

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE STATE OF IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS  
COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 19-20, 2015

**ATTENDANCE**

Members present at March 19 committee meetings: Allred, Chipman, Enger, Hedeem, Henry, Kellerer, Koehler, McKinney, Meyer, Mikolajczyk, Nelson, Nuckols, Roark, Saffle, Welton. SDE staff present: Haas, Markland, Miranda, Raney, Schwab. Absent: Lackey, Lakey-Campbell, Sulfridge, Van Mullem. Guests: Alison Henken, Shasta Kilminster-Hadley.

Members present at the March 20 general meeting: Allred, Hedeem, Henry, Kellerer, Koehler, Lakey-Campbell, McKinney, Mikolajczyk, Nelson, Nuckols, Roark, Saffle, Welton. SDE staff present: Haas, Markland, Miranda, Raney, Schwab. Absent: Chipman, Enger, Lackey, Meyer, Sulfridge, Van Mullem. Guests: Terry Gilbert, Alison Henken, Shasta Kilminster-Hadley.

Commission Chair Esther Henry requested that Commission members be mindful of their meeting attendance. The Commission needs a quorum (a majority plus 1) in order to conduct needed business at its meetings. There are 18 voting Commission members; 10 members constitute a quorum. The Commission meeting on March 20 had 12 members present – just 2 members more than a quorum. **Esther asked that 1) members do whatever they can in order to be present at Commission meetings and 2) if they cannot be present at a meeting or have to leave a meeting early, please let the Commission secretary know so that we can ensure that we will have a quorum at a meeting.**

**STATE BOARD REPORT**

Alison Henken is the K-12 Accountability and Projects Program Manager in the State Board office. She updated the Commission on legislative and State Board-related items.

The educator tiered licensure/certification was defeated during the current legislative session. Tiered licensure could be introduced again next year aligned with any new career ladder legislation passed this year.

The educator career ladder legislation is still under consideration. Recent changes to that legislation include the move of the independent review process from the colleges of education to the Department of Education as the appointer; small increases in the starting salary for new teachers to \$32,700 and the first rung of the career ladder to \$33,200; language revision addressing pupil support staff and its inclusion in the career ladder, including master teacher premium; the necessity of a school district committee comprised of teachers, administrators, and community members to recommend master teacher

premium and leadership dollars criteria; and the necessity for teachers to be a part of the process for setting measurable student achievement targets.

A Literacy Committee appointed by the State Board is reviewing the recommendations of the Idaho Literacy Task Force in order to identify actionable items that could result in changes to rule or statute around literacy. The committee is particularly looking at the recommendation related to the Idaho Comprehensive Literacy Course; a possible need to review the course on a regular basis; and who should be a part of the review process. The language in the rule pertaining to the Idaho Comprehensive Literacy Course is also being considered to determine if revisions are needed.

## **AGENDA REVIEW/REVISIONS/APPROVAL**

**The March 19-20, 2015, Commission meeting agenda was approved as printed.** Motion carried unanimously.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**M/S (Nelson/Kellerer): To approve the January 22-23, 2015, Commission meeting minutes as printed.** Motion carried unanimously.

## **CONSIDERATION OF STIPULATIONS/FINAL ORDERS BY FULL COMMISSION**

Deputy Attorney General Shasta Kilminster-Hadley reviewed the background of Professional Standards Commission Case #21415 by presenting the Administrative Complaint that had been filed and the corresponding affidavits and default documents to demonstrate that Rudolph Bryan failed to respond to the Administrative Complaint. In light of Rudolph Bryan's failure to respond to the Administrative Complaint, a Default Order was issued by Hearing Officer Gilmore on February 3, 2015. Shasta then presented the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Order for the Commission's consideration.

**M/S (Nelson/Enger): To accept the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as written to revoke the teaching certificate of Rudolph Bryan and to enter the accompanying Final Order in Case #21415 regarding the certificate of Rudolph Bryan.** Motion carried unanimously. Commission members Allred, Chipman, Henry, Meyer, Nuckols, and Roark were recused from voting.

