

Minnesota Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

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MACTE Minute

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As we move toward the end of the rulemaking efforts for the Standards of Effective Practice, MACTE would like to take a moment to thank the rulemaking committee, PELSB Staff, and especially Michelle Vaught for the careful consideration you have given to the feedback that has been sent to you on the many drafts of these standards. I, personally, have been involved in several workgroups that came together to review and give input on the drafts, and I was very satisfied with the care and attention that the PELSB team took in considering our suggested changes and adopting many of them. The thoughtful way that you are reviewing feedback from stakeholders is important and will improve the final product.

One of the work groups that I participated on along with twenty other stakeholders from various community organizations, including many MACTE institutions, was the recent workgroup led by Kathlene Campbell, Dean of Education at St Thomas. This group's goal was to make suggestions for increasing a focus on anti-racism in the new Standards of Effective Practice. Again, we would like to thank Michelle Vaught, and Alex, and the subcommittee and the Increase Teachers of Color and Indigenous Teachers committee for the careful consideration of the suggestions that came from this work group. MACTE would like to encourage PELSB to be bold as you move forward with this rule making effort. We would like to encourage you to adopt the workgroup's recommendations. We believe these are suggestions that will change the way teachers are prepared in this state, and this will lead to more teachers in our schools who are able to meet the needs of children from underrepresented groups.

An explicit focus on anti-racism, anti-bias, and justice in the standards is what this moment in history calls for. Many of our member organizations are already doing effective work in these areas, but standards that more explicitly name the knowledge and skills teachers need in order to support the learning of children from all cultural backgrounds will provide an opportunity for increased learning for all preparation programs in the state, no matter where they are now. Implementing these standards will push us all to improve.

So, be bold as you complete the work on these standards. Push us, the teacher preparation profession, to be bold as well. Do all that you can do to give every child in this state the teachers they deserve, and we will do this work with you.

Sincerely,

Cari Maguire
President