

Item 9:

COVER PAGE

Type of Agenda Board Item:

- Discussion Only:** TEA staff will present board items with an update, potential future items, and/or seek SBEC direction on potential future board action items. TEA staff will draft future action items from the board's discussion and direction.
- Board Action:** SBEC members will take action on the agenda item and the effective date will be immediately upon board approval.

Summary:

This item allows the Board to approve the SBEC advisory committee for 19 TAC Chapter 239, which covers all the student services certificates (School Counselor, School Librarian, Educational Diagnostician, Reading Specialist, and Master Teacher). TEA staff provided a discussion item to the Board in February 2016 and an update in April 2016 on the nomination form and process to begin convening the committee and meetings to consider all certification requirements for all student services certificates. Attachment II includes a detailed action plan/timeline for the committee meetings.

Statutory Authority:

All of the relevant statutes, if applicable, pertaining to this item are listed for you on the agenda title page and the entire statutory language is on Attachment I. This is always helpful in referencing the law the TEA staff was working under when preparing this item.

TEA Staff Recommendation:

To approve the membership of the advisory committee as presented.

Relevant SBEC Core Principles:

- *We believe well-prepared educators are essential.*
- *We believe high certification standards measured by rigorous and reliable assessments are essential.*
- *We believe stakeholder input is essential, and we are accountable to all Texas stakeholders.*
- *We believe educators must be held to high standards of ethical conduct.*
- *We believe we must continually improve our policies and processes in response to changing needs.*

Item 9:**Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Request to Approve Advisory Committee for 19 TAC Chapter 239, Student Services Certificates****DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

SUMMARY: This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) with an opportunity to discuss and approve the membership of an advisory committee 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 a separate item on this agenda to adopt the four-year rule review for Chapter 239. The rule review prompted a public comment period, and the results of that review will be presented to the SBEC. TEA staff anticipates convening advisory committee meetings to consider feedback from the rule review; discussing the current rules and processes related to preparation, testing, certification and renewal for School Counselor, School Librarian, Educational Diagnostician, Reading Specialist and Master Teacher certificates; and exploring recommended alternatives or changes for consideration by the SBEC.

Because the role of each profession included in Chapter 239 is critical to student success and is worthy of 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: The statutory authority for the appointment of advisory committee members is 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).

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION: This item was discussed at the February 2016 SBEC meeting, and TEA staff informed the Board they would be bringing the item back for discussion and action at a future SBEC meeting.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION: The SBEC is statutorily authorized to appoint the members of any advisory committee to the board. TEA staff requested 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 began on February 15, 2016 and ended on February 29, 2016. However, because TEA staff did not receive nominations for all five certificate areas, the nomination period was extended through March 25, 2016. TEA staff still did not receive sufficient nominations to present committee lists for Board approval at the April 15, 2016 meeting. Staff have continued their recruitment efforts to compile the list of advisory committee members that are being presented for approval by the SBEC at the June 10, 2016 meeting.

The committee members selected will provide input on issues related to the five certificate areas within Chapter 239, Student Services Certificates. TEA staff will update the Board on the progress of the committee meetings and will present potential rule changes at a future SBEC meeting. An action plan/timeline for the student services advisory committee is included in Attachment II. Because advisory committee recruitment is ongoing and will not be finalized before the agenda goes to print, TEA staff will provide the advisory committee list to the board under separate cover prior to the meeting.

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.

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

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

Approve the members of the Student Services Advisory Committee as presented.

Staff Members Responsible: Marilyn Cook, Director
Educator Certification and Testing

Tim Miller, Director
Educator Preparation and Program Accountability

Attachments: I. Statutory Citations
II. Action Plan/Timeline for Student Services Advisory Committee

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.

ATTACHMENT II**Action Plan/Timeline for Student Services Advisory Committees**

April 15, 2016	SBEC proposes Chapter 239, <u>Student Services Certificates</u>, four-year rule review
May 2016	TEA staff sends notification of Chapter 239 public comment period to all individuals that submitted advisory committee nomination forms
May 2016	TEA staff finalizes nominations and selects advisory committee members for the SBEC for approval
June 10, 2016	SBEC adopts Chapter 239, <u>Student Services Certificates</u>, four-year rule review and approves advisory committee members
June 2016	TEA staff emails initial work to advisory committee members
July 2016	TEA staff compiles feedback from advisory committee members and sends back to advisory committee members for review
August 5, 2016	TEA staff provides update on advisory committee work to the SBEC
Aug/Sept 2016	TEA staff convenes advisory committees via webinars or face-to-face meetings
September 2016	TEA staff compiles feedback from advisory committee members and sends back to advisory committee members for review and final recommendations
October 7, 2016	TEA staff presents advisory committee final report and SBEC agenda discussion item on proposed rules for Chapter 239, <u>Student Services Certificates</u>