

**Item 4:**  
**Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Request to  
Approve June 9, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes**

**ACTION**

**ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:** I recommend that the State Board for Educator Certification:

Approve the June 9, 2017 Board meeting minutes.

**STATE BOARD FOR EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 9, 2017 AT 9:00 AM**  
**1701 N. CONGRESS AVE. ROOM 1-104**

The Board will meet in open session and after determining the presence of a quorum, deliberate and possibly take formal action, including emergency action, on any of the following agenda items:

**1. Call to Order**

The State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) convened its meeting at 9:05 AM on Friday, June 9, 2017, in Room 1-104 of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue in Austin, Texas.

Present: Ms. Sandra Bridges, Ms. Rohanna Brooks-Sykes, Dr. Arturo Cavazos, Mr. Tommy Coleman, Ms. Jill Druesedow, Mr. Leon Leal, Ms. Suzanne McCall, Ms. Sandie Mullins, Dr. Laurie Turner, and Mr. Martin Winchester.

Absent: Ms. Laurie Bricker, Dr. Susan Simpson-Hull, Dr. Scott Ridley, and Mr. Carlos Villagrana.

**2. Associate Commissioner's Comments Regarding the SBEC Agenda**

Associate Commissioner Ryan Franklin welcomed the members to the meeting and commented on the length of the agenda and staff's commitment to be as efficient as possible with the members' time. Mr. Franklin informed the Board of the technical issues that can occur with the wireless microphones when members' phones are on the desk. Mr. Franklin commended the SBEC team for the major effort in preparing for an SBEC meeting in the midst of the legislative session. Mr. Franklin thanked the individuals who the Board never gets to see who are working to keep students safe and to ensure that educators are prepared as well as possible and that their certificates are processed.

**3. Milken Educator Award Recipient Recognition: Amber Simpson, Somerset ISD**

Ms. Lopez presented information about the Milken Foundation and the Milken Educator Awards and introduced Amber Simpson, a Master Teacher at Barrera Veterans Elementary in the Somerset Independent School District as the 2016 Milken Educator Award for Texas.

**4. Public Comment**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA****5. Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Request to Approve March 3, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes**

Hearing no corrections, the March 3, 2017 Board meetings minutes were approved.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION****6. Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Adoption of Review of 19 TAC Chapter 231, Requirements for Public School Personnel Assignments**

Ms. Cook presented this item to the Board. Ms. Cook clarified that many comments came in during the public comment period specific to an older certificate, Teacher of the DeafBlind Student, that is no longer issued by the agency. Ms. Cook also mentioned the supplemental material prepared for Item 6 to be referenced later in the discussion and yielded the floor for the two speakers providing testimony.

Ms. Cyral Miller, Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, thanked the Board for taking comments on Chapter 231. Ms. Miller asked the Board to adopt the rule and retain the Teacher of the DeafBlind student on the list of certificates appropriate to serve in special education settings. Ms. Miller indicated she would be returning to the Board at a later date to request consideration of a new certificate for Teacher of the DeafBlind student. Ms. Miller noted that teachers having a background in sensory areas and the combined effects of those areas is critical to understanding and supporting the unique population of deafblind students. Ms. Miller also referenced her handout on the pilot program that places specialized teachers of deafblind students into districts across the state.

Ms. Heather Withrow, citizen, shared her excitement to support the idea of having a category for Teacher of the DeafBlind and wants to see a certification. Ms. Withrow stated we have teachers who are trained to help students who cannot see and students who cannot hear but need teachers prepared to address the combined challenges faced by this unique population of students. Ms. Withrow concluded that Texas needs a certification for Teacher of the DeafBlind student to ensure that instructors have the skilled expertise and training to provide the support that students need and deserve.

Ms. Cook indicated the Board's adoption of the review would retain the reference to Teacher of the DeafBlind student in the assignment chart. Ms. Cook stated the Board's adoption of the review would allow her to return in August with proposed revisions/amendments to Chapter 231 for the Board's consideration. Ms. Cook talked with the board about the supplemental material for Item 6, which provided an overview on Districts of Innovation and the four categories directly related to exemptions from certification requirements. Ms. Cook shared that districts often sought flexibility for career and technical education (CTE) assignments and the ability to place a teacher in assignments a grade level above or below their area of certification. The Board had no questions about the supplemental materials, so Ms. Cook explained to the Board that the majority of the changes to Chapter 231 will focus on updates to course titles for CTE assignments. Prior to the Board's vote, Ms. Sykes took a few moments to publicly thank both of the speakers for their testimony. Dr. Cavazos asked if the upcoming CTE changes were substantive changes or if we were doing clean-up. Ms. Cook

explained we were doing catch-up with any SBOE-approved courses that have not been implemented into the rules and confirmed we would be doing catch-up and clean-up on course titles and/or updates to training requirements.

Public comment was provided by:

Ms. Cyral Miller, Texas School for the Blind/Visually Impaired

Ms. Heather Withrow, citizen

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Dr. Cavazos to approve for adoption the proposed review of 19 TAC Chapter 231, Requirements for Public School Personnel Assignments, to be published as proposed with the Texas Register. Second was made by Ms. Brooks-Sykes, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

**7. Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Adoption of Review of 19 TAC Chapter 245, Certification of Educators from Other Countries**

Ms. Cook presented this item to the Board. Ms. Cook asked for the Board's support in adopting the four-year rule review for Chapter 245. Ms. Cook explained Chapter 245 provides guidance on the process for out-of-country credentials review of candidates pursuing Texas certification. Ms. Cook also shared there were a lot of public comments submitted related to the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and the Visiting International Teacher (VIT) certificate. Ms. Cook shared there was an item on the agenda specific to the TOEFL requirement and mentioned demonstration of English proficiency is a requirement for three groups of certification candidates: 1) candidates seeking admission into an educator preparation program; 2) candidates participating in the VIT program; and 3) candidates pursuing the out-of-country credentials review process. Ms. Cook explained the out-of-country credentials review process and the required documentation submitted by certification candidates.

