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## MACTE April 2022 Newsletter

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# April 2022 Newsletter

Welcome to MACTE's newsletter. This monthly newsletter will be a hub for a variety of updates from the Minnesota state chapter, updates from The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE), and from the MACTE Executive Council on the state of teacher preparation in the state of Minnesota.

## MACTE Updates

### Legislative Update and [Calls for Action](#)

The 2022 Legislative session is approaching the finish line and MACTE has been monitoring a number of proposed bills and testifying in support of our [Legislative Priorities](#).

We are closely watching the disparate House and Senate K-12 education omnibus bills. The Senate bill ([SF 4113](#)) is especially concerning to us. Its sole focus is on literacy and LETRS professional development. Of greatest concern to us in the bill: "Beginning February 1, 2026, require teacher candidates to receive instruction using the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling program." While we are supportive of and believe in the value of LETRS training for teachers, we cannot support requiring this training for our teacher candidates. There are three main reasons we do not support this legislation: 1) it is not appropriate for the context and developmental stage of a

pre-service teacher; 2) the financial burden for the teacher candidate; and 3) the risk in naming a specific program from a company directly in legislation.

**Call to Action #1: Please contact your legislators regarding the Senate omnibus bill and requiring LETRS training for teacher candidates.** Here is [a letter template](#) you could use that outlines MACTE's concerns about the LETRS legislation. You could also email the chairs of the education committees: [Senator Chamberlain](#), [Representative Richardson](#), and [Representative Davnie](#).

The House omnibus bill ([HF 4300](#)) includes a range of provisions, including many we have supported from the Increase Teachers of Color Act 2022. For a comprehensive summary of the bill and the video of its passage on the House floor, [see this article in the House Daily](#). The House bill was transmitted from the House to the Senate on 4/27/22. It will then go through a process in the Rules and Administration committee for comparison with the Senate bill.

The Senate Higher Education omnibus bill does not include the specific ITCA provisions we testified in support of that would have provided grants and scholarships for teacher candidates of color. The House version does include this funding. We will pay attention to the work of the conference committee to see if they can come to an agreement.

**Call to Action #2: The Coalition to Increase Teachers of Color and American Indian Teachers needs our support.** In an email sent earlier this week, they provided a list of legislators and email templates for people to send out regarding the Increase Teachers of Color Act. Here is the list of key legislators in order of priority:

- [Email Sen. Chamberlain](#), Chair, Senate Education Committee
- [Email Sen. Rarick](#), Vice Chair, Senate Higher Education Committee
- [Email Sen. Miller](#), Senate Majority Leader
- [Email Rep. Hortman](#), Speaker of the House
- [Email Rep. Davnie](#), Chair, House Education Finance Committee
- [Email Rep. Richardson](#), Chair, House Education Policy Committee
- [Email Rep. Bernardy](#), Chair, House Higher Education Committee

## Spring MACTE Meeting Recap

MACTE's [spring meeting](#) occurred at the Crowne Plaza Plymouth on April 7 and 8. It was great to see so many of our MACTE colleagues in person for the first time in over two years! We are grateful that Dr. Beatriz DeSantiago was able to fill in as keynote speaker on short notice, delivering an important message about anti-bias education.

The conference gave members of newly established role-alike and special interest groups a chance to meet face-to-face for the first time. We hope to continue to grow participation in these groups next year. If you have an idea for a special interest group, please reach out to Cari Maguire ([mactepres@gmail.com](mailto:mactepres@gmail.com)) to discuss adding the group to next year's meetings.

## **Save the Date - Fall Meeting & Collaboration**

MACTE's fall conference will be held in person on October 27-28, 2022 at the Crowne Plaza in Plymouth. The MACTE Executive Committee (MEC) is considering the future format of MACTE convenings. We received a lot of positive feedback about the virtual conferences and the ability of more MACTE members to participate, and MEC is considering keeping at least some of our quarterly conferences online permanently. Please send any input you have about the format of future meetings to Krista Overby ([mactecommunication@gmail.com](mailto:mactecommunication@gmail.com)). Winter and spring convening dates and format will be announced after MEC's summer retreat.

