

***State Board for Educator Certification***  
***Discussion and Action Session Agenda***  
***March 7, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.***  
***Minutes***

**The Board will meet in open session and after determining the presence of a quorum, deliberate and possibly take formal action, including emergency action, on the following agenda items:**

**1. Call to Order**

The State Board for Educator Certification convened its meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 7, 2008 in Room 1-104 of the Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue in Austin, Texas.

**Present:** Dr. Cain, Dr. Glynn, Ms. Baszile, Ms. Pogue, Ms. Zinsser, Mr. Shirley, Ms. Abbott, Mr. Trevino, Ms. Acuff, and Ms. Druesedow

**Absent:** Dr. Hetzler, Ms. Johnson, Dr. Gerlach

**Late:** Mr. Barbaric arrived at 10:25 a.m.

Dr. Cain introduced new Board member, Ms. Michael Acuff.

**2. Public Testimony**

Public testimony on non agenda items was provided by the following:

Dr. Alejandra Martin, Texas Association of School Personnel and Administrators

Dr. Martin congratulated SBEC and the Investigation/Fingerprinting Division for their work and for addressing concerns and answering the association's questions.

Dr. Cain read a letter from Debbie Harris, speaking on the behalf of the Gulf Coast Association of School Personnel Administrators. In this letter Ms. Harris thanked Mr. Roman Echazarreta for his presentation on certification at the association's spring meeting. Ms. Harris also thanked Mr. Doug Phillips and Ms. Jeannie Tomasek for their presentation on fingerprinting.

All testimony on agenda items will be heard prior to the item.

**3. Certification Update**

**a) Department Updates**

- Educator Standards

Ms. Valadez advised the Board that the staff is conducting program visits. Through the end of February, they have completed twelve visits. The staff is continuing to work on CPE updates, and as of the end of January, they have received 828 forms from approximately 2500 listed providers throughout the state. Committees have met to review and approve the new knowledge and skills for the EC-6 Generalist Exam. Ms. Valadez advised the Board that this information would be placed on the SBEC website. The committee has approved the specifications for the writing prompts that will be in the Bilingual Target Language Proficiency Test (BTLPT) test. Ms. Valadez provided a chart for certification exams information for volume of testing. She noted an error on the chart; on line one there should be no data for November 2007 since November was not a paper test date.

- Credentialing Services

Mr. Echazarreta provided chart for the month of February that showed the number of telephone calls received and the times received. At this time, the average hold time is 7.5 minutes. Mr. Echazarreta advised the Board that the division is adjusting the staff schedule to guarantee enough coverage at the peak times. He provided a chart which graphed calls received.

- Certification Enforcement Unit

Mr. Jones advised the Board that part of Senate Bill 9 provided two additional attorney positions, and one additional administrative support position. As a result of these additional positions, the Certification Enforcement Unit has restructured its staff in order to place personnel with the appropriate function. Mr. Jones informed the Board that he is now in charge of prosecuting the TAKS testing violations. He will continue to manage the Public Information Act and manage parent complaints and other complaints regarding certified educators.

Mr. Jones introduced Merle Dover, Associate Deputy Counsel for Educator Quality and Standards. Ms. Dover will supervise the prosecution side of legal services.

- Investigations/Fingerprinting

Mr. Phillips thanked Dr. Alejandra Martin for her support.

He advised the Board that fingerprinting is currently at Northeast ISD and Northside ISD. Austin ISD is in process of finishing, and they are preparing to roll out the next districts, and as summer approaches more districts will be added. The problem has been vendor availability. That problem is being addressed. The vendor and DPS have been more flexible.

#### **b) Committee Updates**

- Code of Ethics Review Committee

No update.

- Legislative Committee

Ms. Pogue advised the Board that the meeting was canceled due to the fact there was no quorum. Ms. Pogue asked to appoint Dr. Glynn to the committee. The date for the next meeting was set for April 4 at 10:00 a.m.

