

Minutes
State Board of Education
Wednesday, January 7, 2009

The Arizona State Board of Education held a special meeting at the Arizona Department of Education, 1535 West Jefferson, Room 417, Phoenix, Arizona. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM.

Members Present:

Dr. Vicki Balentine, President (telephonically)
Mr. Jacob Moore, Vice President
Superintendent Tom Horne
Mr. Jesse Ary (telephonically)
Ms. Bonnie Kasey (telephonically)
Dr. John Haeger
Mr. Larry Lucero (arrived at 9:10)
Mr. Jaime Molera
Ms. Anita Mendoza (telephonically)
Ms. Cecilia Owen (telephonically)

Members Absent:

Dr. Karen Nicodemus

ROLL CALL

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. Presentation, discussion and consideration to approve passing standards for the revised Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment (AEPA) in the areas of elementary education and social studies | Dr. Butterfield
Ms. Amator |
|---|-------------------------------|

President Balentine called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM. She stated that since she was participating telephonically that she would turn the meeting over to Mr. Moore, who was attending in person.

Mr. Moore summarized the reason for the meeting. He explained that the Board needs to consider setting passing scores for two AEPA tests: social studies and elementary education. He then turned over the presentation to Ms. Amator.

Ms. Amator and Dr. Karlin reviewed the standards setting procedures utilized for the AEPA. They also reviewed the scores recommended by the standards setting panel.

Dr. Balentine asked if those individuals that fail either test receive a detailed report regarding their performance on the test. Dr. Karlin explained that the participants do receive a very general score report, but that due to the number of test items it would not be meaningful to provide a detailed report by specific content area.

Dr. Balentine asked for what would account for the large discrepancy between the pass rates for the previous test and the test before the Board today. Ms. Amator stated that this is the first time that many ELD teachers have had to take the elementary test. She also explained that some artifacts relating to reciprocity may also impact the lower passing rates.

Mr. Molera stated that he was ambivalent toward the test because he is unsure of the relationship between success on the test and success as a classroom teacher. He also stated that due to a meeting at the legislature that he would have to leave at approximately 10:00.

Sally Horwitz, assistant dean at ASU, addressed the Board and asked the Board to make sure that it makes its final decision on verified data only. She stated that the data regarding which institution test-takers attended is not completely accurate.

Dr. Balentine moved to set the cut score for the elementary education AEPA at two standard errors of measurement below the panel's recommendation. The ADE shall be required to bring this item before the Board at the completion of one testing cycle. At that time the Board could make any adjustments necessary.

Mr. Yanez clarified that this would be at the constructed response level five. Dr. Balentine confirmed.

Second by Mr. Ary.

Motion passes unanimously (Mr. Lucero, Dr. Haeger and Mr. Molera left the meeting and were not present).

Dr. Balentine moved to set the cut score for the social studies AEPA as recommended by the Panel.

Second by Supt. Horne.

Motion passes unanimously

Mr. Moore said that due to the structure of the standards setting process the Board was required to address this issue at a special meeting. He asked if staff had given any thought on how the process might be restructured in the future.

Ms. Amator stated that there are ongoing discussions with the testing company on how this might be accomplished.

Dr. Balentine asked if a dual-testing structure would be possible. Dr. Karlin said that that option could be explored and that he would discuss that option with Ms. Amator. Ms. Amator said that they would report back to the Board.

2. ADJOURN

Supt. Horne moved to adjourn.

Second by Mr. Ary.

Motion passes – meeting adjourned.