Mr. Leal asked about the English proficiency requirement for VIT. Ms. Cook shared that the rules for VIT do point back to the general requirements in Chapter 230 but explained the VIT rules have a requirement to demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Mr. Leal also asked if there is ever a situation where someone can keep extending temporary certification without having to demonstrate proficiency in English. Ms. Cook explained the VIT certificate is limited to a three-year term. Ms. Cook explained Region 13's role in supporting VIT candidates and ensuring they are aware of the out-of-country certification process if they intend to stay in Texas beyond three years and are interested in Texas certification. Ms. Mullins expressed concern about the three-year VIT certificate and wanted to know the VIT candidates delivery in academics, etc., specifically what is the comparison of VIT candidates to Texas-prepared certification candidates. Ms. Cook indicated she would gather additional information on the VIT program and update the Board in August. Dr. Turner asked how many school districts are bilingual districts utilizing the VIT candidates. Ms. Cook provided information on the districts currently participating in the VIT program. She explained the triad of support from Region 13, participating districts, and TEA to maintain a successful VIT program. Dr. Cavazos asked if Spain was the only country participating in the VIT program and also asked about the evaluation process for the VIT program and participating candidates. Ms. Cook confirmed Spain is the only participating country in the

VIT program and confirmed she would ensure the Board received additional information about the VIT program in August.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. McCall to approve for adoption the proposed review of 19 TAC Chapter 245, Certification of Educators from Other Countries, to be published as proposed in the Texas Register. Second was made by Dr. Cavazos, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

**8. Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Adoption of Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification Provisions, Subchapter A, Certificate Renewal and Continuing Professional Education Requirements, §232.9, Inactive Status and Late Renewal**

Ms. Cook presented this item to the Board. Ms. Cook expressed appreciation for the Board's support of this proposal in March, and asked the Board to approve adoption of the proposed amendment to Chapter 232.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Dr. Cavazos to approve for adoption, subject to State Board of Education review, the proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification Provisions, Subchapter A, Certificate Renewal and Continuing Professional Education Requirements, §232.9, Inactive Status and Late Renewal, with an effective date of 20 days after filing the adoption notice with the Texas Register. Second was made by Ms. Bridges, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

**9. Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 230, Professional Educator Preparation and Certification, Subchapter B, General Certification Requirements, §230.11, General Requirements**

Ms. McCoy and Ms. Perez presented this item to the Board. Ms. Perez reminded Board members that the TOEFL iBT replaced the Test of Spoken English (TSE) in 2006, when the Board approved a passing standard of 26 on the TOEFL iBT speaking portion only, which paralleled the previous requirement on the TSE. She further reviewed the stakeholder feedback gathered via a webinar in February 2017 that resulted in the recommendation to conduct a standard-setting study to determine the appropriate minimum scaled scores for all four sections (i.e., writing, speaking, listening, reading) of the TOEFL iBT.

Ms. McCoy presented a summary of the May 12-13, 2017 standard setting-setting meeting, including a description of the committee members, an overview of the process, and the outcome of the study. SBEC members were briefed on the committee composition, which included 16 individuals representing various educational entities, program areas, and regions of the state, including several members who were non-native English speakers and several members who had taken the TOEFL iBT. Additional detail regarding the overview and structure of the standard setting process was shared, including training, small group discussions, whole panel discussions, and two rounds of independent judgments to determine an average raw cut score, which was converted to the recommended scaled score

equivalent for each section of the test. Ms. McCoy added that the separate test sections are not scaled against each other because each section assesses different language abilities. The committee strongly agreed or agreed that the process used was effective and unanimous in reporting that they were very comfortable with the panel's recommendations overall and for each section of the TOEFL iBT. A chart from the TOEFL iBT website showing the performance level designations for each test section was referenced and included to show how the panel recommendations corresponded to the ETS designations. Ms. McCoy reported that TEA staff supports the recommendations of the committee because the decisions for each section of the test were based on the language skills required by Texas classroom teachers, the standard-setting process was thorough, and panelists represented the diversity of Texas. The recommendations of the committee are shown below.

#### Recommendations of Standard-Setting Committee

Test Section	Number of tasks/items	Raw score points available	Raw cut score	Scaled cut score (0-30)
Writing	2	10	6.59	21
Speaking	6	24	18.63	24
Listening	34	34	28.13	25
Reading	39	45	36.64	25

Dr. Cavazos directed questions to Ms. Cook about how TOEFL related to visiting international teacher (VIT) candidates and candidates from other countries. Ms. Cook provided guidance on how TOEFL requirements impact VIT candidates and out-of-country (OOC) certified educators. She explained that OOC certified educators are required to meet the TOEFL requirement before they may be issued a one-year certificate and that they must pass the TOEFL and the required content and pedagogy tests before being issued a standard certificate. Ms. Cook further explained that VIT candidates are assessed by Region 13 Education Service Center to ensure that candidates have the English language skills needed to be accepted in the VIT cohort, and that those who wanted to pursue standard certification would take TOEFL during either the first, second, or third year of the eligibility period of the VIT certificate to be able to qualify for a standard certificate. She also explained that candidates who received their degrees from out-of-country universities where English was not the primary language of instruction who are not already certified educators must also meet the TOEFL requirements before they are even allowed to enroll in an educator preparation program.

Dr. Cavazos thanked the agency and the committee members for their work in the standard-setting process. Dr. Cavazos expressed concern that the current rule allowed some candidates to be exempt from the TOEFL requirement if they had graduated from an out-of-country institution of higher education that could simply provide a letter verifying that the primary language of instruction was English. Ms. Cook confirmed that if English was the primary language of instruction at a university outside of the United States, then currently those candidates would be exempt from the TOEFL requirement. She also stated that the rule could be amended and that we would take guidance from the Board on those changes.

Dr. Cavazos expressed support of the work of the committee and elaborated on how requiring minimum scores on all four sections of the TOEFL iBT, and not just speaking section, was a big step. He recommended that the Board consider setting the minimum scaled scores required for reading and listening at 22 and accepted the standard-setting committee's recommendations for writing at 21 and speaking at 24 as a way to roll out the new standards responsibly. Dr. Cavazos suggested that the SBEC could re-evaluate the minimum scores in the future to ensure that the scores were appropriate.

Mr. Leal sought clarification from Dr. Cavazos regarding why he was recommending lowering the listening and reading scores from 25, as recommended by the standard-setting committee, to 22. Dr. Cavazos clarified by stating that the score of 22 for listening and reading was still within the "High" ETS performance level designation but on the lower end of the 22-30 range specified by ETS and supported by his research on TOEFL requirements of Texas universities. Mr. Leal asked why the committee didn't just go with the 22 as shown on ETS chart and what the various ETS designations meant. Ms. McCoy explained that the ETS designations were not defined nor shared with the committee because they were not relevant to the committee's standard-setting process. She added that the minimum score recommendations of the standard-setting committee were based on the skill level defined by the committee that Texas teachers must possess. Ms. Perez further explained the process the committee used to define the English language skills educators needed and the scores needed to demonstrate those skills and that the process and definitions were not related to the designations shown on the ETS chart because the committee used raw scores and not scaled scores in the standard-setting process.

