

Item 24:

Discussion of Effective Preparation Framework Development

DISCUSSION

SUMMARY: This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) with an opportunity to discuss the Board's vision for educator preparation program (EPP) quality and an update on the process to develop an Effective Preparation Framework.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: The statutory authority for educator preparation program quality is the Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.031.

FUTURE ACTION EXPECTED: Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff anticipates presenting an update on the process for building a framework for quality Texas educator preparation programs, the Effective Preparation Framework, at the July 2022 SBEC meeting.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION: At the July and October 2021 SBEC meetings, the SBEC provided input to TEA staff regarding policy and process options to develop a framework that identifies the quality components of educator preparation programs. The SBEC directed TEA staff to begin the process of developing an Effective Preparation Framework and engage a diverse set of stakeholders in the development processes. TEA staff will update the SBEC on the development of the Effective Preparation Framework. This will include providing an update on the framework development process, stakeholder engagement, and timeline.

Purpose and Rationale for an Effective Preparation Framework:

At the July 2021 SBEC meeting, TEA staff shared that in recent SBEC policy decisions, as well as discussions with the SBEC Commendations Committee and the Educator Preparation Advisory Committee (EPAC), there has been a heightened interest in continuing to pursue policy options for recognizing high-quality educator preparation and supporting EPP continuous improvement.

In discussions around the development of an Effective Preparation Framework to address these considerations, members of the Board reinforced the value of developing a framework that distinguishes effective preparation practices that result in improved outcomes for school children, future educators, local school districts, and EPPs. The development of the framework would codify the "what, when, where, and how" of effective educator preparation in alignment with the SBEC's mission and purpose.

During the July and October 2021 discussions, members of the SBEC provided TEA staff with feedback and guidance on the following:

- The importance of including a diverse set of stakeholders in the development and feedback processes and ensuring that those stakeholders have the necessary expertise in educator preparation program best practices

- The importance of ensuring that the framework allows programs multiple pathways to quality, take into account local context, and is applicable to both traditional and alternative certification programs
- The role the framework could serve in fostering stronger collaboration between local education agencies (LEAs) and EPPs and providing insight for LEAs into program quality
- The value for the SBEC and the field at large in leveraging the framework for both recognition of high performing programs and support for program continuous improvement
- The value for EPPs in moving from a focus on compliance to continuous improvement

TEA staff have integrated this feedback and guidance into stakeholder engagement planning and communication and will revisit the guidance when bringing forward potential implementation plans for the SBEC's consideration.

Effective Preparation Framework Purpose:

The process for developing an Effective Preparation Framework allows the SBEC to partner with EPPs and the educational community to establish a clear and common vision for educator preparation best practices that result in strong candidate and student outcomes. Based on the rich experiences of Texas EPPs, the needs and knowledge of LEA stakeholders, and knowledge in the larger field of educator preparation, this framework would provide an aspirational bar for educator preparation quality and a route to get there. Finally, the Effective Preparation Framework would capture the most foundational practices that are essential for all 124 Texas EPPs, across program types and contexts.

In practice, the Effective Preparation Framework would serve three proposed functions: build a common language for EPP best practices, foster EPP continuous improvement efforts, and support alignment among the SBEC, EPPs, LEAs, and TEA on the foundations of quality educator preparation. A summary of the proposed purposes and what they could mean for Texas EPPs can be found in Attachment II.

Effective Preparation Framework Development and Stakeholder Discussions to Date

Based upon SBEC member feedback, TEA staff has updated the draft EPF Development Timeline and Stakeholder Engagement Plan, which can be found in Attachment III. In accordance with this plan, TEA staff have continued the process of engaging with external stakeholders to develop draft components of quality Texas educator preparation programs for the SBEC's discussion and consideration.

Update on EPAC Discussions Regarding Quality Components of EPPs:

The EPAC, the SBEC's only standing advisory committee, has engaged in ongoing discussion on the quality components of educator preparation programs. At the May 2021 EPAC meeting, the members of the EPAC began to build a shared vision for high-quality educator preparation, collectively sharing their organization's and/or their top three characteristics that exemplify high-quality educator preparation. TEA staff subsequently organized these characteristics into components, and, at the August 2021 meeting, the committee reviewed the components and provided additional input and specificity. These draft components were shared with the SBEC at the October 2021 meeting.

TEA staff has asked members of the EPAC to bring these draft components to their professional organizations and colleagues in order to provide additional specificity and input. Members of the EPAC will bring this input back to the full committee in April for further review, discussion, and refinement. TEA staff plan to share an update on this work at the April 2022 SBEC meeting. The full membership of the EPAC can be found in Attachment IV.

Update on Educate Texas's Teacher Preparation Regulatory Committee

As an outcome of the Chapter 228 four-year rule review (regarding EPP program requirements), Educate Texas, a non-profit educational organization that has supported the SBEC on previous stakeholder engagement and policy development processes, organized a Teacher Preparation Regulatory Committee to provide structured feedback to the SBEC on opportunities for clarification, streamlining, and/or improvement within the rules that govern Texas educator preparation programs. The committee is comprised of individuals from educator preparation programs, including both institutions of higher education and alternative certification programs, local education agency (LEA) staff at the district, campus and classroom level, and education non-profit organizations. In addition, the committee is comprised of individuals representing urban, suburban and rural Texas, as well as small and large school districts. The full membership of the committee can be found in Attachment V.

