

Chapter 57 Research and Review Task Force Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 9, 2021

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Meeting start time: 1:00 pm

Roll Call

Task Force Members

Angela McLean
Dan Schmidt
Diane Fladmo
Erica Allen
Heather Jarrett
John Melick
Jule Walker
McCall Flynn
Mike Perry
Nick Schumacher
Sharon Carroll
Shaun Scott
Sue Corrigan
Valerie Fowler

Facilitators

Crystal Andrews
Jacob Williams
Erich Stiefvater

OPI Representation

Julie Murgel

Attendees

Dan Karalus
Emily Dean

Executive Support

Virginia Díaz

Quorum is met <12+

Welcome and Review Norms and Expectations

ARM Subchapter Discussion and Feedback

1. Purpose of Chapter 57 is to assist educators in obtaining/applying for a license, keeping and renewing their license, and advancing their license.
2. Wrap up Subchapter 1
 - a. Reviewed document with proposed markups reviewed by OPI Legal: [10.57.100 Revisions.CA](#)
 - i. Discussion by Sharon Carroll and McCall Flynn regarding 10.57.102(b).
 1. Julie Murgel provided clarification that language change proposed by OPI is to clarify definition of an EPP.
 2. Further discussion by Sharon Carroll and McCall Flynn about proposed revision, including if Superintendent would want authority to review out-of-state EPPs.
 3. Possibility that language is covered elsewhere (e.g., 10.57.109).
 4. Dan Schmidt re-shared example from his district.
 5. Agreed “that is” wording is good, but that additional change may not be needed as it is not a definition and might fit better elsewhere and should probably be taken out.
 - ii. Discussion by Jule Walker and Angela McLean regarding 10.57.102(c)(8) regarding adjustments to endorsements, namely the addition of “content-

specific” will bring limitations, specifically to Montana rural schools who are looking for and needing flexibility.

1. Crystal Andrews noted proposed changes relate previous meetings regarding grade-level and content-specific endorsements for out-of-state applicants.
2. Further discussion by Jule Walker if change is necessary for middle grades 4-8 endorsement (adding “content-specific”), especially if it would cause challenges for rural schools.
 - a. Julie Murgel agreed proposed wording might be limiting; perhaps more flexible to leave off “content-specific.
 - b. Shaun Scott endorsed making wording flexible. Jule Walker reminded Task Force of local control and need for nimbleness. Sharon Carroll expressed concern that schools should not assign teachers to classes they didn’t train for. Erica Allen and Dan Schmidt shared examples related to experiences in small rural schools.
 - c. Agreed to take out “content-specific” language from 4-8 endorsement.
3. Crystal Andrews briefly reviewed proposed changes to 10.57.102(11)(g) definitions to include Higher Learning Commission as an accrediting body and clarifying definition of “exchange teachers” at 10.57.102(15). No objections from Task Force members to either.
4. Crystal Andrews reviewed proposed 10.57.107(2) (Limits on Emergency Authorizations).
 - a. Discussion from Angela McLean about limiting emergency authorizations as long as authorized teachers have a pathway.
 - b. Jule Walker agreed partially with Angela McLean but added some concerns for rural districts and that proposed language limiting authorizations to 3 years violates statute. (Jule Walker to share that location with TF)
 - c. John Melick supportive of three-year rule but acknowledged that some are using it to help districts help kids and are not interested in a teaching career.
 - d. Crystal will take language back to OPI Legal and will share update next week.
5. Crystal Andrews reviewed proposed changes to 10.57.107(4) (emergency authorizations for special education positions).
 - a. Jule Walker proposed alternative wording: *“Emergency authorization of employment for special education teachers is prohibited under federal regulations and is unavailable to a district for such positions.”*
6. Crystal Andrews reviewed proposed changes to 10.57.109 (Unusual Cases).
 - a. Comes from Board of Public Ed.

- b. Sharon Carroll endorsed changes.
 - c. McCall Flynn noted this change helps the Board act and follow through on unusual cases that come from the Superintendent.
 - d. Task Force voted on proposed change. No objections; vote passes.**
- 3. Subchapter 6
 - a. Reviewed document with draft markups compiled by Crystal Andrews: [10.57.600 Revisions.CA](#)
 - b. Presented and discussed subchapters.
 - i. 10.57.601(A)
 - 1. Came from OPI Legal. Change related to dangerous drugs and marijuana.
 - a. Question from John Melick about retroactive applicability of the change (e.g., teacher with a past conviction). Crystal Andrews noted this is unclear and will follow up with OPI Legal for any clarity.
 - ii. 10.57.601(B)
 - 1. Came from Sharon Carroll. Clarifies “Board” refers to Board of Public Education.
 - iii. 10.57.607
 - 1. Came from BPOE. Regards written notice of appeal.
 - c. Crystal will take documents with markups back to OPI legal for formal review.
 - d. Sharon Carroll flagged 10.57.601(2) as a potential concern.
 - i. Discussion of who is and is not a “credible source” and if/how boards of trustees, county superintendents, and other administrators should be involved.
 - ii. Discussed potential markups to 10.57.601(2) to include school district boards of trustees, school administrators, and county superintendents and to strike “any other credible source.”
 - e. Crystal Andrews will take proposed changes to OPI Legal for review.

Data Talk

1. Reviewed data added by Julie Murgel to the Google Site for the Task Force: [PRAXIS and Teacher Quality](#)
2. Data touches on Emergency Authorizations, Praxis, recruitment and retention, and processing of licensing.
3. Jacob Williams provided research from Comp Center on Praxis and teacher quality. Summarized that evidence is mixed as to whether Praxis correlates to teacher quality. It is stronger in the STEM fields. Generally, GPA and number of courses in content area are more likely to correlate to effective teaching.

Timeline and Next Steps

1. Reviewed timeline.
 - a. Task Force will meet on September 16 (change from original schedule)
 - b. Next week will discuss Subchapters 4 and time permitting Subchapters 2 and 3.
2. Homework for Task Force members for 9/16 meeting:

- a. Review [Subchapter 4](#) (and [chart](#)).
- b. Take time to view the data that is posted on the Google Site: [Praxis Data](#), [Recruitment and Retention Data](#), [Licensure Process Data](#)

Meeting Adjourned: 2:30 pm