Mr. Leal commented that if out-of-country candidates considered themselves to be English proficient because they graduated from a foreign university where English was the primary language of instruction, then why would they have a problem with taking the TOEFL to demonstrate that English proficiency. Ms. Cook addressed how demonstrating English language proficiency had changed across the years and that past rules had allowed other options for candidates to demonstrate English proficiency but added that if the Board wanted to make TOEFL a requirement for all candidates with foreign degrees, then TEA would take that direction from the Board. Mr. Leal stated he would like to standardize requirements and not over complicate things.

Mr. Franklin sought clarification from the Board to determine if the recommendation was to require all candidates who received their degree outside of the United States to take the TOEFL. Dr. Cavazos stated he would like for the Board to consider that recommendation since currently he has heard from people expressing concern that some candidates who were not required to take the TOEFL can hardly be understood in the classroom. Dr. Cavazos asked about the verification process to substantiate that the language of instruction for an out-of-country university is determined to be primarily English. Ms. Cook stated that the rules in TAC Chapter 245 for OOC educators pointed back to what the Board was currently discussing under general requirements in Chapter 230, and that the Board could strike §230.11(b)(5)(B) and propose the change now.

Dr. Cavazos suggested proposing the change for public comment now and adjusting or adopting in August based on those public comments. Ms. Moriaty provided some legal insight related to posting the change so that the impact of the proposed rule could be known and public comments made accordingly. Mr. Leal suggested proposing the rule change now and

if needed changing it in August based on public comments. Mr. Franklin noted that the change would also impact candidates from predominately English-speaking countries such as Canada, England, and Australia who are currently not required to take the TOEFL.

Ms. Mullins stated that we cannot have teachers in the classroom teaching our students who can't understand these teachers. She expressed concern with lowering standards and letting someone slide through and practice for several years on kids in Texas without showing English proficiency. Ms. Mullins was supportive of raising the standards and the steps needed to do so.

Dr. Cavazos reassured Ms. Mullins that he was not recommending lowering standards and believed that requiring minimum scores on all four sections of the test was a way to raise standards. He did not want to create a situation where requiring passing scores on more sections of the test would result in fewer people being eligible for certification and expressed the need to have a gradual entry point.

Dr. Peebles said that he could support the score of 22 for listening and reading as recommended by Dr. Cavazos to implement the change of requiring all four sections of the TOEFL iBT gradually. He also said that understanding the procedures used by TEA or strengthening those procedures to verify that the primary language of instruction at a foreign university was English may be another way to address this issue.

Mr. Leal added that if the test were required across the board by all applicants, then there would be no discrimination. He stated that if candidates were already proficient in English, then it wouldn't be a problem to take the exam. He also said that there is ample time for public comment to help inform the Board.

Ms. Cook provided an overview of the process used by TEA staff to verify the language of instruction and clarified that English must be the primary language of instruction at the entire university or the candidate would be required to take the TOEFL. Ms. Cook also recommended that the Board consider approving the higher scores recommended by the committee so that public comments would be in relation to those higher scores. She stated that TEA staff would take guidance and direction from the Board and that the SBEC could specify in rule the procedures that TEA would be required to take in verifying that English was the primary language of instruction.

More discussion occurred about eliminating §230.11(b)(5)(B) and possibly adding it back in August pending the public comments received. Dr. Cavazos expressed concern about not having a recommendation from the agency on eliminating this provision of the rule. Ms. Cook shared that she believed that some applicants from English-speaking countries would be offended by the change. She also stated that the provision could be strengthened and welcomed the Board's guidance and direction. The SBEC attorney concurred that the Board could amend the language in §230.11(b)(5)(B). Mr. Franklin added that this is a policy decision for the Board, and either option is workable from an agency perspective. Mr. Leal spoke in favor of eliminating §230.11(b)(5)(B) and receiving public comments to consider in making a final decision in August.

Dr. Turner questioned if the provision allowed by §230.11(b)(5)(B) was really creating a problem in terms of impact on student performance or if the SBEC could possibly be creating

a problem by eliminating it. Mr. Franklin responded that there would not be a way to get at that level of student data to make that determination, and this is really a policy decision for the Board on what the requirements should be as a bar for entry into the profession.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Leal to amend §230.11(b)(5) by striking out subsection (B) in its entirety. Second was made by Ms. Mullins. Motion carried with Ms. Bridges, Dr. Cavazos, Mr. Leal, Ms. Mullins, and Ms. Brooks-Sykes voting in favor, and Mr. Coleman, Ms. McCall, and Dr. Turner voting against.*

*A second Motion was made by Dr. Cavazos to substitute for §230.11(b)(5)(C) the following: (C): verification of minimum scaled scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language internet-Based Test (TOEFL-iBT) of 24 for speaking, 22 for listening, 22 for reading, and 21 for writing. Second was made by Ms. McCall. Motion carried with Ms. Bridges, Ms. Brooks-Sykes, Dr. Cavazos, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Leal, Ms. McCall, and Dr. Turner voting in favor, and Ms. Mullins voting against.*

**10. Discussion of Educator Certification Structure Redesign Framework and Approval of Classroom Teacher Standards Advisory Committee**

Ms. Cook presented this item to the Board. Ms. Cook mentioned the supplemental materials for Item 10 to be utilized later in the discussion. Ms. Cook reminded the Board of the lengthy conversation about early childhood at the March meeting, and thanked the Board for being supportive of giving staff the opportunity to take a step back and look at the entire concept of a certificate structure redesign. Staff and stakeholders discussed everything from grade levels for certification, types of assessment, and also explored what the landscape and the future of certification and preparation and testing can look like for several years. Ms. Cook emphasized this item is a discussion in the aspect of where we are laying a path, or to use Dr. Cavazos' language where the journey begins. Ms. Cook provided a brief overview of the attachments included in the item and shared information about the staff's meeting with a stakeholder group on April 28 where several questions were posed about the certificate structure, grade levels, and assignment flexibility. Ms. Cook referred to Attachment II for a summary of that conversation and stakeholder feedback. Ms. Cook also mentioned the staff was afforded another opportunity to connect with outstanding policy fellows and gained feedback specific to the Early Childhood to Grade 3, the importance of narrowing grade bands, and the uniqueness and importance of this certification and why it is good for kids. Ms. Cook shared that legislation specific to the creation of an early childhood certificate, prekindergarten through grade three, and that is helpful so we can now move ahead with the business of developing strong standards to support preparation and certification.

