



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

February 25, 2008

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** State Board of Education

**FROM:** Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

**SUBJECT:** Receive the 2006-2007 Annual Report of the Professional Standards Commission for Teachers

On April 5, 1998, the State Board of Education (SBE) established a fifteen-member Professional Standards Commission for Teachers (PSCT). At the April 11, 2006 meeting the SBE approved changes to the charge and composition of the PSCT advisory group. The changes included adding members to the commission, including an SBE liaison member. The terms of the nominees are staggered to address the SBE's concern with assuring that the PSCT be a dynamic group with new and fresh ideas. The Commission is charged by the Board to:

1. Investigate and recommend standards of professional preparation and practice to improve the quality of the teaching profession and its positive impacts on student achievement.
2. Develop and recommend standards for the implementation of teacher internships, student teaching programs or other clinical teaching experiences for persons preparing to become teachers.
3. Review and recommend improvements in professional development, continuing education and recertification of teachers.
4. Review and recommend changes in policies related to the revocation of teaching certificates.
5. Advise the SBE and the Michigan Department of Education on policies regarding teacher preparation quality, including standards for the preparation of teachers.

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6. Review the "Educators Code of Conduct" and recommend revisions to strengthen the emphasis on ethical conduct and professional behavior of teachers.
7. Review and recommend changes in the teacher preparation institution periodic review process based on current best practice and research.

The PSCT is also required to publish and submit an annual report to the SBE. Attachment A includes the 2006-2007 Annual Report, member appointments, and attendance lists. Previous years' reports are available in the Office of Professional Preparation Services.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education receive the 2006-2007 Annual Report of the Professional Standards Commission for Teachers, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated February 25, 2008.



**State of Michigan**

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSIONS FOR TEACHERS**

**State Board of Education Advisor Group**

**Annual Report 2006-2007**

## **Committee of the Whole**

### **Organizational Structure for Work of PSCT:**

In order to address the seven State Board of Education (SBE) charges to the Professional Standards Commissions for Teachers (PSCT) members were divided and assigned to three standing committees: Approval and Review of Teacher Preparation Institutions and Program Standards for the Preparation of Teachers, Professional Preparation Practices and Development, and Professional Ethics. The three standing committees were organized and members assigned. The executive committee (consisting of the standing committee chairs and recording secretaries, along with the PSCT chair and recording secretary) will guide the work of the PSCT.

### **PSCT Tasks:**

The PSCT held three meetings during the 2006-07 academic year. The first meeting provided orientation training to new members and updated returning members. Members were given a choice of memberships on one of the following three subcommittees:

- Approval and review of teacher preparation institutions
- Professional preparation and development
- Professional ethics

The subcommittees elected chairpersons and met for approximately one hour. Over the next two meetings the subcommittees further defined their roles and identified issues/tasks that needed to be addressed. The members decided to focus on accomplishing the following tasks over the next two years:

- Continue to engage in review of new standards.  
Develop plans to establish license for support staff.  
Focus on teacher preparation and high school reform.  
Focus on strategies to close the achievement gap, improve teacher quality, and support teachers so that every young person in Michigan schools can make the achievement of their goals a reality.  
Review and provide input to the Teacher Preparation Policy Study Group's recommendations. The SBE charge is to be bold, aggressive, and forward thinking.

The members also had ongoing discussions about the following issues (specifics on these are reported in the Standing Committees section):

Strategic Professional Learning Plan.  
School Safety Update (became effective January 1, 2006).  
Policies and Goals of the State Board on Ensuring Excellent Educators.  
Performance of Michigan's teacher preparation institutions.  
Issues of accreditation and reviews.  
Quality of content courses for teacher preparation.  
Policies that involve standards.  
Teacher shortages—recruitment and retention.  
Teacher testing and the value of the broad/group endorsements.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Approval and Review of Teacher Preparation Institutions and Program Standards for the Preparation of Teachers** **Standing Committee**

#### **Overview:**

Responsible for tasks/duties listed in the title including:

- Initial review and approval process for becoming a teacher preparation institution, review of specialty programs, and periodic re-approval process for teacher preparation institutions and specialty programs.  
Make recommendations to the State Board of Education regarding Program Review.