Deputy Attorney General Shasta Kilminster-Hadley reviewed the background of Professional Standards Commission Case #21315 by presenting the Administrative Complaint that had been filed and the corresponding affidavits and default documents to demonstrate that Matthew Kennedy failed to respond to the Administrative Complaint. In light of Matthew Kennedy's failure to respond to the Administrative Complaint, a Default Order was issued by Hearing Officer Gilmore on February 3, 2015. Shasta then presented the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Order for the Commission's consideration.

**M/S (Enger/McKinney): To accept the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as written to revoke the teaching certificate of Matthew Kennedy and to enter the accompanying Final Order in Case #21315 regarding the certificate of Matthew Kennedy.** Motion carried unanimously. Commission members Allred, Chipman, Henry, Meyer, Nuckols, and Roark were recused from voting.

Deputy Attorney General Shasta Kilminster-Hadley reviewed the background of Professional Standards Commission Case #21325 by presenting the Administrative Complaint that had been filed and the corresponding affidavits and default documents to demonstrate that Blaine King failed to respond to the Administrative Complaint. In light of Blaine King's failure to respond to the Administrative Complaint, a Default Order was issued by Hearing Officer Gilmore on February 3, 2015. Shasta then presented the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Order for the Commission's consideration.

**M/S (Nelson/Welton): To accept the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as written to revoke the teaching certificate of Blaine King and to enter the accompanying Final Order in Case #21325 regarding the certificate of Blaine King.** Motion carried unanimously. Commission members Allred, Chipman, Henry, Meyer, Nuckols, and Roark were recused from voting.

Deputy Attorney General Shasta Kilminster-Hadley reviewed the background of Professional Standards Commission Case #21407 by presenting the Administrative Complaint that had been filed and the corresponding affidavits and default documents to demonstrate that Joseph Peppley failed to respond to the Administrative Complaint. In light of Joseph Peppley's failure to respond to the Administrative Complaint, a Default Order was issued by Hearing Officer Gilmore on February 3, 2015. Shasta then presented the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Order for the Commission's consideration. The Commission members reviewed the documents and, having posed a question and discussing it briefly, voted as follows:

**M/S (Enger/McKinney): To accept the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as written to revoke the teaching certificate of Joseph Peppley and to enter the accompanying Final Order in Case #21407 regarding the certificate of Joseph Peppley.** Motion carried unanimously. Commission member Paula Kellerer abstained from voting. Commission members Allred, Chipman, Henry, Meyer, Nuckols, and Roark were recused from voting.

Deputy Attorney General Shasta Kilminster-Hadley reviewed the background of Professional Standards Commission Case #21220 by presenting the Administrative Complaint that had been filed and the corresponding affidavits and default documents to demonstrate that Robert Ramsay failed to respond to the Administrative Complaint. In light of Robert Ramsay's failure to respond to the Administrative Complaint, a Default Order was issued by Hearing Officer Gilmore on February 3, 2015. Shasta then

presented the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Order for the Commission's consideration.

**M/S (McKinney/Enger): To accept the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as written to revoke the teaching certificate of Robert Ramsay and to enter the accompanying Final Order in Case #21220 regarding the certificate of Robert Ramsay.**

Motion carried unanimously. Commission member Ginny Welton abstained from voting. Commission members Allred, Chipman, Henry, Meyer, Nuckols, and Roark were recused from voting.

Deputy Attorney General Shasta Kilminster-Hadley reviewed the background of Professional Standards Commission Case #21224 by presenting the Administrative Complaint that had been filed and the corresponding affidavits and default documents to demonstrate that Ronald Reynoso failed to respond to the Administrative Complaint. In light of Ronald Reynoso's failure to respond to the Administrative Complaint, a Default Order was issued by Hearing Officer Gilmore on February 3, 2015. Shasta then presented the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Order for the Commission's consideration. The Commission members reviewed the documents and, having posed a question and discussing it briefly, voted as follows:

**M/S (Nelson/Welton): To accept the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as written to revoke the teaching certificate of Ronald Reynoso and to enter the accompanying Final Order in Case #21224 regarding the certificate of Ronald Reynoso.**

Motion carried unanimously. Commission members Allred, Chipman, Henry, Meyer, Nuckols, and Roark were recused from voting.