#### **c) Associate Commissioner Update**

Dr. Glynn welcomed Ms. Merle Dover to Legal Services and welcomed Ms. Michael Acuff to the Board. He also thanked Ms. Barbara Deane for filling in for Nicole Bunker-Henderson. Dr. Glynn also informed the Board that the State Auditors Office is continuing their audit on all Alternative Certification Programs (ACP) in the state and will continue until the end of April. Recommendations probably will not be received until May.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **4. Approval of January 10, 2008 Board Workshop Minutes**

#### **Approval of January 11, 2008 Board Meeting Minutes**

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Baszile to approve minutes as recorded from January 10, 2008 Board workshop and the January 11, 2008 Board meeting. Second was made by Ms. Pogue and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

**INFORMATION ONLY****5. 2007-2010 Rule Review Plan for State Board for Educator Certification Rules**

Dr. Glynn advised the Board that this is an information item on the continuing rule review cycle and that we are on target with the current schedule.

At this time, Dr. Cain announced that Item 9 would be considered next due to people traveling.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION****9. Proposal for Consideration of a Certification Examination Fee Increase**

Dr. Loonam introduced Mr. Kurt Landgraf, President and CEO, of Educational Testing Service (ETS) and Ms. Linda Tyler, Associate Vice-President for the Higher Education Division at ETS.

Kurt Landgraf submitted to the Board ETS' proposal. The proposal recommends replacing the different rates for paper and pencil and computer test with a single fee of \$120 for all tests, computer or paper. ETS will eliminate the \$35.00 surcharge for computer administered test. This fee of \$120.00 will constitute a 3% increase. At present the test costs are \$117.00 for the computer test, including the \$35.00 surcharge, and \$82.00 for the paper test.

There was discussion by the Board on the increase, the length of time since the last increase, and how the increase would be disbursed. There was also discussion on the success and convenience of computer testing, and how many tests would be added each year.

Mr. Landgraf informed the Board that there has been no rate increase in five years. Dr. Glynn advised the Board that computer testing is the direction the legislature is taking. The advantage for computerized testing is that the test can be taken seven days a week and the results are received in seven days. With a paper test, it takes 21 days to receive results and they are only offered five times a year. We now have 13 tests on line, ETS will add seven next year and that does not include the bilingual test. Dr. Glynn informed the Board that per contract, most exams would be computer based by end of contract, which is a five year contract.

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Zinsser to approve the proposed test fee increase and the implementation of the \$120 universal examination fee. Second was made by Mr. Shirley. Mr. Trevino voted against the motion.*

At this time, Dr. Cain announced that Item 10 would be presented next.

**10. Proposed Revisions to Board Operating Policies and Procedures (BOPP)**

There was discussion on the amount of time allotted to public testimony, and if a change to the current language could and/or should be changed at this time. Dr. Cain referred to Public Testimony procedure, Item 2, Agenda Items, on page 11 of the BOPP. Dr. Cain recommended stating a maximum amount of time per agenda item. Since the proposed revisions state that the time allotted is at the discretion of the Chair, the Board concurred that it would be best to accept the current proposed revisions, and for today's meeting have the Chair use its discretion in setting the time limitations.

Dr. Cain requested that the BOPP be placed on the next meeting's agenda and change the time limitation to 30 minutes.

The following changes to BOPP were recommended by Board members:

Page 11-#2 (ii) Change "The Board may, by majority, vote to limit the total time allocated to public testimony on agenda items" to "The Board shall allocate up to 30 minutes, total time, to public testimony on all agenda items. Delete from the section "if the number of speakers exceeds or is expected to exceed the time allocated for public testimony, giving priority to new speakers and alternating testimony by viewpoint."

