



December 2022 Newsletter

Welcome to the MACTE Newsletter for the 2022-2023 academic year! This newsletter is sent once a month during the academic year to update the MACTE community about collaborative work, MACTE events, and information and opportunities relevant to teacher preparation in Minnesota.

MACTE Updates

Register Today - Virtual Winter Meeting on February 10

MACTE has moved to its new conference format, with the fall conference occurring in person and the winter and spring conference held virtually. Our [winter conference](#) will be held over Zoom on February 10, 2023. The day will combine the business meeting and professional development sessions. The theme of mental health in teacher preparation will continue. MACTE is currently seeking [proposals](#) for engaging presentations from teacher educators that address this theme. The conference planning committee will review and approve presenter applications. Both practical and researched-based presentations are encouraged.

Legislative Update

The Minnesota legislative session starts on January 3, 2023. The Minnesota state budget operates on a two-year cycle covering two fiscal years. The legislature will be grappling with the required budgetary decisions and the historic \$17.6 billion budget surplus. Our MACTE legislative priorities include the following three categories ([see the detailed list of priorities here](#)):

1. Maintain high quality standards for teacher preparation and support legislative initiatives that accurately reflect the research base around teaching methodologies.
2. Increase the diversity of Minnesota's teaching force through strategies to recruit, support, prepare, and retain teachers of color [this focus area will be aligned to the work of the Coalition and the ITCA 2023 legislation that is in the works].
3. Support safe and nurturing learning environments for students and teachers.

The Coalition to Increase Teachers of Color and American Indian Teachers has released details on the Increase Teachers of Color Act (ITCA) for the 2023 session. The 2023 ITCA includes policies from previous versions (2021 and 2022), but with significantly larger investments. [Read an overview of the bill here](#). MACTE is in full support of ITCA.

At its December 9th meeting, the board did not feel prepared to vote on the priorities the legislative committee had been discussing this fall. They decided to hold a special meeting on December 16th to discuss and vote on the priorities.

At the December 16th special meeting, the following decisions were made by PELSB:

- They agreed upon four focus areas for the upcoming legislative session: residency programs, heritage language licensure pathways, operational excellence, and removing barriers to licensure. [Details on their proposals may be viewed here](#).
- They agreed to include the removal of the Tier 2 to Tier 3 licensure pathway as a legislative priority, with a fiscal note added to the draft bill to fund support for teachers to meet standards to move from Tier 2 to Tier 3.

- The board did not approve the [Tier 1 Special Education proposal](#). Instead, they decided that PESLB staff should send an informational memo to districts about the OSEP memo that outlines the licensure requirements for Special Education teachers.

MACTE Advocacy

At PELSB's December 9th meeting, MACTE provided public comment on two important issues. Kyena Cornelius (MEC member, Minnesota State Mankato) read a statement regarding Minnesota's non-compliance with the Office of Special Education (OSEP) rules ([read the October 2022 memo sent to all states on 10/4/22](#)) regarding licensure of Special Education teachers. [You can read the Special Education statement here.](#) Cari Maguire (MACTE president, U of MN Twin Cities) read a statement regarding closure of the Tier 2 to Tier 3 licensure loophole. [You can read the Tier 2 to Tier 3 statement here.](#)

Prior to the 12/16 meeting, a group of MACTE Special Education faculty met and organized a list of potential solutions to the Special Education teacher licensure problem. [The attached memo was sent to the board](#), but no action was taken by the board. MACTE will continue to advocate for changes in tiered licensure for special education teachers. Our next step will be to talk directly with members of the K-12 education policy committees at the legislature about the OSEP memo, our concerns about the licensure issues, and potential solutions.

Finally, we are working to advocate for expanded and broad support of all of our teacher candidates across the state to receive cost of living stipends during student teaching. MDE is drafting legislation and we will have an update likely in the next newsletter.

If you are interested in engaging in any of the above areas with the legislature and haven't already reached out to our legislative liaison, Laura Mogelson. Please email her at mactelegislativeiaison@gmail.com.

AACTE Updates

2023-24 Holmes Council Call for Nominations is Now Open

AACTE and Holmes Scholars Council are pleased to announce the call for nominations to serve on the 2023-2024 Holmes Council. Both current Holmes Program doctoral and master's students are eligible and encouraged to run for office. The Council partners with AACTE and serves as a student voice to communicate the needs and experiences of scholars and enhance the Holmes programming. [Read more.](#)

New Data: AACTE Finds College and University-Based Alternative Teacher Preparation Programs More Effectively Address Educator Shortage than Alternative Programs Outside of Higher Ed

AACTE (American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education) released a new analysis focusing on alternative preparation programs run by institutions of higher education (IHE-based alternative programs). The study shows that IHE-based alternative teacher preparation programs are bringing more educators to the strained workforce than alternative programs run by organizations other than colleges and universities.

“This new analysis confirms that colleges and universities serve a critical role in preparing qualified future educators for the profession,” says AACTE President and CEO Lynn M. Gangone, Ed.D. “These IHE-based alternative-based programs are doing the critical work of addressing the teacher shortage by providing those who have already earned a bachelor’s degree with a streamlined path to becoming fully licensed teachers.” [Read more.](#)

PELSB Updates

Standards of Effective Practice Approved

On December 16, 2022, the PELSB board voted to approve the changes recommended by the Chief Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) to the proposed SEPs. Please see Administrative Law Judge Mortenson's report from December 2, 2022 for more details. Accepted standards include all of the proposed rules with the exception of proposed Standard of Effective Practice 4(F), 5(H), and 7(D). Please contact Michelle Hersh Vaught with any questions.

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