With the SBEC's guidance to develop an Effective Preparation Framework, the Teacher Preparation Regulatory Committee expanded its goals to also include the development of a shared vision for effective educator preparation and the codification of quality educator preparation practices in Curriculum, Training and Support, and Assessment. The committee plans to share these recommendations with TEA staff and the SBEC for consideration in development of the framework.

The committee held four meetings between August and November 2021 to develop draft Effective Preparation Framework components and associated policy recommendations. TEA staff actively communicated with Educate Texas about the plan for these committee meetings and attended each meeting to ensure consistent, timely updates to the Board.

Proposed Next Steps:

TEA staff will continue to conduct stakeholder engagement to develop the key components of the Effective Preparation Framework as outlined in the draft EPF Development Plan in Attachment III. Throughout this stakeholder engagement process, TEA staff will provide comprehensive updates and draft framework language to the SBEC for the Board's discussion and feedback.

PUBLIC AND STUDENT BENEFIT: The public and student benefit anticipated as a result of the recommendations would be more rigorous, relevant, and reliable preparation of educators for entry into the profession, and retention of these qualified professionals for years to come.

Staff Members Responsible:

Jessica McLoughlin, Director, Educator Standards, Testing, and Preparation
Dr. Pam Wetherington, Director, Educator Preparation

Attachments:

- I. Statutory Citations Relating to the SBEC's Purpose Regarding Educator Preparation Program Quality
- II. Summary of the Effective Preparation Framework Proposed Functions
- III. Draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan Related to Effective Preparation Framework Development
- IV. EPAC Membership
- V. Educate Texas's Texas Teacher Preparation Regulatory Committee Membership

ATTACHMENT I

Statutory Citations Relating to the State Board for Educator Certification's Purpose Regarding Educator Preparation Program Quality

Texas Education Code, §21.031, Purpose:

- (a) The State Board for Educator Certification is established to recognize public school educators as professionals and to grant educators the authority to govern the standards of their profession. The board shall regulate and oversee all aspects of the certification, continuing education, and standards of conduct of public school educators.
- (b) In proposing rules under this subchapter, the board shall ensure that all candidates for certification or renewal of certification demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to improve the performance of the diverse student population of this state.

ATTACHMENT II

Summary of the Effective Preparation Framework’s Proposed Functions

Function	Description	What this could mean for Texas EPPs
Common Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would build a common language among the SBEC, TEA, EPPs, candidates and Texas LEAs around the best practices EPPs engage in daily. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All EPPs would share a clear, aspirational vision for educator preparation best practice. The framework could foster collaboration and continuous improvement practices within and across EPPs, grounded in common language. The framework would build a foundation for Texas EPP-LEA partnerships.
Continuous Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would support EPP continuous improvement through an aligned continuing approval review process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The components of the Effective Preparation Framework would be codified in Ch. 228 of SBEC rule. The SBEC could recognize and celebrate EPP innovation and best practices in alignment with the framework. All EPPs are required to engage in a continuing approval review every five years. An updated continuing approval review process could be aligned with the framework and provide meaningful feedback on EPP quality, in addition to ensuring compliance. A framework-aligned continuing approval review could yield prioritized focus areas to inform EPP continuous improvement.
Alignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would provide the foundation for alignment of statewide resources and supports to the needs of Texas EPPs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TEA could provide and connect programs with meaningful training, resources, and supports in alignment with the framework. External EPP technical assistance providers and organizations could align their resources and supports with the framework.

ATTACHMENT III**Draft EPF Development Timeline and Stakeholder Engagement Plan**

Month	Development Action
January 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPAC Meeting: Discuss plan to solicit feedback on draft EPF components from professional organizations represented in EPAC
February 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SBEC Meeting: EPF Update Discussion Item • EPAC Members solicit feedback on EPF components
March 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPAC Members solicit feedback on EPF components
April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPAC Meeting: Review professional organization feedback and recommend next steps • Draft EPF ready for review
May 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional and EPP Commendation Feedback Sessions
June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional and EPP Commendation Feedback Sessions • Professional Organization Feedback Sessions
July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional and EPP Commendation Feedback Sessions • Professional Organization Feedback Sessions • EPAC Meeting: Share feedback session findings and recommend edits to EPF, discuss recommended updates to Ch. 228 based on EPF draft • SBEC Meeting: EPF Update Discussion Item
August 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second draft of EPF ready for statewide survey • Launch statewide EPF survey
September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide EPF survey
October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSOTTE EPF and Ch. 228 Deep Dive • Statewide EPF survey
November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPAC Meeting: Discuss proposed updates to Ch. 228 based on EPF draft • Final draft of EPF ready for SBEC review based on statewide survey findings
December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SBEC Meeting: Ch. 228 Discussion Item to implement EPF