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Pogue to accept the proposed revisions to the Board Operating Policies and Procedures as presented. Second was made by Ms. Druesedow and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

**DISCUSSION ONLY****6. Rule Review of and Discussion of Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 227, Provisions for Educator Preparation Students**

Public Testimony was provided by the following people on Item 6:

1. Susan Brown, Texas Association of School Personnel Administrators (TASPA)
2. Sharon Duncan
3. Darlene Brown, University of Texas El Paso.
4. Dr. Judy Reinhartz, University of Texas El Paso
5. Dr. Rae Queen, ACT San Antonio
6. John Peter Lund, A+ Teachers
7. Rene Ruiz
8. Charles Watkins, University of Texas El Paso
9. Scott Fikes, Education Career Alternatives Program
10. Ed Fuller, University of Texas
11. Susan Dennis, West Texas A&M University

Dr. Loonam advised the Board the proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapters 227 and 228 are part of the four-year rule review cycle. She also stated that the proposed changes reflect the Board's goal to improve teacher quality. The proposed changes also reflect the TEA goal for teacher quality from Commissioner Robert Scott. Dr. Loonam advised the Board that what is being proposed are minimum standards for all programs in the state based on research from the

*National Council on Teacher Quality.* Dr. Loonam stated that undergraduate programs would be included in the proposed rule revisions.

Dr. Loonam advised the Board that there have been two meetings with the Educator Preparation Advisory Committee and a two-day meeting with stakeholders to discuss 19 TAC Chapter 227. They have also met with staff members who have conducted program visits over the past two years.

Dr. Loonam reviewed the proposed revisions. The admissions criteria being proposed would require a candidate to be currently in or have a conferred degree from an institution of higher education that is recognized by a regional accrediting agency by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The candidate would be required to have a 2.5 overall grade point average (GPA) or a 2.5 GPA in the last 60 semester hours. Also proposed for admissions would be a basic skills test. Research states that it should be a common test with exemptions. Dr. Loonam advised the Board that at this time Texas has the Texas Higher Education Assessment® (THEA®), and the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT®), ACT®, and the Graduate Record Examination® (GRE®) would be included. In addition, the five-year validity period would be put in place at the recommendation of the test companies.

Dr. Loonam advised the Board that in the stakeholder meeting there was major discussion regarding semester credit hours in the content area. The proposed revisions of 12 semester credit hours would not meet No Child Left Behind, but would still be better than no hours required, which is what we have presently. Dr. Loonam informed the Board that most programs require 24 semester credit hours. Teach for America has proposed allowing an individual to take a content examination in lieu of having 24 semester credit hours in the content. This would solve the problem of content, but the candidate would not be considered highly qualified because it is not a certification examination. The candidate would still have to take the certification examination; however, Dr. Loonam advised the Board that this could help in recruiting science and mathematics teachers into Texas schools. A contingency admission has been added to the proposal. Dr. Loonam stated that there is ongoing research on the interview process.

Dr. Cain requested that Dr. Loonam discuss the 300 hour issue, which is actually part of 19 TAC Chapter 228. Dr. Loonam advised the Board that the 300 hours was the result of guidelines established by a committee of stakeholders for the temporary teacher certificate. The guidelines actually called for 380 hours, 80 hours pre-service plus 300 hours during the program. In order to bring all programs up to the same standard, the decision was made to propose 300 hours. Dr. Loonam discussed the way the 300 hours are used. For alternative certification programs, the majority of hours are completed in the summer, prior to entering the classroom. This includes 30 hours of classroom observation.

**7. Rule Review of and Discussion of Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs, and Proposed Repeal of 19 TAC Chapter 230, Professional Educator Preparation and Certification, Subchapter G, Certification Requirement for Classroom Teachers, §230.191, Preparation Required in All Programs**

Public Testimony was provided by the following on Item 7:

1. Holly Eaton, Texas Classroom Teachers Association (TCTA)
2. Harley Eckhart, Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association (TEPSA)
3. Dr. Alejandra Martin, Texas Association School Personnel Administrators (TASPA)
4. Dr. Linda Combs, Regional IV Service Center
5. Vernon Reaser, A+ Teachers
6. Scott Fikes, Education Career Alternatives Program
7. Susan Dennis, West Texas A&M University

At this time, the Board agreed to change the May meeting from May 2, 2008, to May 9, 2008. This was changed due to Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) testing on May 2.