Deputy Attorney General Shasta Kilminster-Hadley reviewed the background of Professional Standards Commission Case #21411 by presenting the Administrative Complaint that had been filed and the corresponding affidavits and default documents to demonstrate that Lara Schoener failed to respond to the Administrative Complaint. In light of Lara Schoener's failure to respond to the Administrative Complaint, a Default Order was issued by Hearing Officer Gilmore on February 3, 2015. Shasta then presented the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Order for the Commission's consideration. The Commission members reviewed the documents and, having posed a question and discussing it briefly, voted as follows:

**M/S (Welton/McKinney): To accept the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as written to revoke the teaching certificate of Lara Schoener and to enter the accompanying Final Order in Case #21411 regarding the certificate of Lara Schoener.**

Motion carried unanimously. Commission members Allred, Chipman, Henry, Meyer, Nuckols, and Roark were recused from voting.

Deputy Attorney General Shasta Kilminster-Hadley reviewed the background of Professional Standards Commission Case #21324 by presenting the Administrative Complaint that had been filed and the corresponding affidavits and default documents to demonstrate that Pamela Torres failed to respond to the Administrative Complaint. In

light of Pamela Torres' failure to respond to the Administrative Complaint, a Default Order was issued by Hearing Officer Gilmore on February 3, 2015. Shasta then presented the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Order for the Commission's consideration.

**M/S (McKinney/Enger): To accept the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as written to revoke the teaching certificate of Pamela Torres and to enter the accompanying Final Order in Case #21324 regarding the certificate of Pamela Torres.** Motion carried unanimously. Commission members Allred, Chipman, Henry, Meyer, Nuckols, and Roark were recused from voting.

Deputy Attorney General Shasta Kilminster-Hadley reviewed the background of and presented the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Order for consideration by the Commission in Professional Standards Commission Case #21425 regarding the certificate of Rodney Swerin. She also recommended the adoption of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as presented and that the Commission enter the Final Order revoking the certificate of Rodney Swerin based upon his alleged misconduct and subsequent voluntary surrender of his teaching certificate. The Commission members reviewed the documents and, having posed questions and discussing them briefly, voted as follows:

**M/S (Enger/Kellerer): To accept the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as written to revoke the teaching certificate of Rodney Swerin and enter the accompanying Final Order in Case #21425 regarding the certificate of Rodney Swerin.** Motion carried unanimously. Commission members Allred, Chipman, Henry, Meyer, Nuckols, and Roark were recused from voting.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Taylor Raney (unless indicated otherwise) reported on the following.

1. The proposed legislation to remove the split (one-third to the certification program and two-thirds to the Commission) of collected certification fees (see January 22-23, 2015, Commission meeting minutes, page 5, ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT, item 2) was recently signed by the governor and will be effective July 1, 2015. Changes in the Commission budget will become apparent after that date.
2. The Department of Education's current background check process for all school district employees having contact with children requires background checks from the Bureau of Criminal Identification, the FBI, and the statewide sex offender registry; the cost of these background check services fluctuates over time. The fee set by statute, per investigation, has been \$40. The Department of Education has determined that the administrative costs will be \$11 per application. Legislation has been passed and will soon be signed by the governor seeking to allow costs not under the control of the Department of Education to be collected

while shifting the administrative costs incurred by the department to the General Fund in an ongoing appropriation.

