

STATE OF NEVADA

COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION

ACTION REPORT

The Commission on Professional Standards in Education held a meeting on September 3, 2010 via video conference in the Board Rooms of the Nevada Department of Education Office in Carson City and Las Vegas, Nevada. The following discussions were held and actions taken:

- A New Member Orientation was conducted for Commissioners and included a review of the Nevada Department of Education Organizational Chart; method of operations for Commission and task force meetings; a review of the Nevada Open Meeting Law – NRS 241; a review of ethics of a Commissioner; disclosure of conflict of interest; a public record request; a review of Nevada Revised Statutes 391 and Nevada Administrative Code 391; and a review of travel arrangement/reimbursement process.
- Brianne Thoreson was elected Vice President of the Commission.
- The Commission held a workshop to solicit comments for amendments to NAC 391.332 – Endorsement as substitute teacher; period for which substitute teacher may be hired; and moved to post for a public hearing in October.
- The Commission held a public hearing and adopted R066-10; NAC 391.0583 – Special Qualifications Licensure; Duties of Employing School District or Private School.
- The Commission held a public hearing and adopted R046-10; NAC 391.036 – Tests of Competency Required for Initial License; Exemptions; Failure to Comply; Administration of Tests, and a New Section to Allow an Individual Licensed to One Student Level is Not Required to Participate in a Program of Student Teaching as a Condition to the Issuance of an Additional License in Another Student Level.
- The Commission reviewed the Work Session Document and Recommendations from the ACR 2 Committee and Legislative Committee on Education. The Commission will be updated at each meeting regarding bill draft requests from these recommendations and legislative actions.
- The Commission tabled, until the October 15, 2010 meeting, the review and discussion of possible amendments to NAC 391.1306 – Major or Minor in Social Studies to Include Geography as a core subject as a requirement to receive the Social Studies Endorsement.
- The Commission adopted the following replacement and new exams from the Educational Testing Service (ETS) with a No-Fault Passing Score for one year, beginning on September 3, 2010:
 - Exam #0101 – Business/Business Education Test
 - Exam #0204 – Reading/Reading Specialist Test
 - Exam #5174 – World Languages – French Test
 - Exam #5183 – World Languages – German Test
 - Exam #5195 – World Languages – Spanish Test
 - Exam #0354 – Special Education: General Resource Room

- The Commission received a verbal report from Dr. Jerry Barbee regarding the impact of the NES-Pearson Teacher Licensure exams if there was a change in the company that administers the exams to include the cost difference; reciprocity; and the impact to the Department and to individuals if there was a change.
- The Commission received updates from the following Task Forces: 1) Career and Technical Education Licensure – submitted recommendations and will be conducting a meeting on October 7, 2010 for final discussions on which endorsements should be eliminated; 2) Early Childhood Education Licensure – has held one meeting with a second meeting scheduled for September 15, 2010; 3) AB 425 – Special Education – held a meeting on August 31, 2010 and will hold a final meeting on September 22, 2010 to finalize the report that was due to the Legislature on July 1st; and 4) Elementary Licensure – currently the proposed language is at Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) as there appears to be an issue/confusion with the language that was submitted by the Task Force. The Commission agreed to separate the three issues: a) strengthen the requirements for the elementary licensure in the areas of math, science social studies; b) separate the elementary physical education endorsement; and c) add endorsement areas within the elementary license. The language for the first area will be posted for a public hearing when available, either the October or December meeting. Possible public hearing on elementary licensure revisions.
- The Commission amended and approved the 2010-2011 meeting schedule:
 - September 3, 2010 – Carson City;
 - October 15, 2010 – video conference sites Carson City and Las Vegas;
 - December 9, 2010 – morning meeting and joint meeting with the State Board of Education in the afternoon in Las Vegas;
 - February 9, 2011 – video conference sites in Carson City and Las Vegas;
 - March 24, 2011 – video conference sites in Carson City and Las Vegas;
 - May 4, 2011 – video conference sites in Carson City and Las Vegas; and
 - June 16, 2011 – Carson City.
- The following items will be on the October 15, 2010 meeting agenda: 1) Nevada Department of Education Activities Update; 2) Legislative Update Report; 3) Public Hearing for NAC 391.332 – Substitute Teacher Endorsement; 4) Workshop for Career and Technical Education Endorsements; 5) Discussion of possible amendments to NAC 391.1306 – Major or Minor in Social Studies to Include Geography as a core subject as a requirement to receive the Social Studies Endorsement; 6) Establish US and World History Praxis Exam Cut Score; and 7) Update, Report, and Recommendations from Task Forces.

The next meeting of the Commission on Professional Standards in Education is scheduled for **October 15, 2010 via video conference at the Nevada Department of Education Office, Board Rooms – 700 East Fifth Street, Carson City and 9890 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada**. For your convenience, minutes and agendas are posted on the Nevada Department of Education’s website, under Commissions, at <http://www.doe.nv.gov>. For further details, contact Christina Harper at 775-687-9226, FAX 775-687-9202 or E-mail charper@doe.nv.gov, Department of Education, Carson City Office.