Dr. Loonam advised the Board that the staff has had a total of four stakeholder and advisory committee meetings to discuss 19 TAC Chapter 227 and Chapter 228. From these meetings, the staff gathered input, met with attorneys and reviewed all input to determine revisions or changes needed. Dr. Glynn also advised the Board of this process. These proposed changes are presented for discussion. Once input is taken, changes would be made and presented to the Board at the May SBEC meeting for discussion and action. If the Board approves the proposed changes for filing as proposed at the May 2008 SBEC meeting, the proposed changes would be posted to the *Texas Register*. A public comment period must lapse before the Board can take action to adopt the proposed changes, which would then be presented to the SBOE for review. The process takes approximately 180 days, which includes the review by SBOE.

Dr. Loonam advised the Board that in 19 TAC Chapter 228, the staff included recommendations from the stakeholder and advisory committee meetings. Definitions were reviewed in order to have common language. The approval process and the new entity approval, added at the recommendation of the attorneys, were part of guidelines implemented into the rules. Dr. Loonam advised the Board that the staff is still working on the new application. Dr. Loonam referred to Item 7, page 14, §228.10(c). She informed the Board that this language was added at the recommendation of the attorneys. The rule states that programs would be reviewed every five years. However, language would be added to specify that after August 31, 2008, programs would be approved for a term of ten years and must formally reapply every ten years thereafter for approval by SBEC in the same manner as a new educator preparation program seeking approval. Therefore, the Board would have the opportunity to reapprove a program every ten years.

Dr. Loonam discussed clinical teaching added in §228.10(d). Dr. Loonam also discussed the proposed addition of program locations in §228.10(f). If there is an expansion, there would be a proposal for the expansion. Language was also added in §228.20 that would address covenants and governance separated design and delivery. Dr. Loonam advised the Board that §228.20(d), (e), and (f) were added at the recommendation of the attorneys. The proposed changes state that a program must be implemented as approved by the Board and that staff and the Board must be aware of amendments. If there would be a transfer or sale of a program, the Board must be made aware of the change in ownership. The area of curriculum was discussed earlier with Item 6. Also added to the rules would be provisions for late hires in order to allow flexibility for training. Under the educator preparation program delivery provisions, options would be listed that programs may use, such as clinical teaching, student teaching, internship and practicum. The proposed changes also define parameters for internship and discuss mentors, cooperating teachers, and ongoing program support. An implementation date of the 2009-2010 school year would be set so programs can make adjustments.

The Board requested that the definition of teacher of record be retained in rule. Also discussed was the interpretation of field-based experience, mentoring compensation, and preparation programs having external assessments.

At this time, Dr. Cain announced that Item 13 would be presented next.

### 13. Contested Cases and Pending Litigation

The following people presented information regarding disciplinary cases:

1. Bruce Bigelow on behalf of Docket No. 701-07-2614.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. James Roland Sargee. Chris Jones, Counsel Texas Education Agency, presented information to SBEC on this case.
2. Tiger Haner on behalf of Docket No. 701-06-3211.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Richard Perez. Chris Jones, Counsel Texas Education Agency, presented information to SBEC on this case.
3. Paula Wilder on behalf of Docket No. 701-07-0972.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Dennis Alonzo Diggs. Chris Jones, Counsel Texas Education Agency, presented information to SBEC on this case.

Dr. Cain adjourned to Executive Session at 1:16 p.m.

Dr. Cain reconvened at 1:50 p.m.

- 1) Docket No. 701-07-0847.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Jesus Castillo; Action to be Taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Trevino to accept a proposal for decision and enter an order consistent with the Administrative Law Judge's recommendation in the following case: Docket No. 701-07-0847.EC State Board for Educator Certification v Jesus Castillo. Motion was seconded by Ms. Zinsser and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

- 2) Docket No. 701-07-2051.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Jose Canales; Action to be Taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Shirley to accept a proposal for decision and enter an order consistent with the Administrative Law Judge's recommendation in the following case: Docket No. 701-07-2051.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Jose Canales. Motion was seconded by Ms. Abbott and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

