleges and universities could have their curriculums in place this fall and graduate the commonwealth's first CS teachers as early as spring 2021.
- Educator Workforce Diversity – Meetings have been convened with various deputes within PDE for their input on the various goals and strategies for this initiative. Summaries from these meetings will be submitted to Deputy Secretary Ortega who will then present it to the Secretary of Education. After the Secretary's review, OPHE is looking to share this information with key stakeholders.
- Diverse and Learner Ready Teacher (DLRT) Workforce – Pennsylvania's educator diversity team attended a meeting in Washington, DC with other state agencies to discuss increasing diversity in the educator workforce and the cultural competences of current teachers to deal with diverse leaders in the classroom. The team consists of representatives from PDE, the Center for Black Educator Development, and Temple University.
- PA College Application Campaign – PDE has planned the PA College Application Campaign for November and December 2019. Nine libraries will be participating. Regional trainings for library staff who want to host an event are scheduled for late summer.
- Counselor Symposia – In alignment with the Career Ready Regions, events have been scheduled at four locations across the commonwealth in fall 2019: Allegheny Intermediate Unit (October 7, 2019), Millersville University (October 30, 2019), Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (November 4, 2019), and Clarion University (November 12, 2019).
- Statewide College Credit Transfer System – The Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee met with representatives from participating IHEs to discuss the draft standards for the International Baccalaureate and DAN TES Subject Standardized Test exams and to plan for data collection in the 2019-20 academic year. An internal OPHE committee will be formed in the fall to further advance this work.
- Adult Basic and Family Literacy Education – Pennsylvania continues to invest in the adult basic and family literacy programs which provide a full range of services to Pennsylvanians in obtaining the knowledge and skills necessary for employment and

economic self-sufficiency. The Commonwealth receives approximately \$27 million from the federal government to support these programs.

- Act 121 Student Loan Letter – OPHE staff continues to work on the guideline documents for release to stakeholders for their use by fall 2019. Final edits are being made before submission for PDE approval.
- Private Licensed Schools – The U.S. Department of Education has received the Gain Employment regulations making it possible for schools to terminate compliance as early as July 1, 2019. These regulations were established to require non-degree postsecondary IHEs and for-profit providers to report and publish job placement outcomes and facilitated the termination of federal financial aid eligibility for programs that did not meet benchmarks.

Sandra Dungee Glenn asked if there were any updates on the accomplishments of the first cohort of the clinical residencies. Ms. Heath-Thornton stated that final reports will be submitted in September and an update will be provided to the State Board. Ms. Dungee Glenn also had a question concerning school counselors and Chapter 49 and if there has been any consideration in creating a more specialized certification for school counselors? Ms. Heath-Thornton commented that she would take this question back to OPHE for consideration by the Bureau of Postsecondary and Adult Education which will provide an update for the State Board. Matt Stem, Deputy Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, provided additional clarification as his office has been involved in the discussion of this issue.

ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m. on a **Dungee Glenn/Agras** motion.

Karen Molchanow/slj

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