3. The Northwest Nazarene University full program review was conducted in early March. The report emanating from that review will be considered by the Standards Committee at the May Commission meeting.
4. Region III superintendents have requested that higher education representatives assemble a career fair where teacher education candidates can meet with superintendents who are seeking to fill teaching positions within their districts. Since higher education lacks funding for this type of thing, Taylor Raney requested consent for the Commission fund this effort; there were no objections. The career fair will be held April 21 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Hampton Inn in Nampa. If successful, the potential is there for career fairs to be held in other regions as well and for this to be an ongoing Commission budget item.
5. Teach for America is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to remove educational inequity by enlisting high-achieving recent college graduates and professionals to teach for a minimum of two years in low income communities throughout the United States. Currently the organization is seeking to get established in Idaho, and three districts (Melba, Caldwell, and Nampa) have agreed to interview, but not necessarily hire, their candidates dedicated to Idaho. Idaho is examining this type of certification as a means to help meet its teacher shortage needs.
6. Cina Lackey is currently attending the National Association for Alternative Certification (NAAC) Conference in Chicago. Cina and Taylor will attend the State Consortium on Educator Effectiveness (SCEE) Summit in Georgia in mid-April.

## **PRESENTATION ON FAMILY ADVOCATES**

Four staff members (Richard Johnson, Diane Demarest, Jacque Deahl, and Brad Talbutt) of Family Advocates made a presentation to the Commission on this Treasure Valley agency that trains volunteers to provide a voice for abused children and home visits to educate families so that all children are safe and nurtured. Family Advocates is actually the parent agency for two programs – the Guardian ad Litem program or Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program and the Home Visiting program. The Guardian ad Litem program provides each child in foster care with a trained volunteer to make sure they are treated well while in state custody. The Home Visiting program is a voluntary home-based parent education service; volunteers work one-on-one with families to increase knowledge of and confidence in parenting skills.

Other programs of Family Advocates include BabySteps, Parent Education, Parents Anonymous, Play Groups, and Support Groups. In BabySteps (a partnership with St. Michael's Episcopal Cathedral), new and expecting mothers with limited incomes

participate in site-based education. The Parent Education classes are based on the Love & Logic parenting philosophy. The Parents Anonymous program is an evidence-based family strengthening program using mutual support, parent leadership, and shared leadership. Play Groups are available to parents and children ages 0-5 alongside a trained facilitator. Support Groups include Dad's Matter (in partnership with St. Luke's Children's Hospital) and Step Up, a small-group mentoring experience for women enrolled in BabySteps or Home Visiting.

Family Advocates has been in existence in this area for 37 years. It is powered by over 500 volunteers per year. It serves the third and fourth judicial districts, which is ten counties in southwest Idaho. Out of those ten counties, Family Advocates sees 1,100 children a year.

## **AUTHORIZATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chair Elisa Saffle reported that during the March 19-20, 2015, meeting, the Authorizations Committee recommended that the Commission approve the following new Teacher to New Certificate/Endorsement requests (for the 2014-2015 school year):

BOLEN, Byron, Sugar-Salem Joint #322, Music K/12  
HARMON, Heather, Coeur d'Alene #271, Chemistry 6/12  
HILLMAN, Jason, Nampa #131, Director of Special Education  
PATTERSON, Stephanie, Gooding Joint #231, Generalist K/12  
STOKES, Richard, Vallivue #139, English as a New Language K/12

During the March 19-20, 2015, meeting, the Authorizations Committee recommended that the Commission approve the following renewal Teacher to New Certificate/Endorsement requests (for the 2014-2015 school year):

ABRAHAMSON, Rose, Chief Tahgee Elementary Academy, All Subjects K/8 (2)  
JOLLEY, Darren, Firth #59, Generalist K/12 (2)  
RITTHALER, Andrea, Vallivue #139, Family and Consumer Sciences 6/12 (2)  
WARD, Suzanne, Vallivue #139, Generalist K/12 (2)

During the March 19-20, 2015, meeting, the Authorizations Committee recommended that the Commission approve 6 Provisional Endorsement Alternative Authorizations and 2 Content Specialist Endorsement Alternative Authorizations (all for the 2014-2015 school year).