Ms. Cook assured the Board there has been and continues to be a significant amount of thought related to this work, the potential impact of change, and the excitement and opportunity to do things that will positively impact certification, testing, and preparation. Ms. Cook mentioned the supplemental materials for item 10 and asked Mr. Winchester to provide an overview of the proposed committee list for the standards development process. Mr. Winchester thanked the Board for their nominations. He explained we looked for a diverse committee of practicing teachers with a demonstrated track record of success, grade level representation, content expertise, range of experience, and the freshness of becoming a

beginning teacher that always provides added insight to the process. Mr. Winchester shared his excitement about the proposed committee and the numerous tasks ahead, and explained the list of participants is large because there will be individual and group sessions to complete this important work. Mr. Winchester explained there are webinars and in-person meetings scheduled for June and July.

Ms. Cook asked for the Board’s approval of the committee. Dr. Cavazos asked if we needed flexibility with alternate slots to be filled as staff sees fit. Mr. Winchester confirmed staff’s appreciation of the Board’s support with such flexibility. Ms. McCall stated she liked the timeline and asked a question about the pedagogy and professional responsibilities (PPR) tests. Ms. Cook explained the current process for certification requires all candidates to take the PPR EC-12 and the grade-level specific content test for their area of certification. Ms. McCall also asked about possible replacement of the grades 4-8 certificate. Ms. Cook explained staff discussed current use and feasibility of the 4-8 certificate with stakeholders and assured the Board that prior to eliminating any certificate, staff would look at certificates being issued, classroom assignments and the need for those certificates, and the potential opportunities for and impact of changes to certification.

The Classroom Teacher Standards Advisory Committee presented to the SBEC:

**Grades EC – 3: Subcommittee**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>District/Organization</b>	<b>Region</b>
Alexander, Joseph	Principal	Waco ISD	12
Ashley, Allison	Teacher	Austin ISD	13
Bradshaw, Annah	Teacher	Northwest ISD	11
Brown, Amanda	Teacher	Austin ISD	13
Brown, David	Prof. of Early Childhood Education	Texas A&M University-Commerce	10
Church-Lang, Jessica	Asst. Prof. of Psychology	The University of Texas at Austin	13
Cockrum, Chelsea	Teacher	Grand Prairie ISD	10
Cogburn, Robin	Teacher	Judson	20
Cole, Shannon	Principal	Grapevine Colleyville ISD	11
Edwards, Ceri	Teacher	Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD	20
Garza, Julie	Teacher	Edinburg CISD	1
Hamman, Doug	Faculty and Administrator	Texas Tech University	18
Hill, Holly Baker	Implementation Specialist K-5 Literacy	San Antonio ISD	20
Holcomb, Tameka	Teacher	Alvin ISD	4

Name	Title	District/Organization	Region
Kofron, Kim	Senior Program Director	TX Association for the Education of Young Children	13
Miller, Sherry	Teacher	Kileen ISD	12
Montoya, Maria	Teacher	Dallas ISD	10
Oliver, Tiffanye	PK Coordinator	Hillsboro ISD	12
Reed, Beverly	Senior Manager Provider Engagements	Collaborative for Children	4
Rodriguez, Jose	Teacher	Leander ISD	13
Summerville, Cody	Teacher	Pflugerville ISD	13
Uptain, Wendy	Manager of Advocacy	The Commit Partnership	10
Valdez, Selena	Teacher	North East ISD	20
White, Monica	Teacher	San Antonio ISD	20
White, Rhoda	Superintendent	Clifton ISD	12
Woerner, Kimberly	Teacher	Medina Valley	20

**Grades 4 – 8: Subcommittee**

Name	Title	District/Organization	Region
Braswell, Marci	Principal	Ricardo ISD	2
Bujan, Shelby Ottley	Teacher	Austin ISD	13
Eggleston, Jannie	Teacher	Klein ISD	4
Garcia, Nick	Senior Managing Director	Teach for America	20
James, Julia	Teacher	Spring ISD	4,
Lofters, Andrew	Program Director	Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	13
McMahon, Lorie	Teacher	Panther Creek ISD	15
Muniz, Jacqueline	Teacher	South Texas ISD	1
Oeser, Kelvey	Partner	The New Teacher Project	13
Perez, Sarah	Teacher	San Antonio ISD	20
Phillips, Stephanie	Teacher	Frenship ISD	17

Name	Title	District/Organization	Region
Pierce, Dennis	CTE Coordinator	Klein ISD	4
Pirtle, Elizabeth	Teacher	North East ISD	20
Rodriguez-Tovar, Rodrigo	Teacher	Austin ISD	13
Segura, Jennifer Belchi	Teacher	Dallas ISD	10
Siemonsma, Alayna	Teacher	Conroe	6
Steeber, Robert	Chief of Human Capital	Grand Prairie ISD	10
Stoebe, Stephanie	Teacher	Round Rock ISD	13
Telese, James	Prof of Mathematics Education	The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	1
Vincent, Rhonda	Dir. of Educational Training	Momentous Institute	10
Wahlert, Melodie	Educational Consultant	ESC Region 11	11
Walker, Kelley Sue	Teacher	Grapevine Colleyville ISD	11

**Grades 7 – 12: Subcommittee**

Name	Title	District/Organization	Region
Alfaro, Frank	Asst. Superintendent	Alamo Heights ISD	20
Anderson, Lauren	Teacher	Bloomburg ISD	8
Burke, Angela	Teacher	Dallas ISD	10
Conlon, Jessica	Partner	The New Teacher Project	13
Cunningham, Garry	Teacher	Wichita Falls ISD	9
Dale Jensen	Teacher	Clear Creek ISD	4
Davis, Aicha	Teacher	DeSoto ISD	10
Fleenor, Elmer	Teacher	Taft ISD	2
Fraser, Chris	Senior Dean	Relay Graduate School of Education	4
Gonzales Jr., Jose	Teacher	Levlland ISD	5
Ham, Lisa	Dir of Instructional Tech	Highland Park ISD	10
Hill, Dorris	Teacher	Grand Prairie ISD	10