- 3) Docket No. 701-07-2556.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Marcus L. Williams; Action to be Taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was by Mr. Barbic that The State Board for Educator Certification after review and consideration of the proposal for decision, as well as the exceptions and replies filed if any, adopts the findings of 1-3033 and conclusions of law 1-5 in the proposal for decision as it fully set out and separately stated herein. All proposed findings of fact and conclusion of law not specifically adopted herein are hereby denied. The State Board for Educator Certification further adopts the following conclusions of law. Based on the findings of fact contained in the proposal for decision, the Board further concludes that Mr. Williams admitted actions did violate the Educators Code of Ethics and is a person unworthy to instruct or supervise the youth of this state. The Texas Educators Certificate of Marcus L. Williams should be suspended for a period of five years pursuant to 19 TAC 249.15 (b)(2). Further, Respondent is ordered to take 24 hours of continuing education in areas of Teacher and Student Boundaries. Now, therefore, it is ordered by the Board pursuant to Sections 21.031 and 21.041 (b)(7) of the Texas Education Code and the Board's rules promulgated in accordance with these statutes, that the Respondent's Texas Educators Certificate is hereby suspended for a period of 5 years. It is further ordered that during the period of suspension and before reapplication, the respondent shall take 24 hours of continuing education in the area of Teacher and Student Boundaries. Motion was seconded by Ms. Pogue and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion*

- 4) Docket No. 701-07-3567.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Stephen Seelye;  
Action to be Taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.**

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Zinsser to accept a proposal for decision and enter an order consistent with the Administrative Law Judge's recommendation in the following case: Docket No. 701-07-3567.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Stephen Seelye. Motion was seconded by Mr. Barbic and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

- 5) Docket No. 701-07-3706.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Mark Almanza;  
Action to be Taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.**

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Baszile to accept a proposal for decision and enter an order consistent with the Administrative Law Judge's recommendation in the following case: Docket No. 701-07-3706.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Mark Almanza. Motion was seconded by Ms. Druessedow and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

- 6) Docket No. 701-07-3839.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Ryan Foerester;  
Action to be Taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.**

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Barbic to accept a proposal for decision and enter an order consistent with the Administrative Law Judge's recommendation in the following case: Docket No. 701-07-3839.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Ryan Foerester. Motion was seconded by Ms. Zinsser and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion*

Discussion followed with Ms. Abbott requesting information from Mr. Christopher Jones, TEA counsel. Mr. Jones informed the Board that the recommendation was made based on the existing policy. Punishment range is consistent with the policy in place at the time.

7) **Docket No. 701-07-3894.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Miguel Santiago Aranjó; Action to be Taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.**

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Druesedow to accept a proposal for decision and enter an order consistent with the Administrative Law Judge's recommendation in the following case: Docket No. 701-07-3894.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Miguel Santiago Aranjó. Motion was seconded by Ms. Zinsser and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

8) **Docket No. 701-08-0068.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Erasmo Salinas; Action to be Taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment.**

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Acuff that the Board grants Staff's request for the issuance of a default judgment and enter a order consistent with the Staff's recommendation in the following case: Docket No. 701-08-0068.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Erasmo Salinas Motion was seconded by Mr. Barbic and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

9) **Docket No. 701-07-3497.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Patricia G. Rodriguez; Action to be Taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment.**

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Abbott that the Board grants Staff's request for the issuance of a default judgment and enter an order consistent with the Staff's recommendation in the following case: Docket No. 701-07-3497.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Patricia G. Rodriguez. Motion was seconded by Ms. Pogue and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

Discussion followed with Mr. Trevino requesting clarification from Mr. Jones, TEA Counsel. Mr. Jones advised the Board that Ms. Rodriguez had a Chapter 21 hearing, and that Commissioner, Robert Scott, upheld her termination for the same facts now presented, regarding the alterations of the answer documents for the TAKs Test.

