

Item 13:

Appointment of Committee Chair and Members to the SBEC EPP Commendations Committee

DISCUSSION AND ACTION

SUMMARY: This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) Chair an opportunity to appoint a committee chair and members to the SBEC Educator Preparation Program (EPP) Commendations Committee. The Board committee recommends high-performing EPPs to the full Board for commendations.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: ASEP accreditation statuses and sanctions for EPPs are authorized by the Texas Education Code (TEC) §21.045 and §21.0452.

TEC, §21.045, as amended by SB 1839, 85th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, states that the board shall propose rules establishing standards to govern the approval and continuing accountability of all EPPs.

TEC, §21.0452, as amended by SB 668 and SB 573, 86th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, states that to assist persons interested in obtaining teaching certification in selecting an EPP and to assist school districts in making staffing decisions, the SBEC shall make certain specified information regarding educator programs in this state available to the public through the SBEC's Internet website.

The full text of statutory citations can be found in the statutory authority section of this agenda.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon SBEC Chair appointment.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION: At the October 2019 SBEC meeting, the Board approved a framework and procedures for calculations for EPP commendations. At the February 2020 SBEC meeting, the Board established an SBEC EPP Commendations Committee.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUES: At the October 2019 SBEC meeting, the Board adopted the following commendation categories into rule to recognize high-performing EPPs:

1. **Rigorous and Robust Preparation:** based on first test pass rates;
2. **Preparing the Educators Texas Needs:** based on actively recruiting educators in shortage areas, of color, and for rural schools;
3. **Preparing Educators for Long-Term Success:** based on educators' retention in the profession and teacher growth into other professional roles; and
4. **Innovative Educator Preparation:** based on petitions provided to the SBEC regarding EPPs that go above and beyond seeking new pathways in preparing candidates for educator preparation.

At the October 2019 SBEC meeting, the Board also adopted the EPP accountability manual (Figure 19 TAC §229.1(c)) into rule. This manual describes the procedures for determination of

EPP commendations. Per the manual with regard to the Innovative Educator Preparation category, “Appropriate applications are reviewed by an SBEC subcommittee and approved by the full SBEC. Recognition is awarded at the discretion of the committee and the SBEC.”

At the July 2021 SBEC meeting, the Board Chair, Dr. John Kelly, appointed Ms. Jean Streepey as Committee Chair and the following Board members volunteered to serve on the committee: Ms. Courtney MacDonald, Dr. Alma Rodriguez, Dr. Veronica Galvan, and Mr. Rex Gore.

With the election of new SBEC officers and the appointment of new SBEC members, this item provides the SBEC Chair an opportunity to appoint a committee chair and allows Board members to volunteer to serve on the committee.

At the February 2022 SBEC meeting, the committee recommended the following focus area for the Innovative EPP Commendation and recommended that that the commendation be awarded every other year to provide additional time for the field to respond to the focus area. The commendations committee would recommend programs for the Innovative EPP commendation at the February 2024 SBEC meeting.

For the current Innovative Educator Preparation commendation, the SBEC seeks to recognize EPPs that engage in innovative development of EPP faculty and staff, field supervisors, and/or cooperating and mentor teachers, in alignment with current research and best practices. Examples include, but are not limited to, co-teaching models, coaching practices, high quality instructional materials implementation, and/or response to intervention (RTI).

This item provides the SBEC Chair an opportunity to appoint a committee chair and members to inform, review, and evaluate EPP application submissions for consideration of designation for category four, Innovative Educator Preparation, for the 2023-2024 reporting year. The committee will make recommendations to the full Board for commendations in this category at the February 2024 SBEC meeting.

Staff Members Responsible:

Jessica McLoughlin, Director of Talent Pathways

Ebony Love, EPP Capacity Building Specialist