

Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item



Agenda Item: A

Date: November 19, 2015

Title	Final Review of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure's Recommendation to Grant Approval to Add New Education (Endorsement) Programs at Bluefield College, Emory and Henry College, James Madison University, Mary Baldwin College, and Virginia Wesleyan College		
Presenter	Mrs. Patty S. Pitts, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure		
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Purpose of Presentation:

Action required by Board of Education regulation.

Previous Review or Action:

Previous review and action. Specify date and action taken below:

October 22, 2015: First Review

Action Requested:

Final review: Action requested at this meeting.

Alignment with Board of Education Goals: Please indicate (X) all that apply:

	Goal 1: Accountability for Student Learning
	Goal 2: Rigorous Standards to Promote College and Career Readiness
	Goal 3: Expanded Opportunities to Learn
	Goal 4: Nurturing Young Learners
X	Goal 5: Highly Qualified and Effective Educators
	Goal 6: Sound Policies for Student Success
	Goal 7: Safe and Secure Schools
	Other Priority or Initiative. Specify:

Background Information and Statutory Authority:

Goal 5: The *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8VAC20-542-10 et seq.), effective September 21, 2007, amended January 19, 2011, set forth the requirements for the accreditation and approval of programs preparing teachers, administrators, and other instructional personnel requiring licensure. These regulations establish policies and standards for the preparation of instructional personnel, further ensuring educational quality for Virginia public school students. Colleges and universities that offer programs for the preparation of professional school personnel must obtain education program (endorsement) approval from the Board of Education. Requests to offer new education endorsement programs are submitted to the Department of Education. Personnel in the Division of Teacher Education and Licensure and program specialists within the Department of Education review the programs to ensure competencies and other requirements have been

addressed. The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure reviews and makes recommendations to the Board of Education on approval of Virginia education programs for school personnel. Final authority for program approval rests with the Board of Education. Requests for new program endorsements approved by the Board of Education will receive a rating of *Approved*; *Approved with Stipulations*; or *Approval Denied*.

The *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia*, in part, stipulate the following:

8VAC20-542-20. Administering the regulations.

...D. Institutions of higher education seeking approval of an education program shall be accredited by a regional accrediting agency....

H. Education programs shall be approved under these regulations biennially based on compliance with the criteria described in 8VAC20-542-40....

8VAC20-542-40. Standards for biennial approval of education programs.

Approved education programs in Virginia shall have national accreditation or be accredited by a process approved by the Board of Education and demonstrate achievement biennially of the following accountability measures:

1. Candidate progress and performance on prescribed Board of Education licensure assessments. Candidate passing rates, reported by percentages, shall not fall below 70 percent biennially for individuals completing and exiting the program. Achievement of an 80 percent biennial passing rate shall be required by July 1, 2010. Candidates completing a program shall have successfully completed all coursework, required assessments, including those prescribed by the Board of Education, and supervised student teaching or internship. Candidates exiting a program shall have successfully completed all coursework, regardless of whether the individuals attempted, passed, or failed required assessments, including those prescribed by the Board of Education, and/or who may not have completed supervised student teaching or required internship.
2. Candidate progress and performance on an assessment of basic skills as prescribed by the Board of Education for individuals seeking entry into an approved education preparation program....
3. Structured and integrated field experiences to include student teaching requirements....
4. Evidence of opportunities for candidates to participate in diverse school settings that provide experiences with populations that include racial, economic, linguistic, and ethnic diversity throughout the program experiences....
5. Evidence of contributions to PreK-12 student achievement by candidates completing the program....
6. Evidence of employer job satisfaction with candidates completing the program....

7. Partnerships and collaborations based on PreK-12 school needs....

Summary of Important Issues:

Bluefield College, Emory and Henry College, James Madison University, Mary Baldwin College, and Virginia Wesleyan College have submitted requests to add new endorsement programs in the areas noted on the following chart:

Institution	Endorsement Program Requested	Level of Program
Bluefield College	• Theater Arts PreK-12	Graduate
	• Theatre Arts PreK-12	Undergraduate
	• Biology	Graduate
Emory and Henry College	• Business and Information Technology	Graduate
	• English	Graduate
	• Foreign Language: French PreK-12	Graduate
	• Foreign Language: Spanish PreK-12	Graduate
	• Health and Physical Education PreK-12	Graduate
	• History and Social Sciences	Undergraduate
	• History and Social Sciences	Graduate*
	• Mathematics	Graduate
	• Music Education: Instrumental/Vocal PreK-12	Graduate
	• Elementary Education PreK-3	Graduate
	• Elementary Education PreK-6	Graduate
James Madison University	• Special Education-Adapted Curriculum PreK-12	Graduate
Mary Baldwin College	• Reading Specialist	Graduate
	• English as a Second Language PreK-12	Graduate
Virginia Wesleyan College	• Foreign Language: Latin PreK-12	Undergraduate

***The Emory and Henry College History and Social Sciences graduate program was reviewed and was determined to meet the program (endorsement) requirements. However, inadvertently, the program was not included on the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure’s September 2015 list of requested programs for review. The Advisory Board review of this program was scheduled on November 16, 2015, and the recommendations for approval of new programs will be presented to the Board of Education on November 19, 2015.**

Program endorsement competencies, based on the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8VAC20-542-10 et seq.), have been verified through the review of course descriptions and syllabi to determine alignment with each of the competencies required, including supervised classroom instruction. A review of the *Request for New Endorsement Program* application submitted by each institution evidenced written documentation of school division demand data, as well as institutional and school division support for the requested programs.

Section 8VAC20-542-40 of the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* requires institutions seeking education program approval to establish partnerships and collaborations based on PreK-12 school needs. Each institution has provided written documentation of their intent to partner with various school divisions. The institutions of higher education will submit a biennial report for the education programs for the period of September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2017.

Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure's Recommendation

On September 21, 2015, the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure approved a recommendation to grant approval to add new education (endorsement) programs at Bluefield College, Emory and Henry College, James Madison University, Mary Baldwin College, and Virginia Wesleyan College, including the accountability measurement of partnerships and collaborations based on PreK-12 school needs for each of the programs. The Emory and Henry College graduate History and Social Sciences program was scheduled for review by the Advisory Board on November 16, 2015.

Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

There is minimum impact on resources.

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

Institutions of higher education officials will be notified of the Board of Education action and approval of programs will be posted on the Department of Education's Web site.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education approve the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure's recommendation to grant approval to add new education (endorsement) programs at Bluefield College, Emory and Henry College, James Madison University, Mary Baldwin College, and Virginia Wesleyan College.

Rationale:

The majority of the requested programs are in critical teacher shortage areas. The education (endorsement) programs have been reviewed to ensure that they met the requirements set forth in the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia*, and the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure reviewed the requests and recommended approval.