## **MACTE President-Elect and New Executive Committee Members Chosen**

Darrell Stolle, Professor and Chair of the Department of Education at Concordia College, Moorhead, has been elected by the Private Caucus to serve as MACTE's next president. Darrell will serve for one year on the executive committee as president-elect before moving into the president role next spring.

At MACTE's spring conference, new MEC members were elected from each MACTE caucus. Larry Bryant, assistant professor at Metro State's School of Urban Education, was elected to represent the Minnesota State Caucus. Marcela Kostihova, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Hamline University, was elected to represent the Private Caucus. Stacy Ernst, Director of the Office of Teacher Education at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities was elected to a second term on MEC from the University of Minnesota Caucus.

Sonya Vierstraete (MN State Caucus) and Athena Novack (Private Caucus) are finishing their MEC terms, though Athena has agreed to stay on as treasurer and will be an ex officio member of the executive committee. MEC members serve for two years. Thank you to all for your willingness to commit your time and energy to MACTE!

We will also be saying good-bye to Rhonda Bonnstetter who is completing her year as past-president this spring. Thanks to Rhonda for her many years of dedicated service to MACTE!

## New Unit Rule Implementation Updates

MACTE has worked throughout the past year with PELSB to support units and clarify processes around the implementation of New Unit Rule, which go into effect on July 1. One aspect of New Rule that will be very impactful for MACTE institutions is the Pathway 4 option for teacher educator qualifications. MACTE has provided six volunteers, two from each caucus, to serve on a PELSB workgroup to help give input on difficult Pathway 4 decisions. Representatives of alternate preparation providers are also participating in the workgroup. The workgroup had its first meeting last month, focusing its conversation around the group's purpose and additional information needed from EPPs to review Pathway 4 applicants.

Remember that PELSB has provided guidance for new rule implementation in an [FAQ document](#). Questions can still be [submitted to PELSB](#) for inclusion in this document, as PELSB staff are making regular updates.

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## PELSB Updates

### Title II Update: IPRC Submission Delayed

The submission of the Institution and Program Report Card (IPRC) has been delayed. The Title II help desk provided details in an email to EPP Title II representatives about how to access the new site and submit it before the new Thursday, June 30 deadline. Please make sure the contact information for receiving Title II updates is correct and monitor your email for additional communication from Title II.

### Data Summary Report Updates

It was great to have so many of you join us for the April 14 information session. Providers may find the slides for the information session [here](#). Notes were taken regarding some additional data that providers would like to have included next year.

Follow-up from yesterday's session are below

#### ***When can a candidate count as "newly enrolled?"***

A candidate must be admitted into the education unit and begin program requirements.

***For questions 2 and 3 on the Microsoft Form, do candidates have to be admitted and enrolled in the education unit for their GPA to be counted?***

Yes, find the average GPA of candidates who were newly enrolled into the education unit in the 2020-2021 academic year, including candidates who may have been admitted prior to September 1, 2020.

***How can we submit?***

You may submit your Excel spreadsheet to [datasummary.pelsb@state.mn.us](mailto:datasummary.pelsb@state.mn.us) or if you prefer, you may mail or bring a flash drive with your data to the PELSB office with a note "ATTN: Tyra Nelson Reck."

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

All new and revised answers are highlighted in the [updated FAQs](#) (also available on the PELSB website on the Teacher Preparation Manual page). For your convenience, questions have been consolidated and will be incorporated into the [Teacher Preparation Manual](#) at a later date.

Please continue to submit questions about R4576 to our [R4576 Unit and Program Rule Question Box](#).

## **How to support candidates with restricted licenses Asked Questions**

If there is a candidate who wishes to expand the scope or content of an existing license (remove a restriction), providers may evaluate the candidate's previous coursework and experiences against their approved program to determine the requirements. Providers may require evaluated field experiences aligned to the restriction, but PELSB does not require an 80 hour practicum, as it would be the candidate seeking a license expansion, not an additional license.

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