10) **Docket No. 701-06-3211.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Richard Perez; Action to be Taken: Consideration of Motion for Rehearing.**

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Pogue that the Board deny the Respondent's Motion for Rehearing. Motion was seconded by Ms. Zinsser and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion*

11) **Docket No. 701-07-0972.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Dennis Alonzo Diggs; Action to be Taken: Consideration of Motion for Rehearing.**

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Pogue that the Board deny the Respondent Motion for Rehearing.  
Motion was seconded by Ms. Zinsser and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

- 12) Docket No. 701-07-1580.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. Karen Mavvaji;  
Action to be Taken: Consideration of Motion for Rehearing.**

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Pogue that the Board deny the Respondent's Motion for Rehearing.  
Motion was seconded by Ms. Zinsser and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

- 13) Docket No. 701-07-2614.EC State Board for Educator Certification v. James Roland Sorgee;  
Action to be Taken: Consideration of Motion for Rehearing.**

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Zinsser to grant Motion for Rehearing. Motion was seconded by Ms. Pogue and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

At this time, Dr. Cain announced that Item 8 would be presented next.

**8. Approval of Additional Classes of Certificates for Educator Preparation Programs  
Currently Rated Accredited**

Ms. Valadez introduced four new classes of certificates to the Board. The first two introduced were the Principal's Certification Program and the Superintendent's Programs from Region XIV Service Center in Abilene. Ms. Valadez introduced representatives from the Service Center. Both programs anticipate the start as June 1, 2008, with completion in twelve months. Each program anticipates having 20 candidates, and the cost for each one is \$5,560.00. Ms. Valadez reviewed the curriculum which includes a total of 20 on site course sessions, and during the summer, eight on site Saturday sessions. The curriculum also provides for a field based internship. Passage of the exam, in addition to the completion of course requirements, will serve as accountability. Ms. Valadez provided the Board with further information with attachments in the agenda.

The Board discussed the cost of the program and the availability of financial aid. Dr. Loonam advised the Board that Region XIV sets the price and any increases; we are not responsible for costs. At this time the Region, itself, does not have a financial aid program. Dr. Loonam also advised the Board that once the Board approves the program, it will become an ongoing program.

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Baszile to take the Staff's recommendations and approve these programs.  
Second was made by Ms. Abbott and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

Ms. Valadez discussed the third program from Houston Baptist University, requesting approval of the Masters Technology Teachers EC-12. Ms. Valadez introduced the representatives from the university. Ms. Valadez advised the Board that the program would begin immediately with 8 teachers per year. The anticipated cost is approximately \$16,000, plus the cost of textbooks. They currently have an Advisory Committee that governs the program, which includes university

personnel, district administrators and HR professionals, as well as university and district IT professionals. The curriculum consists of 36 semester hours of coursework and is aligned with the state MTT standards. Benchmarks will include the creation of student electronic portfolios.

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Abbott to take the Staff's recommendations and approve this program. Second was made by Mr. Shirley and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

Ms. Valadez discussed the fourth program from Lubbock Christian University, requesting approval of the Masters in Counseling EC-12. The anticipated start date is August, 2008 with an anticipated ten candidates. The cost of the program is \$13,536.00. The university has the required Advisory Committee, consisting of professors and staff from Lubbock Christian University and Harding University, staff from Lubbock ISD, Roosevelt ISD, a Region XVII representative and a community representative. This program will provide a Masters of Education Degree and certification as a school counselor. The curriculum includes 36 semester hours of course work based on standards required for the certificate in school counseling. The candidates will complete classroom courses, and complete a counseling practicum. Benchmarks will include class projects, assignments, exams, case studies and practicum experience. The Advisory Committee will assist students in gaining employment upon graduation. Lubbock Christian University faculty will serve as consultants to counselors during their first year of employment. The university will provide on going seminars.

Ms. Valadez introduced Dr. Kaye Long, TEA Program Specialist, who assured the Board that the university's mentoring would be ongoing and an intricate part of the program. Dr. Loonam advised the Board that both Ms. Valadez and Dr. Long are certified counselors.

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Druesedow to take the Staff's recommendations and approve this program. Second was made by Ms. Abbott and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

Ms. Valadez informed the Board that Texas A&M University would not present at today's meeting as scheduled. They plan to present at the May meeting.

At this time, Dr. Cain announced that Item 12 would be presented next.

