

## Item 18:

### Approval of SBEC Mission Statement and Core Principles

#### DISCUSSION AND ACTION

**SUMMARY:** This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) an opportunity to discuss and approve the Mission Statement and Core Principles.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** The statutory authority for the establishment of the SBEC is Texas Education Code (TEC), Sec. 21.031, to recognize public school educators as professionals and to grant educators the authority to govern the standards of their profession. TEC, §21.031(a) authorizes the board to regulate and oversees all aspects of the certification, continuing education and standards of conduct of public school educators. TEC, §21.031(b) requires the SBEC to propose rules to ensure that all candidates for certification or renewal of certification demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to improve the performance of the diverse population of this state.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The SBEC's mission statement and core principles inform the public, stakeholders, and policymakers of the Board's main purpose, focus, and values. They are also used to inform the work of the Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff while carrying out the administrative functions on behalf of the SBEC. The core principles appear on every SBEC rule item to illustrate how the proposed rule aligns with the core principles of the Board.

At the August 3, 2017 work session, the SBEC discussed the desire to possibly update the Board's current mission statement and core principles. Dr. Cheryl Harris, senior technical consultant with the American Institutes for Research (AIR), facilitated the Board in reviewing and discussing the mission statement and core principles. Attachment II are options for the Board's consideration for changes to the mission statement and core principles that synthesize the discussion and input from SBEC members.

The Board directed TEA staff to bring back the SBEC goals at a future work session for consideration of updating and revising.

#### MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:

Approve the SBEC Mission Statement and Core Principles.

**Staff Member Responsible:** Christie Pogue, SBEC Manager  
Educator Leadership and Quality

**Attachments:** I. Statutory Citations  
II. Options for SBEC Mission Statement and Core Principles

**ATTACHMENT I****Statutory Citations Related to the State Board for Educator Certification Mission Statement and Core Principles****Texas Education Code, §21.031, Purpose:**

- (a) The State Board for Educator Certification is established to recognize public school educators as professionals and to grant educators the authority to govern the standards of their profession. The board shall regulate and oversee all aspects of the certification, continuing education, and standards of conduct of public school educators.
- (b) In proposing rules under this subchapter, the board shall ensure that all candidates for certification or renewal of certification demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to improve the performance of the diverse student population of this state.

**ATTACHMENT II****Options for SBEC Mission Statement and Core Principles****Mission Statement:**

SBEC is dedicated to improving student achievement and ensuring the safety and welfare of Texas school children by upholding the highest level of educator preparation, performance, continuing education, and standards of conduct.

**Core Principles:**

We believe...

1. student success is primary.
2. we must ensure the safety and welfare of Texas's diverse student population.
3. well-prepared educators are essential.
4. high certification standards are essential for ensuring consistency and effectiveness among educator preparation programs.
5. standards should be measured by rigorous, relevant, valid, and reliable assessments.
6. certification programs should be held to the same accountability standards.
7. certification programs should have transparent systems for continuous improvement.
8. we are accountable to all Texas stakeholders and their input is essential.
9. we must continually improve our policies and processes in response to changing needs.
10. certified educators hold a unique position of trust with students, and therefore, educators must be held to the highest standards of ethical conduct.