During the March 19-20, 2015, meeting, the Authorizations Committee recommended that the Commission approve the following new Teacher to New Certificate/Endorsement request (for the 2015-2016 school year):

PIERSOL, Kimberly, Filer #413, Family and Consumer Sciences 6/12

During the March 19-20, 2015, meeting, the Authorizations Committee recommended that the Commission approve the following renewal Teacher to New Certificate/Endorsement request (for the 2015-2016 school year):

ZOLLINGER, Kathy, Cassia County Joint #151, Birth through Grade 3 (3)

**The Commission ACCEPTED the report of the Authorizations Committee.** Motion carried unanimously.

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Chair Kim Mikolajczyk reported that the committee continued discussion of educator ethics resources for the professional development section of the Commission website for the use of administrators and educators to draw upon when they have need for education in this area. The committee has been made aware of a Boise law firm (Eberharter-Maki & Tappen, PA) that has training sessions that they have provided to school districts and charter school superintendents and administrators in the state. The sessions include: Technology and Social Media: Public School Students; Social Media and the Code of Ethics for Idaho Professional Educators; Public Records Requirements; Administrator Evaluations; and Student Data Privacy and Security. Kim is awaiting additional information on the sessions and cost. The committee has requested that, if possible, Department of Education information on approved courses for individuals sanctioned by the Commission in the past now be included on the professional development section of the Commission website.

**The Commission ACCEPTED the report of the Professional Development Committee.** Motion carried unanimously.

### **BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE**

Chair Laural Nelson reported that for the months of December 2014 and January 2015, the Commission actual expenditures for the 2015 fiscal year to date amounted to \$195,635 or 56.26 percent of the total 2015 fiscal year budget. Revenue during that same time period was \$35,805. In addition to routine operating costs, approximately \$2,300 was spent to send Commission staff to the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) Professional Practices Institute (PPI), \$1,700 was spent on standards reviews/revisions, and \$2,300 was the cost of an ethics investigation. The content standards reviewed included Health, Physical Education, Early Childhood, Social Studies, Economics, Geography, Government, Civics, and History. At its March 19 meeting, the committee approved the \$2,500 purchase of Commission meeting recording equipment components to have on hand in the event of recording equipment failure.

**The Commission ACCEPTED the report of the Budget Subcommittee.** Motion carried unanimously.

## STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Chair Paula Kellerer reported on the following committee discussion items (unless indicated otherwise):

1. The committee reviewed the recommended revisions for the Early Childhood standards and endorsement language.

**M/S (Nelson/Welton): To approve the revisions to the Early Childhood standards and endorsement language for the Blended Early Childhood Education/Early Childhood Special Education Certificate; the Birth-Grade 3 endorsement (that has been in existence and attaches to the Blended Early Childhood Education/Early Childhood Special Education Certificate); and the Early Childhood Special Education Pre K-8 endorsement (that has been in existence and attaches to the Standard Exceptional Child Certificate). Motion carried unanimously.**

2. The committee considered the addition of a new Early Childhood endorsement to address the needs of districts for grades 4, 5, and 6.

**M/S (Hedeen/Lakey-Campbell): To approve the addition of a new Pre K – Grade 6 endorsement (only in an elementary school setting - no middle school) for the Blended Early Childhood Education/Early Childhood Special Education Certificate as submitted by the Early Childhood standards review team. Motion carried unanimously.**

3. The committee reviewed the recommended revisions for the Blind/Visually Impaired standards and endorsement language and the Deaf/Hard of Hearing standards and endorsement language.

**M/S (Nelson/Welton): To approve the revisions to the Blind/Visually Impaired and the Deaf/Hard of Hearing standards and endorsements language as submitted by the standards review teams. Motion carried unanimously.**

4. The committee reviewed the recommended revisions for the Social Studies Foundation, Economics, Geography, Government/Political Science, and History standards and endorsements language.

