

**Report of the State Board of Education  
Committee on School Initiatives  
Thursday, April 11, 2024**

The State Board of Education Committee on Instruction met at 9:02 a.m. on Thursday, April 11, 2024, in Room, #1-111, of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. Attendance was noted as follows:

Present: Will Hickman, chair; LJ Francis, vice chair; Rebecca Bell-Metereau; Staci Childs; and Julie Pickren

Non-committee members present: Aicha Davis; Aaron Kinsey; and Keven Ellis

**Public Testimony**

The Committee on School Initiatives heard public testimony on agenda items #10 and #11. Information regarding the individuals who presented public testimony is included in the discussion of that item.

The Committee of the Full Board considered items in the following order: Item number 1, 2, 3, 5, 4, 7, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11.

**DISCUSSION ITEM**

**1. Open-Enrollment Charter School Generation 29 Application Updates**  
(Board agenda page IV-1)

Marian Schutte, Deputy Associate Commissioner, Department of Authorizing and Policy, presented information on the Generation 29 Open-Enrollment Charter Application process including goals, timeline, summary, and submission information. Ms. Schutte answered questions regarding the application process.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**2. Adoption of Rule Review of 19 TAC Chapter 100, Charters, Subchapter A, Open-Enrollment Charter Schools, and Subchapter B, Home-Rule School District Charters**  
(Board agenda page IV-2)  
[Consent agenda item #10]

Marian Schutte, Deputy Associate Commissioner, Department of Authorizing and Policy, presented information on the rule review of 19 TAC Chapter 100, Charters, Subchapter A, Open-Enrollment Charter Schools, and Subchapter B, Home-Rule School District Charters including review process, public comment period, and filing dates. Ms. Schutte answered questions regarding the rules.

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Member Francis, seconded by Member Childs, and **carried to adopt** the rule review of 19 TAC Chapter 100, Charters, Subchapter A, Open-Enrollment Charter Schools, and Subchapter B, Home-Rule School District Charters.*

**3. Recommendation for Two Reappointments to the Randolph Field Independent School District Board of Trustees**

(Board agenda page IV-6)  
[Consent agenda item #11]

Christopher Lucas, director, policy, planning, and operations, explained that the terms of two members of the board of trustees of Randolph Field Independent School District (ISD) have expired. Brigadier General Russell Driggers has recommended the reappointment of Ms. Vanessa Bowden and Mr. Jimmy Cornelius to the Randolph Field ISD Board of Trustees

Invited testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Jimmy Cornelius  
AFFILIATION: Randolph Field Independent School District Board

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Ms. Childs, seconded by Mr. Hickman, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education, based on Brigadier General Driggers's recommendation, approve the reappointments of Ms. Vanessa Bowden and Mr. Jimmy Cornelius to serve terms of office from April 12, 2024, to April 11, 2026, on the Randolph Field Independent School District Board of Trustees.*

4. **Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter A, Board of Trustees Relationship, §61.2, Nomination of Trustees for Military Reservation School Districts and Boys Ranch Independent School District (First Reading and Filing Authorization)**  
(Board agenda page IV-19)  
[Consent agenda item #12]

Mr. Lucas introduced the item and explained that the draft rule text adds a new subsection (d) that incorporates the changes made by House Bill 4210, 88th Texas Legislature, 2023.

**MOTION:** *It was moved by Mr. Francis and seconded by Ms. Childs, to recommend that the State Board of Education approve for first reading and filing authorization proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter A, Board of Trustees Relationship, §61.2, Nomination of Trustees for Military Reservation School Districts and Boys Ranch Independent School District.*

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Mr. Francis and seconded by Mrs. Pickren to add new subsection (a) to read as follows:*

*“Commanding officer is defined as the officer who is assigned to serve physically on the installation or military reservation on which the military reservation school district is located and who provides leadership for the functional support of and contingency or emergency coordination for the military reservation school district.”*

*The motion failed.*

**VOTE:** *A vote was taken on Mr. Francis's original motion to recommend that the State Board of Education approve for first reading and filing authorization proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter A, Board of Trustees Relationship,*

*§61.2, Nomination of Trustees for Military Reservation School Districts and Boys Ranch Independent School District. The motion passed.*

**5. Approval of Revisions to Required School Safety Training for School District Trustees**  
(Board agenda page IV-24)  
[Consent agenda item #13]

John Scott, chief of school safety and security, introduced the item and explained that the Texas School Safety Center has suggested updates to the school safety training required for school district trustees and that no changes had been made to the suggested updates discussed in November 2023. Dr. Bley from the Texas School Safety Center at Texas State University–San Marcos provided an overview of the proposed updates.

Invited testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Celina Bley, Ph.D.  
AFFILIATION: Texas School Safety Center

NAME: Kathy Martinez-Prather, Ph.D.  
AFFILIATION: Texas School Safety Center

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Ms. Childs, seconded by Dr. Bell-Metereau, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education approve the revisions to the school safety training curriculum proposed by the Texas School Safety Center.*

**DISCUSSION ITEM**

**6. Discussion of Ongoing State Board for Educator Certification Activities**  
(Board agenda page IV-25)

Emily Garcia, Associate Commissioner, shared updates on current and upcoming State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) activities and proposed SBEC rules and amendments, including discussion items on 19 TAC Chapters 227, 231, and 230B.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**7. Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 157, Hearings and Appeals, Subchapter D, Independent Hearing Examiners, §157.41, Certification Criteria for Independent Hearing Examiners**  
**(Second Reading and Final Adoption)**  
(Board agenda page IV-27)  
[Official agenda item #8]

Christopher Maska, director of hearings and appeals, legal services, explained to the committee that the proposed amendments would reduce the length of time an attorney must be licensed and engaged in a full-time practice to be eligible to serve as an independent hearing examiner and expand the experience requirements to include family law, criminal law, and personal injury law.