ATTACHMENT IV**Educator Preparation Advisory Committee Membership**

Name	Title	ISD / EPP	Organization
Gina Anderson	Associate Dean for Educator Preparation & Partnerships	Texas Women's University	Associate and Assistant Deans and Directors of Texas (ADot)
Rebecca Burton	Professor of Education	Collin College	Texas Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs (TACCTEP)
Melinda Barnett	Founder, Executive Director	N/A	Texas Consortium of Educator Preparation Programs for ESCs (TCEPPE)
Lesley Casarez	Coordinator of MS in Prof. School Counseling	Angelo State University	Texas School Counseling Association (TSCA)
Andrea Chevalier	Lobbyist	N/A	Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE)
Nika Davis	Principal, Boswell High School	Eagle Mountain Saginaw ISD	Texas Association of Secondary School Principals (TASSP)
Heather Doyle	Director of Accreditation, Certification & Assessment	Texas Christian University	Texas Coordinators for Teacher Certification Testing (TCTCT)
Holly Eaton	Director of Professional Development and Advocacy	N/A	Texas Classroom Teachers Association (TCTA)
Carrie Griffith	Policy & Governmental Relations Specialist	N/A	Texas State Teachers Association (TSTA)
Cheryl Hoover	HR Consultant	N/A	Texas Association of School Boards (TASB)
Lisa Huffman	Dean, College of Professional Education	Texas Woman's University	The Texas Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (TACTE)
Kevin Malonson	Texas Executive Director	Teach Plus	N/A
Casey McCreary	Associate Executive Director, Education Policy	N/A	Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA)
Patty Quinzi	Legislative Counsel	N/A	Texas American Federation of Teachers (Texas AFT)

Alfred Rodriguez	Assistant Superintendent Human Capital	Elgin ISD	Texas Association of School Personnel Administrators (TASPA)
Susan Sharp	Teacher Certification Testing	Howard Payne University	The Texas Association of Certification Officers (TACO)
Tim Sutton	Executive Director	N/A	Consortium of State Organizations for Texas Teacher Education (CSOTTE), Texas Directors of Field Experiences (TDFE)
Cynthia Savage	Associate Dean/Associate Professor	Texas Christian University	Education Deans of Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas (EDICUT)
Calvin Stocker	Senior Director of Operations & Strategic Initiatives	Texas Tech University (US PREP National Center)	N/A
Mark Terry	Deputy Executive Director	N/A	Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association (TEPSA)
Elizabeth Ward	Associate Professor and Director of Field Experience and course instructor	Texas Wesleyan University	Texas Association of Teacher Educators (TxATE)
Donna Brasher	Associate Director of Student Services	Texas Tech University	N/A
Veronica Galvan	Director of Curriculum and Instruction	Excellence in Teaching (EIT)	N/A
Rebecca Hampton	Senior Education Specialist	Region 4 ESC	N/A
Kristina Sterling	Lead Clinical Faculty	Johns Hopkins University / Urban Teachers	N/A
Zach Rozell	Program Director	iteachTEXAS	N/A
Ivory Bennett	English Teacher and Cheer Coach	Dallas ISD	N/A
Cristina Ann Correa	Art Teacher	IDEA Public Schools	N/A
Hjamil Martinez-Vazquez	Bilingual Teacher	Crowley ISD	N/A
Dominique McCain	Managing Director, Best in Class Coalition	N/A	Commit Partnership – Non-profit professional organization
Meredith-Leigh Pleasants	Manager, Talent and School Support	N/A	Good Reason Houston – Non-profit professional organization

ATTACHMENT V**Educate Texas's Texas Teacher Preparation Regulatory Committee Membership**

Last Name	First Name	Role	Organization
Bailey	Woodrow	Chief of Human Capital Management	Midland ISD
Barberee-Taylor	Sheri	Executive Director of Human Resources	Tyler ISD
Beal	Sarah	Executive Director	US PREP National Center
Collazo	Sheila	Associate Superintendent of Instructional Services	Somerset ISD
Crowe	Ed	Chief Executive Officer	TPI-US
Dehaas	Rob	Vice Provost, School of Education	Dallas College
Diaz	Amber Lynn	Assistant Professor & Department Head	Tarleton State University
Douglas Rowland	Anne	Director	Region 4 Education Service Center
Eiben	Suzanne	Assistant Superintendent	Palestine ISD
Etri	Christina	7th & 8th Grade- AVID Coordinator and Stem Teacher	Richardson ISD
Fransham	Amanda	Program Associate	Meadows Foundation
Hailemariam	Helen	Executive Director	Relay GSE
Hamman	Doug	Chair, Teacher Education	Texas Tech University
Hill-Jackson	Valerie	Assistant Dean	Texas A&M University
Howard	Stephanie	Superintendent	Crane ISD
Huie	Cody	Vice President of Programs	Raise Your Hand Texas
McCain	Dominique	Managing Director	Commit Partnership
Olivarez	Ericka	Principal	CAST Teach High School
Recio	Melina	10th and 11th Grade English Teacher	McAllen ISD
Sieg	Rebecca	Director of Policy	Urban Teachers
Tanabe	Clifton	Dean	University of Texas at El Paso
Villagrana	Carlos	Program Officer	Houston Endowment