Name	Title	District/Organization	Region
Howard, Carrie	Teacher	Petersburg ISD	17
Hunt, Teresa	Teacher	Seymour ISD	9
Kovacic, Kelly	Sr. Dir of Educator Initiatives	The Commit Partnership	10
Macha, Sarah	Teacher	New Caney ISD	6
Maphies, Alicia	Principal	Frisco ISD	10
Mata, Magdalena	Teacher	Alamo Heights ISD	20
McMahan, Angela	Teacher	Gregory - Portland ISD	2
Nelson-Archer, Michelle	Teacher	Fort-Bend ISD	4
Skidmore, Susana Troncoso	Assoc Prof of Educational Leadership	Sam Houston State Univ.	6
Wert, Linda	Career and Tech Ed Prog Coordinator	Klein ISD	4
West, Sandra	Assoc. Professor of Biology	Texas State University	13
White, Ashley	Campus Instructional Coach	Grapevine Colleyville ISD	11

### **Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Coleman to approve the Classroom Teacher Standards Advisory Committee. Second was made by Ms. Brooks-Sykes, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

### **11. Consider and Take Action on Clinical Teaching Exception Request**

Dr. Miller presented this item to provide the Board with an opportunity to approve a clinical teaching exception request from the University of Texas at Austin's UTeach Natural Sciences program.

Public comment was provided by:

Dr. Jan Marshall, UTeach

Dr. Larry Abraham, UTeach

The Board did not have any questions for the speakers. Dr. Miller mentioned that staff had reviewed the application and was recommending the Board approve the request with conditions. The conditions were related to the program outcomes that the Board would review each year and the methods the program would use to compare itself to other programs to ensure a quality program. Dr. Miller mentioned that these outcomes and methods would be used with other programs that apply for requests. Dr. Miller also mentioned that the deadline for any additional requests for the 2017-2018 school year is June 14. The Board did not have any questions for Dr. Miller.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Dr. Cavazos to approve the recommendation for the clinical teaching exception request with conditions as presented. Second was made by Ms. Bridges, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

*Ms. Brooks-Sykes was not present for vote.*

**DISCIPLINARY CASES****12. Pending or Contemplated Litigation, including Disciplinary Cases****A. Defaults****No Answer Defaults**

1. In the Matter of Sara Barnes; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
2. In the Matter of Radhika Bhavani; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
3. In the Matter of Amanda Bledsoe; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
4. In the Matter of Joseph Ransom Gauthier; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
5. In the Matter of Kingslea Christine Hale; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
6. In the Matter of David Joseph Hoeksema; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension

7. In the Matter of Jerome Key; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
8. In the Matter of Pauline Miles; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
9. In the Matter of Jeremy Miller; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
10. In the Matter of Wade Nakura; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
11. In the Matter of Stephanie Phillips; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
12. In the Matter of Zachary Truette; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
13. In the Matter of Charles Vanderbilt; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
14. In the Matter of Cody Wallace; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension
16. In the Matter of Alberto Ocegueda; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation

17. In the Matter of Stephen Pinkney; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation
18. In the Matter of Megan Shed; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation
19. In the Matter of Dejon E. Taylor; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation
20. In the Matter of Lindsey L. Thomas; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation
21. In the Matter of David G. Winbush; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation
22. In the Matter of Elizabeth Zinn; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation
23. In the Matter of Jesse Camargo; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation
24. In the Matter of David Covarrubias; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation
25. In the Matter of Jonathan Flores; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation

26. In the Matter of Gregory Moser; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation
27. In the Matter of Margaret C. Torres; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation
28. In the Matter of Scott Christopher Abell; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Revocation
29. In the Matter of Richard Thomas Ringgold, Jr.; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation
30. In the Matter of Christine De Hoyos; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Revocation
31. In the Matter of Billie Jo Freeman; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Revocation
32. In the Matter of Jacob Light; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: 4 year suspension
33. In the Matter of Sherketha Shamoine Love; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Revocation
34. In the Matter of Tressa Blue Marusak; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment  
Staff recommendation: Revocation
35. In the Matter of Tracy Lynn Russell; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment

- Staff recommendation: 5 year suspension
36. In the Matter of Bonnie Vandekop; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: 2 year suspension
37. In the Matter of Julia Allen; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation
38. In the Matter of Mary Ayers; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: Revocation
39. In the Matter of Crystal Ann Loera; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: Revocation
40. In the Matter of Donnie Ashton; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension and proof of successful completion of substance abuse treatment program
41. In the Matter of Tony K. Bowser; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: Revocation
42. In the Matter of David Glasgow; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: 4 year suspension and proof of successful completion of substance abuse treatment program
43. In the Matter of Elijah Alejandro Martinez; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation

44. In the Matter of Gloria Esther Mendez; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: Revocation
45. In the Matter of Kenneth Ogden; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: 1 year suspension and proof of successful completion of substance abuse treatment program
46. In the Matter of Elizabeth Ponce; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: Revocation
47. In the Matter of Gabriel Medellin Garcia; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: 5 year suspension and proof of successful completion of substance abuse treatment program

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Leal to approve staff's request for Issuance of Default Judgments and enter Final Orders consistent with staff's recommendation for each of the above numbered cases 1-48, excluding cases 15 and 48. Second was made by Dr. Cavazos, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion*

**The following defaults were considered individually:**

15. In the Matter of Karl Arthur Avila; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment
- Staff recommendation: Permanent Revocation

**Motion and vote:**

*Dr. Cavazos recused himself from voting on this case.*

*Motion was made by Mr. Leal to approve staff's request for Issuance of Default Judgment and enter a Final Order consistent with staff's recommendation for the above numbered case 15. Second was made by Mr. Coleman, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

48. In the Matter of Brittany Gonzalez; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment

Staff recommendation: Revocation

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. McCall to approve staff's request for Issuance of Default Judgment and enter a Final Order of Permanent Revocation for the above numbered case 48. Motion dies for lack of a second.*

*Motion was made by Mr. Leal to approve staff's request for Issuance of Default Judgment and enter a Final Order consistent with staff's recommendation in the above numbered case 48. Second was made by Ms. Mullins, and the Board voted in favor of the motion with Ms. Bridges, Ms. Brooks-Sykes, Dr. Cavazos, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Leal, Ms. Mullins, and Dr. Turner voting in favor, and Ms. McCall voting against.*