**M/S (Hedeen/Nelson): To approve the revisions to the Social Studies Foundation, Economics, Geography, Government/Political Science, and History standards and endorsements language as submitted by the standards review team. Motion carried unanimously.**

5. The committee discussed the misalignment of practice and IDAPA in relation to middle school endorsements. K-8 elementary candidates who started a teacher preparation program after July 1, 2013, must also endorse in a secondary or K-12 content area, which are listed as middle school endorsements. There is no such middle school endorsement in IDAPA. The committee has requested that higher

education institutions in the state submit their current requirements (Praxis II, credits, courses, etc.) for middle school endorsement areas; this information will be reviewed at the next committee meeting for determination of next steps. It is possible that the committee may pursue the addition of middle school endorsements to IDAPA.

6. Idaho State University (ISU) will have a program approval review in the fall of 2015; Boise State University (BSU) will have a program approval review in March of 2016. ISU will be the state's last National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) legacy review; BSU will be the state's first Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) review.
7. The committee discussed the overlap in name of the Postsecondary Certificate issued by Professional-Technical Education (PTE) and the Postsecondary Certificate issued by the Department of Education. The certificate issued by PTE requires additional classes in pedagogy, requires no background check, has no charge associated with it, and is processed by the Department of Education. These postsecondary content specialists can and do teach K-12 students, sometimes on K-12 campuses and sometimes on a postsecondary institution campus. The similar certificate issued by the Department of Education has no substantial additional requirements, requires a background check, and has a charge associated with it. The committee has requested that a deputy attorney general be consulted and that it be determined if the existence of this overlap is acceptable; if those seeking the PTE postsecondary certificate need to have a background check; and if PTE educators need to be charged for the postsecondary certificate.

**The Commission ACCEPTED the report of the Standards Committee.** Motion carried unanimously.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Chair Esther Henry reported that the Executive Committee met with Shasta Kilminster-Hadley, Shannon Haas, and Annette Schwab to discuss ethics case information.

**It was moved and seconded to move the Executive Committee into Executive Session to review and discuss investigation records exempt from disclosure as prescribed by Idaho Code §67-2345(d).** Motion carried unanimously.

Shasta reviewed the cases needing Executive Committee decisions.

**M/S (Chipman/Allred): To move the Executive Session of the Executive Committee into Open Session to vote on investigation records exempt from disclosure as prescribed by Idaho Code §67-2345(d).** Motion carried unanimously.

Esther Henry reported that the Executive Committee reviewed 9 cases and found probable cause in 7 of those. Actions taken included 6 letters of reprimand with

conditions, 1 indefinite suspension, 1 case opened for investigation, and, in 1 case, a book report was accepted as part of the respondent's stipulated conditions.

There are currently 5 cases in which the administrative complaints have been filed, 1 hearing scheduled, 3 default cases pending information and time deadlines, 16 cases waiting to hear from the respondent, and 4 cases requiring deputy attorney general action.

Committee members discussed the Commission need for ethics resources that school administrators and educators could access (see page 8 of these meeting minutes, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE). It was suggested that two higher education individuals who have done work in educator ethics issues be contacted.

The committee also discussed creating a different process for dealing with educator substance abuse, as the number of Idaho educators with such abuse issues is increasing. Shasta went on to explain a mechanism that other Idaho agencies that regulate professionals use in order to help such individuals with substance abuse issues get better and not just be punished. It was suggested that representatives from the Idaho Board of Nursing and also Southworth and Associates, the organization that provides this type of recovery services to the Board of Nursing, present to the Commission at a future meeting.

**The Commission ACCEPTED the report of the Executive Committee.** Motion carried unanimously.

## **LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Esther Henry reported that the Leadership Team met by teleconference on March 4. Taylor Raney gave the team a brief report on the recent NNU program approval review. He also shared that he will be resigning his Commission administrator position effective June 30. The team reviewed the upcoming Commission meeting agenda and the budget.

**The Commission ACCEPTED the report of the Leadership Team.** Motion carried unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2015-2016 Commission Meeting Dates**

The Commission discussed the scheduling of their meeting dates for 2015-2016.

