

**Item 19:****Discussion of Appointment of Advisory Committee for 19  
TAC Chapter 239, Student Services Certificates****DISCUSSION**

**SUMMARY:** This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) an opportunity to discuss the appointment of an advisory committee, the nomination form to solicit committee members, and an action plan with timeline for convening the advisory committee meetings for 19 TAC Chapter 239, Student Services Certificates. The student services certificates include School Counselor, School Librarian, Educational Diagnostician, Reading Specialist, and Master Teacher certificates.

Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff will present the proposed rule review for Chapter 239 at the April 2016 SBEC meeting for board approval. The rule review will prompt a public comment period and the results will be presented to the Board at the June 2016 SBEC meeting. Also at the April 2016 SBEC meeting, TEA staff anticipates presenting the Board with the members of the advisory committee for Board approval using the nomination form in Attachment II of this item. This timeline will allow TEA staff to immediately convene advisory committee meetings to consider feedback from the rule review, explore alternatives and recommend changes to the rules related to preparation, testing, certification and renewal processes for School Counselor, School Librarian, Educational Diagnostician, Reading Specialist and Master Teacher certificates. Because the role of each profession included in Chapter 239 is critical to student success and warrants focused attention, TEA staff anticipates holding individual meetings for the five certificate areas. Potential rule changes would be presented to the board at a future SBEC meeting.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Texas Education Code, §§21.031(b), 21.040(3-4), 21.041(b)(4), 21.0481(a), 21.0482 (a)(1-3), 21.0483 (a), and 21.0484 (a)(1-3).

**BOARD RESPONSE:** This item is presented to obtain Board input and direction concerning the attached Student Services Certificates Advisory Committee Nomination Form and the process with timeline on convening the advisory committee meetings. Following this meeting, SBEC members will be asked to provide advisory committee member recommendations to TEA staff as requested. The committee list will be provided at the April 2016 meeting for Board approval.

**PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:** At the October 2015 SBEC meeting, the Board directed TEA staff to consider accelerating the proposed timeline for review for 19 TAC Chapter 239, Student Services Certificates. At the December 2015 meeting, TEA staff presented and the SBEC approved a revised 2015-2018 rule review plan that incorporated an April 2016 start date for the four-year rule review of Chapter 239.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:** The SBEC is statutorily authorized to appoint members of advisory committees to the Board. TEA staff will seek committee member nominations from the SBEC, legislative staff, professional organizations, educator preparation programs, teacher organizations, and other key stakeholders to ensure a pool of well-qualified candidates for selection. The nomination period will begin on February 15,

2016 and end on February 29, 2016. The committee members selected will provide input on issues related to the five certificate areas within Chapter 239, Student Services Certificates. TEA staff anticipates recommending a diverse committee member list for Board approval at the April 2016 SBEC meeting. TEA staff will regularly update the Board on the progress of the committee meetings and will present potential rule changes at a future SBEC meeting.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None.

**PUBLIC AND STUDENT BENEFIT:** The public and student benefit anticipated as a result of the approval of the committee members would be to strengthen the educator preparation programs in the state to ensure students have highly effective professional educators upon entry into the profession.

**PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS:** None.

**LOCALLY MAINTAINED PAPERWORK REQUIREMENTS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**OTHER COMMENTS AND RELATED ISSUES:** Advisory committee members will advise and make recommendations to TEA staff about relevant program issues.

**Staff Members Responsible:** Marilyn Cook, Director  
Educator Certification

Tim Miller, Director  
Educator Preparation Programs

Tim Regal, Director  
Educator Evaluation and Support

**Attachments:** I. Statutory Citations  
II. Student Services Advisory Committee Nomination Form (not included online)

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**ATTACHMENT I**  
**Statutory Citations****Texas Education Code §21.031, Certification of Educators (excerpt):**

- (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.

**Texas Education Code §21.040, General Powers and Duties of Board (excerpt):**

The board shall:

- (3) appoint the members of any advisory committee to the board;
- (4) for each class of educator certificate, appoint an advisory committee composed of members of that class to recommend standards for that class to the board;

**Texas Education Code §21.041, Rules; Fees (excerpt):**

- (b) The board shall propose rules that:
  - (4) specify the requirements for the issuance and renewal of an educator certificate;

**Texas Education Code §21.0481, Master Reading Teacher Certification (excerpt):**

- (a) To ensure that there are teachers with special training to work with other teachers and with students in order to improve student reading performance, the board shall establish a master reading teacher certificate.

**Texas Education Code §21.0482, Master Mathematics Teacher Certification (excerpt):**

- (a) To ensure that there are teachers with special training to work with other teachers and with students in order to improve student mathematics performance, the board shall establish:
  - (1) a master mathematics teacher certificate to teach mathematics at elementary school grade levels;
  - (2) a master mathematics teacher certificate to teach mathematics at middle school grade levels; and
  - (3) a master mathematics teacher certificate to teach mathematics at high school grade levels.

**Texas Education Code §21.0483, Master Technology Teacher Certification (excerpt):**

- (a) To ensure that there are teachers with special training to work with other teachers and with students in order to increase the use of technology in each classroom, the board shall establish a master technology teacher certificate.

**Texas Education Code §21.0484, Master Science Teacher Certification (excerpt):**

- (a) To ensure that there are teachers with special training to work with other teachers and with students in order to improve student science performance, the board shall establish:
  - (1) a master science teacher certificate to teach science at elementary school grade levels;

- (2) a master science teacher certificate to teach science at middle school grade levels; and
- (3) a master science teacher certificate to teach science at high school grade levels.