**SOAH Defaults**

1. In the Matter of Sylvia Dorothy Reid; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment

Staff recommendation: Revocation

2. In the Matter of Roxsane Diane Sarsour; Action to be taken: Consideration of Issuance of Default Judgment

Staff recommendation: 2 year suspension

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Bridges to approve staff's request for Issuance of SOAH Default Judgment and enter Final Orders consistent with staff's recommendation for the above numbered cases 1-2. Second was made by Ms. McCall, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

**B. Contested Cases**

Proposals for Decision

1. Docket No. 701164127.EC, Texas Education Agency, Educator Leadership and Quality Division v. Norma Regina Gonzalez (A.K.A. Gina Oaxaca); Action to be taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

ALJ Recommendation: 3 year probated suspension

Staff Recommendation: 3 year suspension

Ms. Remish represented the Texas Education Agency. Tony Conners represented Respondent, Norma Regina Gonzalez (A.K.A. Gina Oaxaca).

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Coleman to accept the Proposal for Decision and Issue a Final Order consistent with the ALJ's recommendation. Second was made by Ms. Bridges, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

2. Docket No. 701171437.EC, Texas Education Agency, Educator Leadership and Quality Division v. Marie F. Flowers; Action to be taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

ALJ Recommendation: Appeal should be granted and Certificate issued.

Staff Recommendation: Appeal should be denied and Certificate should not be issued.

Ms. Moriaty represented the Texas Education Agency. Respondent, Marie Flowers, represented herself.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Leal to accept the Proposal for Decision including Findings of Fact Nos. 1 – 30, including 19a, and Conclusions of Law Nos 1 – 5 and 7 in the Proposal for Decision, and move that the Board modify the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of law as follows: Finding of Fact 31: Petitioner presently has a good moral character; Conclusion of Law 6: the Board may deny an application for certification based on satisfactory evidence that a person has engaged in conduct that demonstrates that the person lacks good moral character, demonstrates that the person is unworthy to instruct or to supervise the youth of this state, or constitutes the elements of a crime or offense relating directly to the duties and responsibilities of the education profession; Conclusion of Law 7a: Petitioner committed a crime that relates directly to the duties and responsibilities of the education profession; Conclusion of Law 8: Petitioner is unworthy to instruct or supervise the youth of this state; Conclusion of Law 9: Petitioner's application should be denied. Pursuant to §2001.58(e), the Administrative Law Judge did not properly apply Board rules. As provided in 19 Texas Administrative Code §249.5, the primary purposes the Board seeks to achieve in educator disciplinary matters are to protect the safety and welfare of Texas schoolchildren and to ensure that educators are worthy to instruct the youth of this state. Because teachers hold a unique position of public trust with almost unparalleled access to the hearts and minds of impressionable students, the conduct of an educator must be held to the highest standard. Educators are legally required to report child abuse under Texas Family Code §261.101, and must therefore be able to believe abused students and ensure that students' outcries of abuse are reported to the proper authorities immediately. An individual who has demonstrated an inability to identify sexual abuse and to believe a child's repeated outcries of abuse meets the definition of "unworthy to instruct or to supervise the youth of this state" under 19 Tex. Admin. Code §249.3(59) because she lacks the moral, mental and psychological qualities that are required of an educator. Due to the seriousness of Ms. Flowers's crimes and the fact that Ms. Flowers's crime was closely related to abuse-reporting duties and responsibilities of the education profession, Ms. Flowers's conduct renders her unworthy to instruct and unworthy of certification. Ms. Flowers application for certification is denied. Second was made by Dr. Cavazos, and the Board voted in favor of the motion with Ms. Brooks-Sykes,*

*Dr. Cavazos, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Leal, Ms. McCall, Ms. Mullins, and Dr. Turner voting in favor, and Ms. Bridges voting against.*

3. Docket No. 701171654.EC, Texas Education Agency, Educator Leadership and Quality Division v. Brandon Baxter; Action to be taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

ALJ Recommendation: No Disciplinary Action be taken

Staff Recommendation: 1 year suspension

Ms. Gokhale represented the Texas Education Agency. James Rasmussen represented Respondent, Brandon Baxter.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Coleman to accept the Proposal for Decision and Issue a Final Order consistent with the ALJ's recommendation. Second was made by Ms. Bridges, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

4. Docket No. 701171439.EC, Texas Education Agency, Educator Leadership and Quality Division v. Janaye V. Easter; Action to be taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

ALJ Recommendation: 1 year probated suspension

Staff Recommendation: 1 year suspension

Ms. Moriaty represented the Texas Education Agency. Respondent, Janaye Easter, did not appear.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. Brooks-Sykes to accept the Proposal for Decision including Findings of Fact Nos 1 – 12 and Conclusions of Law Nos. 1 – 6, and move that the Board modify Conclusion of Law No 7-set out herein: 7. Janaye Easter's educator certification should be suspended for one (1) year. Pursuant to §2001.058(e), the Board has broad discretion to set the penalty in contested cases and the recommended penalty is not sufficient to sanction Ms. Easter's conduct in this case. Ms. Easter has committed two separate violations of provisions in the Educators' Code of Ethics: she violated 19 Tex. Admin. Code §247.2(1)(F) by knowingly and falsely enrolling students in a federally funded program in order to continue receiving funding, and violated 19 Tex. Admin. Code §247.2(1)(G) by taking confidential student records off campus. Ms. Easter's multiple violations and the seriousness of the violations necessitate a one-year active suspension as the appropriate sanction. Second was made by Ms. McCall, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

5. Docket No. 701170490.EC, Texas Education Agency, Educator Leadership and Quality Division v. Alonzo Travis Miller, Jr.; Action to be taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

