Montana Office of Public Instruction

Education Advocates
Item 7 Licensing Updates

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January 2022
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Educator Licensure System Status Update

- Contract and State of Work (SOW) executed end of December 2021

- Paper applications operationalized **January 01, 2022**

- Project planning activities until **mid-January 2022**

- Internal project team kick-off with vendor to establish next steps including timelines, priority task, identify risk and rules of engagement – **January 10, 2022**

- Formal project kick-off with vendor (RANDA Solutions), OPI project team and committee members Thursday **January 20th 2022**

- Technical and business documentation (current system) provided to vendor **January 14, 2022** for analysis

- Copy of database to be provided for RANDA Solution data migration activities by **January 21, 2022**

- Working sessions for business requirements analysis to commence **January 24, 2022**

- Further definition and update to project plan by **January 21st 2022**

- On target to meet delivery for implementation of full system **June 01, 2022**
Educator Licensure System Key Dates & High-level Contract Terms

System Implementation Deployment Phase will Transition into Maintenance & Support after Launch Date

Tentative Award, Contract Execution and Pre-Planning Efforts

We Are Here

Analysis, Design and Configuration & Testing for System Implementation

Deployment, Maintenance and Support Services lead by RANDA Solutions

Implementation Activities Requiring OPI Involvement
1. Contract Finalization
2. Kick-Off Meeting
3. Requirements Phase (for subject matter expertise input)
4. Confirming System Configuration
5. Testing (User Acceptance Testing) and Training
6. Post-production Review and Approval

RANDA Contract Obligations
RANDA Solutions shall provide system implementation activities and deliverables related to a successful system implementation of an educator licensure system per the Montana OPI requirements and as agreed by the Statement of Work. The current contract requires a full-implementation of the system (June 1, 2022) with one full calendar year of maintenance

Contract High-level Details for System Implementation (1.5 Years)
- Deploy a full educator licensure system – June 1, 2022
- Maintenance and Support – May 26th, 2022 – June 30th, 2023
Vendor – RANDA Solutions

- Private corporation founded in 2003 by Marty Reed in Franklin Tennessee
- Created the first Teacher Student Data Link (TSDL) system in the marketplace
- One of the first pioneers in education technology
- Leading software solutions providers for State Educational Agencies
- Modern industry standard platform and technology
- Impact to over 15 millions students and over 20 million teacher licensing and credential records
- Uses NASDTEC Reporting

Clients Include

- Tennessee Department of Education – 2016
- State of Colorado: Online Licensing System (COOL) – 2021
- Kentucky Department of Education – 2021 Award for Educator Certificate System
- South Carolina Department of Education – 2018

- Implemented similar educator credential management systems for state-wide educational entities
- Industry best technologist and subject matter experts for educator licensure systems and operational process
- Developed a six-tier AI (Artificial Intelligence) data analysis and alignment tool for State Standards, Course Codes, and Credentials
- Created foundational blockchain architecture for credential publishing
- Contributor for standards development in IMGS Global, IEEE, DIF and ILR
- 560 thousand teacher licenses submitted and processed in 2 years
Immediate Impacts of Modernization

- Automated workflow, processes, and configuration managed at the OPI administrator level
- Data & metric driven reports in an agile environment to ensure the best options are presented for business decisions
- Enterprise architectural approach to ensure scalability for integration of current & future data/system needs
- Deliverable and milestone focused aligned to educator & stakeholder needs & department strategic direction
Current Status in Licensure

COMMUNICATION
- Educator Licensure FAQ on webpage.
- Specialists on phones to address individual questions.

PROCESS
- Paper applications and renewals are coming in without a problem.

LICENSURE UNIT
- Working diligently to get existing open and new paper applications closed and issued.
- Will start training on the new system.

TO COME
- Data transfer
- Webpage revamp
- Tutorials/webinars for educators
### Chapter 57 Rule Review Timeline

- Board of Public Education Approved Adoption Timeline for Chapter 57

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board of Public Education approves revised timeline</td>
<td>November 17-19, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Superintendent final recommendations due to BPE</td>
<td>December 29, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposed notice to BPE for authorization to publish including Public Hearing date</td>
<td>January 13, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposed notice to SOS (Secretary of State) for notice in MAR</td>
<td>January 18, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAR publication out</td>
<td>January 28, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hearing date</td>
<td>After February 17, 2022</td>
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<td>Final Public Input Deadline</td>
<td>April 8, 2022</td>
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<td>Adoption notice including summary of comments to BPE for approval</td>
<td>May 13, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final rule changes to SOS for notice in MAR</td>
<td>May 17, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAR publication out</td>
<td>May 27, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Effective Date of Rules</td>
<td>May 27, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Effectiv Date of Rules</td>
<td>February 24, 2022</td>
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