**12. Adoption of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 233, Categories of Classroom Teaching Certificates**

Public Testimony was provided by the following on Item 12:

Holly Eaton, Texas Classroom Teachers Association

Mr. Echazarreta requested the Board approve the proposed amendments as presented. Mr. Echazarreta advised the Board that staff must develop some consistency so everyone would know when tests were eliminated.

The Board shared its concern of approving amendments for filing as proposed as presented, if wording is going to be changed. Mr. Echazarreta addressed the concerns by suggesting a uniform rule that an individual has one year to take the test. He also noted in §233.1(e) that an exception may be granted, extending it to a two-year timeline for military service of the applicant or catastrophic illness of the educator or an immediate family member. Dr. Loonam advised the Board that the Associated Test Chart is available online and to the public. This chart shows dates for the new date and it will also show the date the old test was deleted.

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Trevino to approve for adoption, subject to State Board of Education review, the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 233, Categories of Classroom Teaching Certificates, as shown in Attachment II, with an effective date of 20 days after filing as adopted with the Texas Register. Motion was seconded by Ms. Abbott and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

At this time, Dr. Cain announced that Item 11 would be presented next.

**11. Adoption of Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification Provisions**

Mr. Echazarreta presented this item for adoption, subject to State Board of Education (SBOE) review, with the exception of 19 TAC §232.4, Probationary Certificates, and §232.5, Temporary Teacher Certificates. He advised the Board that §232.4, which deals with probationary certificates for special education assignments, includes language which is unclear. He recommended that the Board pull §232.4 from this item in order to make revisions for the Board's review in May. Mr. Echazarreta also recommended pulling §232.5, to align with recommended changes to 19 TAC Chapter 228, which deal with requirements for alternative education preparation programs.

The Board expressed concern on keeping §232.4 and §232.5 within the timelines for the approval process for the proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 232. Mr. Allen, assistant counsel, advised the Board that if the Board takes action to approve the proposed revised amendments for filing today, those amendments to §232.4 and §232.5 could be brought back at the May SBEC meeting for adoption subject to SBOE review. He advised the Board that the remainder of Chapter 232 could be approved today. He also advised the Board that due to the date of the May SBOE meeting, all revisions to Chapter 232, including §232.4 and §232.5, could be submitted for review by the SBOE at the May SBOE meeting.

The Board had discussion on language for the renewal date of certificate, pertaining to the Lifetime Certificate. This item states that if an educator holds multiple certificates, they would renew concurrently. Mr. Echazarreta stated that it does not pertain to the Lifetime since the Lifetime Certificate is not subject to renewal.

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Pogue to approve for adoption, subject to State Board of Education review, the proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification Provisions, as shown in Attachment II, with the exception of §232.4, Probationary Certificates, and §232.5, Temporary Teacher Certificates, with an effective date of 20 days after filing as adopted with the Texas*

*Register. Motion was seconded by Ms. Baszile and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Shirley to approve the proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification Provisions, Subchapter A, Types and Classes of Certificates Issued, §232.4, Probationary Certificates, as shown in the substitute rule text, for filing as proposed with the Texas Register. Motion was seconded by Ms. Abbott and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

**Motion and Vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Shirley to approve the proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification Provisions, Subchapter A, Types and Classes of Certificates Issued, §232.5, Temporary Teacher Certificates, as shown in the substitute rule text, for filing as proposed with the Texas Register. Motion was seconded by Mr. Trevino and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

**14. Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session**

**15. Requests and/or Questions from Board members**

Ms. Baszile questioned why the review of the accountability educator program is not until July 2009. Dr. Loonam informed the Board rule cannot be changed until statute is changed and the statute cannot be changed until the next legislative session. Once Chapters 227 and 228 are approved, we can begin working on a draft to change the accountability system.

**16. Adjournment**

Dr. Glynn introduced Maggie Heermans as the new Executive Assistant and informed the Board that Cindy Parker is joining the Investigations/Fingerprinting Division. He also thanked the Board members attending with the inclement weather and he thanked the audience and their participation.

**Dr. Cain adjourned the meeting at 2:41 p.m.**

**The Board may meet in closed executive session, Texas Government Code, section 551.071 to seek legal advice regarding any item on this agenda.**