#### **Discussions:**

- How can we provide outcome data to the public without having a negative impact on teacher preparation institutions.  
Criteria used for the US News and World Report ranking.  
Data requirements and improvement of data analysis plan.  
On site visit as an element of state unit review with the Program Review Committee determining what is to be reviewed.  
Review of the results of the teacher preparation institution performance score (Higher Education Act Title II).  
Helping to determine what "technical assistance" will be provided to low-performing or at-risk institutions.  
Development of an alignment document to compare state, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and Teacher Education Accreditation Council review (identifying common denominators).

### **Professional Preparation Practices and Development** **Standing Committee**

#### **Overview:**

Responsible for tasks/duties listed in the title including:

- Making recommendations/actions on standards of professional preparation and practice to improve the quality of the teaching profession and its positive impacts on student achievement.
- Making recommendations/actions on improvements in professional development, continuing education, and recertification of teachers.
- Advising the SBE and the MDE on policies regarding teacher preparation quality, including standards for the preparation of teachers.

#### **Discussions:**

- Clarification of the charge of the committee.
- Existing documents and background.
- Proposed Elementary Certification Standards.

Entry Level Standards for Michigan Teachers (Professional Standards for Teachers).

- Research on the spending of professional development in districts around the state.

Lack of professional development beyond the first three years.

Professional development guidelines for new teachers.

Professional development implications for teachers of the new merit curriculum.

- Quality and an understanding of delivery issues for on-line classes.
- Regional support for professional development of new teachers.
- Dissemination of information on the accountability and responsibility of certified staff/teachers in the state to continue professional development activities.

Methods of monitoring teacher professional development.

How to implement a process to audit professional development and highly qualified issues.

- Electronic learning communities through LearnPort and MVU.
- Encouraging teacher preparation institutions to introduce professional development issues in the pre-service program.

### **Professional Ethics** **Standing Committee**

#### **Overview:**

Responsible for promoting the Michigan Teacher Code of Ethics in response to the new student safety legislation and other issues around professional conduct including, but not limited to the following:

Continued implementation of the Code of Ethics (approved by SBE) that provides a balance between promoting and "Ethos of Ethics" and producing a list of rules and consequences.

- Inclusion of administrators and local school boards in ethical expectations.
  - Broadening the charge to include issues within teacher testing and the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) in addition to Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP).
- Technology standards.

#### **Discussions:**

Differences and similarities in professional ethics in other jurisdictions: California, New York State, and Minnesota.

Procedures in place to investigate concerns for "irregularities" in MEAP test administration within schools and districts.

- Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability's document that summarizes training activities, administrative and investigative processes. Codes of ethics in other states that are articulated and promulgated.

- Posting codes in all buildings.

- Including information and training on the code of ethics in teacher preparation programs at colleges and universities.

Concern about developing a process to address a continuum of accountability for infractions which do not rise to the level of a criminal conviction.

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION FOR TEACHERS  
APPOINTMENT LIST – January 2007**

<b><u>CATEGORY</u></b>	<b><u>APPOINTMENT DATE</u></b>	<b><u>EXPIRATION DATE</u></b>
<b><u>Community College</u></b>		
Dr. Mary C. Belknap Teacher Education Jackson Community College Jackson, MI 49201	1/9/2007	6/30/2010
<b><u>Dean of a Public/Private Teacher Preparation Institution</u></b>		
Dr. Elaine C. Collins Dean of Education Grand Valley State University Grand Rapids, MI 49504	1/9/2007	6/30/2010
<b><u>Global Community Members</u></b>		
Ms. Lois Lofton-Doniver Michigan Federation of Teachers and School Related Personnel Detroit, MI 48207	10/11/2005	6/30/2009
Mr. Dennis Muchmore DHR International Lansing, MI 48917	8/13/2005	6/30/2007
Ms. Laurel Wagner Reading & Language Arts Center Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304	10/10/2006	6/30/2010 resigned
<b><u>Independent Teacher Preparation Institution</u></b>		
Dr. David Hamilton School of Education Spring Arbor University Spring Arbor, MI 49283	8/10/2004	6/30/2008
<b><u>Local School Board Member</u></b>		
Mr. Gary Scholten, Director Ottawa County Dept. of Employment & Training Grand Haven, MI 49417	1/9/2007	6/30/2010
<b><u>Principal - Elementary School</u></b>		
Ms. Amy Tebo, Principal Hastings Area School District Hastings, MI 49058	1/9/2007	6/30/2010

