



704 South Sixth Street
Champaign, IL 61820
Ph: 217.333.9625
fax: 217-244-3949
<http://www.p20council.illinois.gov>

May 31, 2012

Greetings:

On April 25th, the P-20 Council was given the charge by ISBE to form a steering committee to help examine the issues around the new educator licensure structure per the requirements of P.A. 097-0607 (SB 1799). At that meeting, it was determined that a steering committee of educational stakeholders from around the state would explore the issues that surround the licensure restructuring and program redesign to guide the development of educator preparation program standards and program components. These meetings will be public meetings, and meeting dates will be posted on the P-20 Council website.

However, due to external deadlines, a separate meeting will be held with key education stakeholders representing children ages birth to grade 12 to discuss the issues around grade span configuration (see attached request from Dr. Chris Koch). At this meeting, all stakeholders' perspectives will be voiced and taken into consideration. At the beginning of the meeting, there will be a one hour public comment period when education stakeholders will be given a chance to provide their perspectives on the grade span configuration issue to the meeting stakeholders. For those who wish to provide comment, there will be a sign up sheet at the room entrance, and it will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Time allotted per comment depends on the number of presenters who sign up and we encourage organizations to coordinate public comments among its members.

This meeting should culminate into recommendations for ISBE to consider and we hope that ISBE will have the information needed from this discussion as well as recommendations from other groups that it has convened (EMAG, ECAG, etc.) to help make a final determination of the grade span configuration.

The details of the meeting follow:

Date: Friday, June 8, 2012

Location, Illinois State Board of Education, Springfield, Illinois

Room: Boardroom

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Public comment period will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. with the meeting of stakeholders beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Sincerely,

Erika Hunt and Audrey Soglin

Co-Chairs of P-20 Council Teacher and Leadership Effectiveness Committee



Illinois State Board of Education

100 North First Street • Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001
www.isbe.net

Gery J. Chico
Chairman

Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

May 31, 2012

Mr. Miguel del Valle, Chairman
Illinois P-20 Council
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
704 South Sixth Street
Champaign, Illinois 61820

Dear Chairman del Valle:

At the April 25th P-20 Council meeting, Deputy Superintendent Darren Reisberg, on behalf of the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), called upon the P-20 Council to form a steering committee to help examine the issues around the new educator licensure structure per the requirements of P.A. 097-0607 (SB 1799), which was passed into law last year. I commend the P-20 Council for their willingness to convene a group of stakeholders that can provide recommendations to ISBE about components for implementing a new educator licensure structure (e.g., selection processes, partnerships, clinical experiences, etc.). This group will also cover the potential challenges that will be faced by universities and the field by implementing the redesigned licensure structure with potential strategies to overcome these challenges. The input that will be provided by the steering committee will be most helpful.

However, due to external deadlines related to Race to the Top initiatives, the grade span configuration for the new licensure structure must be examined immediately. Therefore, I recommend that a separate meeting be held with key education stakeholders representing children ages birth to grade 12 to discuss the issues around grade span configuration and the challenges for implementing potential configurations. At this meeting, all stakeholders' perspectives will be voiced and taken into consideration and the meeting should culminate into recommendations for ISBE to consider. We hope that ISBE will have the information needed from this discussion as well as recommendations from other groups that it has convened (EMAG, ECAG, etc.) to help make a final determination of the grade span configuration.

I appreciate the P-20 Council's continued commitment to improving Illinois' education system for our children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Koch". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education