ALJ Recommendation: 2 year suspension

Staff Recommendation: Revocation

Mr. Crabtree represented the Texas Education Agency. Mark Robinett represented Respondent, Alonzo Miller, Jr.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Leal to accept the Proposal for Decision including Finding of Facts Nos 1 – 46 and Conclusions of Law Nos 1 – 11 and move that the Board Modify Conclusion of Law No 12 as follows: 12. Alonzo Miller’s educator certification should be permanently revoked. Pursuant to §2001.58(e), the Board has discretion to determine the penalty in educator discipline cases and the recommended penalty is not sufficient to sanction Mr. Miller’s conduct. The Administrative Law Judge found that Mr. Miller did not have good moral character and is unworthy to supervise or instruct the youth of this state because he drove students without a Texas driver’s license, took students to a Hooter’s restaurant, misrepresented his prior employment history, and made inappropriate comments to students. The Administrative Law Judge found that this behavior violated three separate sections of the Educators’ Code of Ethics: 19 Tex. Admin. Code §§247.2(1)(J), (1)(K) and (3)(I). Due to Mr. Miller’s multiple violations and the seriousness of the violations, the appropriate sanction in this case is permanent revocation.*

*Staff requested clarification from the Board for permanent revocation. Mr. Leal stated the seriousness of the explicit comments made by Respondent to children can cause permanent damage to a child.*

*Mr. Coleman made a motion to strike the word “permanent” from the original motion. Second was made by Dr. Turner.*

*Discussion was had by the Board: Ms. Brooks-Sykes stated her agreement with Mr. Leal that both the explicit comments and the long history of school reprimands and resignations suggest that Respondent should not be allowed in classroom and permanent revocation is appropriate.*

*Mr. Coleman withdrew his motion to strike the word “Permanent” and Dr. Turner withdrew her second.*

*Dr. Cavazos requested that the Board enter executive session.*

*Chair, at 2:04 PM, pursuant to §551.071, the Board entered executive session to receive advice from Legal Counsel, Nichole Bunker-Henderson.*

*At 2:27 PM, the Board reconvened in open session.*

Chairperson informs the Board that no second is needed for the motion made by Mr. Leal to permanently revoke Respondent's certification.

Mr. Coleman reasserts his motion to strike the word "Permanent." Second was made by Ms. McCall, and the Board voted against the motion with Ms. Bridges, Ms. Brooks-Sykes, Dr. Cavazos, Mr. Leal, Ms. Mullins, and Dr. Turner voting against and Ms. Druesedow, Mr. Coleman, and Ms. McCall voting in favor.

The motion was lost.

The motion to permanently revoke Respondent Alonzo Miller's certification carried with Ms. Brooks-Sykes, Dr. Cavazos, Mr. Leal, and Ms. Mullins voting in favor, and Ms. Bridges, Mr. Coleman, Ms. Druesedow, and Ms. McCall voting against.

6. Docket No. 701171759.EC, Texas Education Agency, Educator Leadership and Quality Division v. Brandon Chaison; Action to be taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

ALJ Recommendation: Application must be Permanently Denied

Staff Recommendation: Accept ALJ recommendation

Mr. Crabtree represented the Texas Education Agency. Respondent, Brandon Chaison, represented himself.

**Motion and vote:**

Motion was made by Mr. Coleman to accept the Proposal for Decision and Issue a Final Order consistent with the ALJ's recommendation. Second was made by Ms. Bridges, and the Board voted in favor of the motion with Ms. Bridges, Dr. Cavazos, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Leal, Ms. McCall, Ms. Mullins, and Dr. Turner voting in favor, and Ms. Brooks-Sykes voting against.

7. Docket No. 701172692.EC, Texas Education Agency, Educator Leadership and Quality Division v. Kevin Yancy; Action to be taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

ALJ Recommendation: Appeal should be denied and Certificate should not be issued.

Staff Recommendation: Accept ALJ Recommendation

Mr. Crabtree represented the Texas Education Agency. Respondent, Kevin Yancy, represented himself.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. McCall to accept the Proposal for Decision and Issue a Final Order consistent with the ALJ's recommendation. Second was made by Dr. Cavazos, and the Board voted in favor of the motion with Ms. Bridges, Ms. Brooks-Sykes, Dr. Cavazos, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Leal, Ms. McCall, and Ms. Mullins voting in favor, and Dr. Turner voting against.*

8. Docket No. 701171653.EC, Texas Education Agency, Educator Leadership and Quality Division v. Jeffrey Barnes; Action to be taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

ALJ Recommendation: 1 year suspension

Staff Recommendation: Accept ALJ Recommendation

Ms. Gokhale represented the Texas Education Agency. Respondent, Jeffrey Barnes, did not appear.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by was made by Ms. McCall to accept the Proposal for Decision and Issue a Final Order consistent with the ALJ's recommendation. Second was made by Dr. Cavazos and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

Dr. Cavazos exits the meeting at 3:06 PM

9. Docket No. 701170397.EC, Texas Education Agency, Educator Leadership and Quality Division v. James Russell; Action to be taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

ALJ Recommendation: No Disciplinary Action be taken

Staff Recommendation: Accept ALJ Recommendation

Mr. Ybarra represented the Texas Education Agency. Matt Bachop represented Respondent, James Russell. Parties agreed to waive their right to address the Board and proceed with a motion and vote.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Dr. Turner to accept the Proposal for Decision and Issue a Final Order consistent with the ALJ's recommendation. Second was made by Mr. Coleman and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

10. Docket No. 701170989.EC, Texas Education Agency, Educator Leadership and Quality Division v. Sylvia Binder; Action to be taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

ALJ Recommendation: No Disciplinary Action be taken

Staff Recommendation: Accept ALJ Recommendation

Mr. Crabtree represented the Texas Education Agency. Jim Darnell represented Respondent, Sylvia Binder. Parties agreed to waive their right to address the Board and proceed with a motion and vote.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Mr. Leal to accept the Proposal for Decision and Issue a Final Order consistent with the ALJ's recommendation. Second was made by Ms. Bridges and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

11. Docket No. 701164115.EC, Texas Education Agency, Educator Leadership and Quality Division v. Roel Olivarez; Action to be taken: Consideration of Proposal for Decision and Issuance of Final Order.

ALJ Recommendation: No Disciplinary Action Be Taken

Staff Recommendation: Accept ALJ Recommendation

Mr. Duncan represented the Texas Education Agency. Mark Robinett represented Respondent, Roel Olivarez. Parties agreed to waive their right to address the Board and proceed with a motion and vote.

**Motion and vote:**

*Motion was made by Ms. McCall to accept the Proposal for Decision and Issue a Final Order consistent with the ALJ's recommendation. Second was made by Ms. Bridges and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.*

**C. Court Cases**

*District Court Cases*

1. Leo Joseph Tran v. Texas Education Agency, Educator Certification and Standards Division; Cause No. D-1-GN-16-001802, In the 126<sup>th</sup> District Court of Travis County, Texas.
2. Michael Jimenez v. Texas Education Agency, Educator Certification and Standards Division; Cause No. D-1-GN-17-001964, In the 201<sup>st</sup> District Court of Travis County, Texas.