<b><u>CATEGORY</u></b>	<b><u>APPOINTMENT DATE</u></b>	<b><u>EXPIRATION DATE</u></b>
<b><u>Principal - Middle School</u></b> Ms. Penny Snyder, Principal Jonesville Middle School Jonesville, MI 49250	1/9/2007	6/30/2010
<b><u>Principal - Secondary</u></b> Mr. Robert Belous, Principal Atherton High School Burton, MI 48519	1/9/2007	6/30/2010
<b><u>Public Teacher Preparation Institution</u></b> Dr. Larry Corbett Central Michigan University Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859	10/11/2005	6/30/2009
<b><u>Research Institute</u></b> Dr. John C. Burkhardt National Forum on Higher Education for the Public Good Ann Arbor, MI 48109	1/9/2007	6/30/2010
<b><u>SBE Liaison</u></b> Mr. John Austin Michigan State Board of Education Lansing, MI 48909	1/9/2007	6/30/2010
<b><u>School Administrator</u></b> Dr. Kathy Griffey Battle Creek Public Schools Battle Creek, MI 49015	1/9/2007	6/30/2010
<b><u>Teacher - Career &amp; Tech Ed.</u></b> Ms. Rosa Johnson Mt. Pleasant High School Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858	9/13/2005	6/30/2009
<b><u>Teacher - English/Language Arts</u></b> Ms. Carole Turner C.L. Phelps School Ishpeming, MI 49849-2005	9/13/2005	6/30/2007 resigned
<b><u>Teacher - ISD</u></b> Ms. Judy Brune Ionia Intermediate School District Ionia, MI 48846	8/10/2004	6/30/2008 resigned

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>APPOINTMENT DATE</u>	<u>EXPIRATION DATE</u>
<b><u>Teacher - Math</u></b> Terri Faitel Trenton Public Schools Trenton, MI 48183	1/9/2007	6/30/2010
<b><u>Teacher - Non-public</u></b> Ms. Barbara Stork MI Association of Nonpublic Schools Lansing, MI 48933	6/30/2005	6/30/2007
<b><u>Teacher - Public School Academy</u></b> Ms. Lisa M. Koski Trillium Academy Taylor, MI 48180	1/9/2007	6/30/2010
<b><u>Teacher - School Counselor</u></b> Ms. Vivian Davis Albion High School Albion, MI 49224	9/13/2005	6/30/2009
<b><u>Teacher - Science</u></b> Dr. Carol L. Jones K-12 Science Consultant Macomb ISD Clinton Twp, MI 48038	1/9/2007	6/30/2010
<b><u>Teacher - Social Studies</u></b> Mr. Kevin Harris Dearborn Federation of Teachers Dearborn, MI 48126	10/11/2005	6/30/2009
<b><u>Teacher - Other</u></b> 1 Open Position to be filled in 2007-08		
Ms. Susan Pagen New Buffalo Middle School New Buffalo, MI 49117	9/13/2005	6/30/2009
Ms. Nancy Shaw Livonia Public Schools Tyler Elementary Livonia, MI 48152	8/10/2004	6/30/2008

# 2006\*-2007 PSCT Attendance

<b>Member</b>	<b>Mar 1</b>	<b>Apr 19</b>	<b>May 17</b>
John Austin	Present		
Mary C. Belknap	Notified/Excused	Present	Notified/Excused
Robert Belous	Notified/Excused	Present	Notified/Excused
Judy Brune	Notified/Excused	Notified/Excused	Notified/Excused
John C. Burkhardt	Present	Present	Present
Elaine C. Collins	Present	Present	Notified/Excused
Larry Corbett	Present	Present	Notified/Excused
Vivian Davis	Present	Present	Present
Terri Faitel	Notified/Excused	Present	Notified/Excused
Kathy Griffey		Present	Present
David Hamilton	Present	Present	Present
Kevin Harris	Present	Present	Notified/Excused
Rosa Johnson	Present	Present	Present
Carol L. Jones	Present	Present	Present
Lisa Koski	Present	Present	Present
Lois Lofton Doniver	Absent	Present	Absent
Dennis Muchmore	Resigned		
Susan Pagen	Present	Present	Present
Gary Scholten	Present	Notified/Excused	Present
Nancy Shaw	Present	Present	Present
Penny Snyder	Present	Present	Notified/Excused
Barbara Stork	Present	Notified/Excused	Notified/Excused
Amy Tebo	Present	Present	Present
Carole Turner	Resigned		
Laurel Wagner	Resigned		

\* No meetings held in 2006.

**NOTE:** Scheduling delayed due to late appointments.