**M/S (McKinney/Nelson): To accept the following Commission meeting dates for 2015-2016: July 30-31; October 8-9 (hearing panel chair training the afternoon of October 9); January 7-8; March 31 – April 1; and June 23-24.** Motion carried unanimously.

### **Hotel Preference for Out-of-Area Members for 2015-2016**

Out-of-area Commission members decided to stay at the downtown Hampton Inn during the 2015-2016 year.

## COMMUNICATION PLAN

Paula Kellerer reported that items of interest in these meeting minutes for member communication to constituencies include the following:

- **Tiered Licensure/Certification.** Idaho's tiered licensure/certification was defeated in the legislature this year; it could be introduced next year aligned with any new career ladder legislation passed this year (see page 1, STATE BOARD REPORT).
- **Career Ladder Legislation.** This is still under consideration; recent changes include moving the independent review process from colleges of education to Department of Education, small increases in starting salary for new teachers and first rung of career ladder, language revision addressing pupil support staff and its inclusion in career ladder, the necessity of a school district committee to recommend master teacher premium and leadership dollars criteria, and necessity for teachers to have a part in setting measurable student achievement targets (see page 1, STATE BOARD REPORT).
- **Literacy Committee.** State Board-appointed committee reviewing governor's task force recommendations for actionable items; looking at ICLA requirements and review process; language in rule being considered for needed revisions (see page 1, STATE BOARD REPORT, paragraph 4).
- **Teacher Certification Fees.** Proposed removal of split of collected certification fees was signed by governor and will be effective July 1 (see page 5, ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT, item 1).
- **Fingerprint Bill.** Costs not under the control of Department of Education in fingerprinting of Idaho educators to be collected while shifting administrative costs incurred by department to General Fund in ongoing appropriation (see page 5, ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT, item 2).
- **NNU Program Approval Review.** Results to be considered in May (see page 5, ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT, item 3).
- **Region III Career Fair.** Region III superintendents cooperating with higher education institutions to connect graduating candidates with potential employers (see page 5, ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT, item 4).
- **Teach for America.** This alternate route to certification holding summer institute in Oklahoma for interested candidates; three Idaho districts will interview candidates (see page 5, ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT, item 5).
- **Educator Ethics Resources Coming.** Commission is working to add educator ethics resources to its website for teachers/districts (see page 8, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE).
- **Early Childhood Standards and Endorsement Language.** Revisions approved for Blended Early Childhood Education/Early Childhood Special Education Certificate; the Birth-Grade 3 endorsement; and the Early Childhood Special

Education Pre K-8 endorsement (see page 9, STANDARDS COMMITTEE, item 1).

- **Early Childhood Standards and Endorsement Language.** New PreK-Grade 6 endorsement added (see page 9, STANDARDS COMMITTEE, item 2). This is meant to address the needs of districts for grades 4, 5, and 6. Feedback is needed on this endorsement.
- **Blind/Visually Impaired Standards and Endorsement Language.** Revisions approved (see page 9, STANDARDS COMMITTEE, item 3).
- **Deaf/Hard of Hearing Standards and Endorsement Language.** Revisions approved (see page 9, STANDARDS COMMITTEE, item 3).
- **2015-2016 Commission Meeting Dates Set.** Commission has set its meeting dates for coming school year (see page 11, NEW BUSINESS/2015-2016 Commission Meeting Dates).
- **Feedback Again Requested on the Following Proposed Endorsements Meant to Develop Multiple Ways for Administrators and Superintendents to Have Highly Qualified Special Educators in Their Classrooms.** The K-12 Special Education endorsement would be maintained; a Generalist K-8 endorsement would be created to add to a Standard Elementary Certificate or a Standard Exceptional Child Certificate; a Generalist 6-12 endorsement would be created to add to a Standard Secondary Certificate or a Standard Exceptional Child Certificate.

## ADJOURNMENT

**M/S (Lakey-Campbell/McKinney): To adjourn the meeting.** Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

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Mary Jane Markland, Secretary  
Professional Standards Commission

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Taylor Raney, Administrator  
Professional Standards Commission