

**Minutes of the Early Childhood Education Licensure Task Force
Commission on Professional Standards in Education
September 15, 2010**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Task Force Chair Wendy Zastawniak called the Elementary Education Licensure Task Force to order, via conference video in Carson City and Las Vegas, on September 15, 2010 at 3:40 PM.

Members of the Task Force present in Carson City: Chair Wendy Zastawniak, Melissa Burnham – University of Nevada, Reno, Anna Severens – Nevada Department of Education Consultant; and in Las Vegas Andre Yates.

Staff present in Carson City: Christina Harper, Katherine Rohrer and in Las Vegas: Jeanette Calkins.

There were no public present.

Chair Zastawniak recognized and thanked Gloria Dopf for presiding over the July 13th meeting, when she was able to attend.

2. Approval of July 13, 2010 Task Force Meeting Minutes

Chair Zastawniak moved to approve the July 13, 2010 minutes as submitted, seconded by Ms. Severens. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Review and Discuss the Cross-Walk Comparison of NAC 391.088 and NAC 391.089

The Task Force reviewed the cross-walk comparison of NAC 391.088 and 391.089 provided by the Teacher Licensure Office.

Chair Zastawniak reviewed that the goal of this Task Force is to ensure that all early childhood licensees are certified birth through second grade.

Upon questioning by Ms. Burnham regarding the number of individuals licensed in each area, Ms. Rohrer responded that there are a total of 602 individuals who currently hold a birth through kindergarten and 557 hold a birth through 2nd grade, out of those there are 85 individuals with the birth through 2nd grade endorsement and 45 with the birth through kindergarten who are actually teaching in the early childhood assignment areas with this license; for a total of 101 individuals in early childhood assignments. Ms. Rohrer stated that most teachers teaching in the early childhood assignment areas have an elementary license with the early childhood endorsement.

Mr. Yates stated that the issue in Clark County School District is the teaching experience that the individual receives with most individuals only having the kindergarten student teaching experience, which limits that individual to only the birth through kindergarten, most of these individual do not have the 1st and 2nd grade student teaching experience which then limits their teaching opportunities.

The Task Force was advised that the Task Force is to bring forth a recommendation to the Commission regarding an amendment in the early childhood licensing structure. An action by this Task Force will constitute a recommendation to the Professional Standards Commission. It will then be the decision of the Commission if they want to adopt the recommendation,

conceptually; and then if the recommendation is adopted, they must proceed through the process for amending regulations.

The Task Force did a thorough review of the cross-walk of NAC 391.088 and 391.089 to ensure that all of the requirements from 391.088 are included in 391.089, specifically Section 4(b) in 391.088.

Ms. Severens stated that she believes that we are at a point where there will be a need for more licensed personnel as more Districts have Title I pre-kindergarten programs and state pre-kindergarten. Ms. Severens stated that students and higher education will need to be informed that individuals will need to have student teaching experience in kindergarten and either 1st or 2nd grade for the early childhood endorsement.

Chair Zastawniak clarified that the Task Force is recommending to not include either Section 4(b) from NAC 391.088 or the entire Section 4 of NAC 391.088 in NAC 391.189 and to leave NAC 391.089 as currently written.

4. Review Nevada Administrative Code 391.088 – Qualifications for Teaching Pupils from Birth Through Kindergarten and NAC 391.089 – Qualifications for Teaching Pupils from Birth Through Second Grade; Discuss Possible Amendments or New Sections to NAC 391

In a review and discussion of recommendations to the Commission, the Task Force was reminded that at the July 13, 2010 meeting, it was moved and seconded to discontinue the issuance of NAC 391.088 – Early Childhood Education Birth through Kindergarten License and make NAC 391.089 the Early Childhood Education License Birth through Second Grade License.

The Task Force unanimously agreed to delete NAC 391.088 and no further amendments are required for NAC 391.089. This recommendation will be forwarded to the Commission at their October 15, 2010 meeting.

5. Schedule Next Meeting Date – if necessary

The Task Force agreed that they reached their goal and there was not a need to scheduled another meeting.

6. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

7. Public Task Force Members Comments

There were no additional comments from Task Force Members.

8. Adjournment

Chair Zastawniak adjourned the meeting at 4:30 P.M.