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Mr. Francis, seconded by Ms. Childs, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education approve for second reading and final*

19 TAC Chapter 157, Hearings and Appeals, Subchapter D, Independent Hearing Examiners, §157.41, Certification Criteria for Independent Hearing Examiners.

8. **Review of Adoption of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 233, Categories of Classroom Teaching Certificates**

(Board agenda page IV-33)

[Official agenda item #9]

Marilyn Cook, Director of Educator Preparation and Certification, explained that the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 233, Categories of Classroom Teaching Certificates will add six new certificates into SBEC's listing of classroom teaching certificates.

There was no public testimony on this item.

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Mr. Francis, seconded by Ms. Bell-Metereau, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education take no action on the Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 233, Categories of Classroom Teaching Certificates.*

9. **Review of Adoption of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 239, Student Services Certificates, Subchapter A, School Counselor Certificate, §239.20, Requirements for Issuance of the Standard School Counselor Certificate**

(Board agenda page IV-38)

[Official agenda item #10]

Marilyn Cook, Director of Educator Preparation and Certification, explained that the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 239, Student Services Certificates, Subchapter A, School Counselor Certificate, §239.20, Requirements for Issuance of the Standard School Counselor Certificate would satisfy the legislative mandate to remove the two-year teaching requirement from the requirement for school counselor certification.

There was no public testimony on this item.

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Mr. Francis, seconded by Ms. Bell-Metereau, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education take no action on the Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 239, Student Services Certificates, Subchapter A, School Counselor Certificate, §239.20, Requirements for Issuance of the Standard School Counselor Certificate. Ms. Childs was not present for this vote.*

10. **Review of Adoption of Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 230, Professional Educator Preparation and Certification, Subchapter A, General Provisions, Subchapter C, Assessment of Educators, Subchapter D, Types and Classes of Certificates Issued, and Subchapter G, Certificate Issuance Procedures**

(Board agenda page IV-43)

[Official agenda item #11]

Invited testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Jean Streepey  
AFFILIATION: State Board for Educator Certification

NAME: Scott Muri

AFFILIATION: State Board for Educator Certification

NAME: Stacy Edmonson

AFFILIATION: Sam Houston State University

Public testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Joshua Jones

AFFILIATION: Tarleton State University

NAME: Chris Sloan

AFFILIATION: Tarleton State University

NAME: Kelsey Kling

AFFILIATION: Texas Coalition for Educator Preparation

NAME: Ryan Franklin

AFFILIATION: Educate Texas

Emily Garcia, Associate Commissioner of Educator Preparation, Certification and Enforcement, presented this item and explained the changes that the Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 230, Professional Educator Preparation and Certification, Subchapter A, General Provisions, Subchapter C, Assessment of Educators, Subchapter D, Types and Classes of Certificates Issued, and Subchapter G, Certificate Issuance Procedures would enact.

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Mr. Francis, seconded by Ms. Bell-Metereau to recommend that the State Board of Education veto the Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 230, Professional Educator Preparation and Certification, Subchapter A, General Provisions, Subchapter C, Assessment of Educators, Subchapter D, Types and Classes of Certificates Issued, and Subchapter G, Certificate Issuance Procedures. Chair Hickman abstained from voting. Ms. Childs and Ms. Pickren voted in opposition and the motion failed, 2-2.*

*It was moved by Mr. Francis, seconded by Ms. Childs to recommend that the State Board of Education take no action on the Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 230, Professional Educator Preparation and Certification, Subchapter A, General Provisions, Subchapter C, Assessment of Educators, Subchapter D, Types and Classes of Certificates Issued, and Subchapter G, Certificate Issuance Procedures. Ms. Childs, Ms. Pickren, Ms. Bell-Metereau, and Chair Hickman voted in favor and Mr. Francis voted against; the motion passed, 4-1.*

## **11. Review of Adoption of Proposed Repeal of and New 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs**

(Board agenda page IV-85)

[Official agenda item #12]

Invited testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Jean Streepey

AFFILIATION: State Board for Educator Certification

NAME: Scott Muri

AFFILIATION: State Board for Educator Certification

NAME: Stacy Edmonson

AFFILIATION: Sam Houston State University

Public testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Chris Sloan

AFFILIATION: Tarleton State University

NAME: Joshua Jones

AFFILIATION: Tarleton State University

NAME: Jonathan Feinstein

AFFILIATION: EdTrust in Texas

NAME: Michael Marder

AFFILIATION: UTeach, University of Texas at Austin

NAME: Katherine Hokanson

AFFILIATION: Austin Community College

NAME: Mark Boshier

AFFILIATION: Career and Technical Association of Texas

NAME: Shea Culpepper

AFFILIATION: Individual

NAME: Michele Henry

AFFILIATION: Texas Music Educators Association

NAME: Ryan Franklin

AFFILIATION: Educate Texas

NAME: Ray Pieniazek

AFFILIATION: Individual

NAME: Jacob Kirksey

AFFILIATION: Individual

Emily Garcia, Associate Commissioner of Educator Preparation, Certification and Enforcement, presented this item and explained the details of the Proposed Repeal of and New 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs.

***MOTION AND VOTE:*** *It was moved by Mr. Francis, seconded by Ms. Childs, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education take no action on the Proposed Repeal of and New 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs.*

**MOTION AND VOTE:**

The meeting of the Committee on School Initiatives adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

CSI – 4/11/2024