



Minnesota Board of Teaching

2015 Legislative Priorities

The Board of Teaching has provided leadership in initial and ongoing teacher education over the course of the last 40 years, by establishing and maintaining licensure standards and requirements, approving institutions, alternative providers and licensure programs to prepare highly effective educators, and by establishing and enforcing the Code of Ethics for Minnesota teachers.

Investing in Teacher Effectiveness

- Increase Board of Teaching funding to provide maintenance of existing statutory responsibilities and continued leadership for the profession
- Create student loan forgiveness programs to encourage teaching in geographically remote areas of the state and to diversify the teacher workforce
- Address shortages through increased access to training opportunities while maintaining high standards for granting a full time standard Minnesota teaching license
- Maintain ongoing collaboration with border states and enter into licensure agreements that promote the mobility of licensed teachers.

Policy Making that Supports Professional Growth

- Support the use of college entrance exams as a measure of basic skills to reduce the financial burden of standardized testing (ACT, SAT, GRE) on teacher candidates.
- Improve teacher retention and effectiveness through the creation of state funded induction and mentoring programs
- Implement policies for teacher licensure renewal that recognize educators for pursuing targeted professional development that enhances their instructional skills and content knowledge including National Board Certification.

Ensuring Access to Educational Opportunities

- Recruit and retain more teachers of color to reflect the demographics of our changing student population.
- Support the development of mentoring programs to retain teachers of color in MN schools.
- Encourage the creation of new pathways for education support professionals to become licensed teachers.
- Reduce caseloads and paperwork for educators who work with students with special needs so they can give those students the extra attention they need.

Maintaining Safe Learning Environments for Students

Addition of language to MN §122A.20, subdivision 1 (b) allowing the Board of Teaching to revoke a teacher's license to teach without the right to a hearing upon receiving a certified copy of a conviction showing that the teacher has been convicted of:

- Sex trafficking in the first degree
- Engaging in hiring, or agreeing to hire minor to engage in prostitution
- Solicitation of children to engage in sexual conduct; communication of sexually explicit materials to children
- Interference with privacy (minor victim)
- Stalking (minor victim)
- Any violation which requires registration as an offender under section 243.166, subdivision 1b, paragraph (a) or (b)”

For more information, contact:

Erin Doan, Executive Director: Erin.Doan@state.mn.us
651-582-8819 or 651-246-3098

John Bellingham, Chairman: John.Bellingham@state.mn.us

*The current authority and responsibilities of the Board of Teaching are delineated primarily in Minnesota Statutes §122A.05 – §122A.09, §122A.18, §122A.20, §122A.23, §214, and Minnesota Rules, Chapters 8700, 8705 and 8710.