**DISCUSSION ONLY**

**13. Discussion of Principal and Teacher Surveys for Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs**

Dr. Miller presented this item to provide the Board with updates on the development of a principal and teacher surveys that more clearly describes the performance expectations for first-year and new teachers and more closely aligns with the Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System rubric.

Public comment was provided by Dr. Jan Marshall, UTeach. The Board did not have any questions for the speaker.

Dr. Miller thanked the speaker for recognizing the collaborative nature of the development of the surveys. Dr. Miller mentioned that three different stakeholder groups have been or will be involved in the process: an advisory group of educator preparation program (EPP) representatives, a stakeholder group of EPP representatives, principals of first-year teachers, and teachers with less than three years of experience, and interviews with principals of first-year teachers and teachers who had completed their first year of teaching under a standard certificate. Dr. Miller recognized the work of staff from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and the American Institutes of Research (AIR) on this project. Dr. Miller mentioned that a draft of the surveys would be presented to the Board in August with final drafts to be presented to the Board for approval in October. The surveys will be piloted in Spring 2018, the results of the surveys will be shared with stakeholders, and recommendations for performance standards will be presented to Board for discussion, proposal, and adoption. Dr. Miller referenced the timelines for survey development that were included as attachments.

Ms. McCall asked Dr. Miller how the stakeholders were identified. Dr. Miller responded that principal and teacher professional organizations were asked to nominate individuals, the EPP representatives were selected by TEA staff, and interview participants were selected by TEA and AIR staff. Mr. Leal asked if the timelines were normal for this type of work. Dr. Miller responded that the timelines were very comprehensive so that stakeholder involvement would occur throughout the process and the survey results would be valid and reliable. The amount of work that needed to be done was equivalent to the importance of the product because the results of the surveys would be used for the continuous improvement and accountability of EPPs. No other questions were asked by the Board

No action taken.

**14. Discussion of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 239, Student Services Certificates, Subchapter A, School Counselor Certificate, and Subchapter C, Educational Diagnostician Certificate**

Ms. Cook presented this item to the Board. Ms. Cook explained she began working closely with the advisory committees in February 2017 and shared both committees have been absolutely phenomenal and she considers herself the vessel to present their great work. Ms. Cook explained the biggest change to the School Counselor rules is the proposed requirement for the 48 hour master's degree in counseling, and the biggest change to the Educational Diagnostician rules is the proposed recommendation of an additional year of teaching experience total three years. Ms. Cook shared TEA staff would include a proposed implementation date for the new rules as part of the proposal item in August, and that she and Dr. Miller would work closely together to recommend an effective date to ensure candidates transition to the new rules without incident.

Jan Friese, executive director of the Texas Counseling Association. Ms. Friese expressed appreciation for the great work of the TEA staff to engage and support the stakeholders who help draft the proposed rules presented to the Board. Ms. Friese shared she believed the rules were solid and was excited about the Board's upcoming opportunity to take action on the rules. Ms. Friese stated adoption of the rules will establish consistency in preparation programs, ensure alignment with duties set forth in statute, strongly endorse a 48-hour master's degree in counseling, and ensure all counselors are well-prepared to deliver the components of the counseling program. Ms. Friese highlighted the multitude of challenges faced by students, the numerous counties designated as shortage areas for school counselors, and the current reality of some counselors being ill prepared for the array of services and duties assigned to them. Ms. Friese was concerned about the slight delay in the rulemaking schedule and had hoped the rules would be proposed in June, so strongly encouraged TEA staff and the Board to adhere to the new schedule of proposing rules in August to allow continued movement to adoption and future implementation.

Ms. McCall expressed she did not know how different the standards were and wanted to know how the current test would be impacted. Ms. Cook explained the dual use of the standards to guide educator preparation program development and to inform test framework and test item development and assured the Board that staff would keep them updated on testing changes as more information becomes available following adoption of the proposed standards. Ms. Sykes expressed thanks again to the advisory committee and TEA staff on development of these rules and also thanked Ms. Friese for her testimony. Ms. Sykes supported the 48-hour master's degree in counseling and believes it to be a reasonable minimum expectation. Ms. Drusedow asked about the 48-hour master's degree in counseling and wanted to understand the difference between the counseling coursework and completion of a preparation program leading to certification. Dr. Miller highlighted the additional coursework needed for certification. Dr. Peebles indicated a master's degree in counseling could also include a specialized area and also concurred 48 hours is not a lot of hours. He has indicated the national accrediting body has moved the degree requirement to 60 hours. Ms. Sykes indicated specifying the 48 hours needs to be in school counseling will afford educator preparation programs with guidance to ensure the coursework is focused on counseling to support strong preparation.

Public comment was provided by:  
Ms. Jan Friese, Texas Counseling Association

No action taken.

Ms. Mullins exited the meeting at 3:25 PM

#### **15. Discussion of Implementation Plan for 19 TAC Chapters 228, 229, and 230 Rule Changes**

Mr. Franklin presented this item to the Board.

No action taken.

Dr. Cavazos returned to the meeting at 3:30 PM

**16. Update on Educator Investigations and Legal Case Docket**

Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Moriaty presented this item to the Board.

No action taken.

**17. Discussion of State Board of Education and State Board for Educator Certification Roundtable Event**

Ms. Druesedow presented this item to the Board.

No action taken.

**INFORMATION ONLY****18. Legislative Update on 85<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative Session**

Information Only.

**19. Board Operating Policies and Procedures (BOPP)**

Information Only.

**20. 2015 - 2018 Rule Review Plan for State Board for Educator Certification Rules**

Information Only.

**21. Requests from Board Members for Future Agenda Items**

Information Only.

**22. Requests Received from the Board Since Last Meeting**

Ms. Pogue presented this item to the Board in a response to a request made at the March 3, 2017 SBEC meeting for the time-lines for each educator preparation program (EPP) that was assigned an action plan for the Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs (ASEP).

**23. Adjournment**

Ms. Druesedow adjourned the meeting at 4:05 PM.

**The Board may go into closed session regarding any item on the agenda to the extent it is authorized to do so pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.**