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Information

Professional Services Committee

Update on the Fresno Unified Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) Induction Program Review

Executive Summary: This agenda item provides an update on the evidence submitted by the Fresno Unified School District to address the stipulations placed on the BTSA Induction Program by the Commission.

Recommended Action: For information only

Presenter: Teri Clark, Administrator,
Professional Services Division

Strategic Plan Goal: 1

Promote educational excellence through the preparation and certification of professional educators

- ◆ Sustain high quality standards for the preparation and performance of professional educators and for the accreditation of credential programs.

December 2007

Update on the Fresno Unified Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) Induction Program Review

Introduction

This agenda item provides an update on the Fresno Unified Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) Induction Program Review and the evidence submitted by Fresno Unified School District to address the stipulations placed on the program by the Commission.

Background

At the June 2007 Commission meeting, staff presented an agenda item on the focused Induction Program Review of the Fresno Unified BTSA Induction Program (<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2007-06/2007-06-6F.pdf>). The Fresno Unified BTSA Induction Program was found to meet one of the twenty adopted BTSA Induction Standards during its May 22-25, 2007 focused review. An agenda item was presented to the Commission with proposed stipulations and a recommendation of “Approval with Probationary Stipulations.”

At the June 2007 Commission meeting, the Commission slightly modified the stipulations, including the dates when additional information and evidence would be due from Fresno Unified. The Commission accepted the recommendation of “Approval with Probationary Stipulations.”

Seven stipulations were adopted by the Commission. Three of these stipulations required evidence to be submitted to the Commission in October 2007. Fresno Unified has complied with these three stipulations and submitted the necessary evidence. The seven stipulations and the evidence submitted thus far by Fresno Unified in response to the stipulations are listed below:

1. That by September 15, 2007, the Fresno Unified School District BTSA Induction Program be required to notify all current program participants and prospective program participants at the point of hire of its **Approval with Probationary Stipulations** status. Probationary approval status means that the program will not be able to recommend candidates for the clear credential if all stipulations are not rectified in a timely manner. The notification must be in writing and state that the program could lose CTC approval as an induction program if the Induction Program Review in Spring 2008 does not show significant improvement aligned with the Program’s Plan to Remedy developed from the BTSA program review team findings from the May 2007 program review or if the program fails to meet any of the interim dates as stated in the stipulations.

Evidence Submitted: FUSD submitted the letter that was disseminated to all school sites and all employees. They also submitted a copy of the signature pages that show that all employees received a copy of the letter.

2. That by October 1, 2007, the Fresno Unified School District BTSA Induction Program provide evidence of clear and effective program leadership under the direct supervision of the superintendent of the LEA pursuant to Induction Standards 1, 2, 5 and 10 of the BTSA Induction Program.

Evidence Submitted: The materials submitted to the Commission include a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the superintendent, the president of the school board, the chair of the peer assistance and review panel and the president of the teachers association that clearly shows the BTSA program leadership as reporting to the superintendent.

3. That on a monthly basis, the Fresno Unified School District BTSA Induction Program provide to a member of the BTSA Induction State Leadership Team information on new hires including date of hire, and the date of the participating teacher and support provider match pursuant to Induction Standard 12.

Evidence Submitted: A report was submitted at the end of September and another report is due at the end of October.

The following stipulations are still to be addressed by Fresno Unified School District.

4. That by January 1, 2008, the Fresno Unified School District BTSA Induction Program provide to a member of the BTSA Induction State Leadership Team evidence of an accurate and comprehensive system of monitoring all program participants and program activities. The monitoring system must ensure that all participating teachers complete all credential requirements pursuant to Induction Standards 12-20.
5. That the Fresno Unified School District BTSA Induction Program be required to provide evidence to a member of the BTSA Induction State Leadership Team substantiating each participant's completion of the Induction Program, pursuant to Induction Standard 14, prior to the Commission granting a Clear Multiple or Single Subject Credential until the program completes the Induction Program Review in Spring 2008.
6. That the Fresno Unified School District BTSA Induction Program provide evidence of meeting a minimum of fifteen (15) of the Induction Program Standards at an Induction Program Review to be conducted in Spring 2008.
7. That the Fresno Unified School District BTSA Induction Program provide evidence that the program's selection process is followed in selecting all consulting teachers (support providers) and that consulting teachers receive all training as described in the program document.

Next Steps

Commission staff will continue to monitor the submission of evidence as required by the adopted stipulations. The BTSA Cluster Region Directors and BTSA Task Force will continue to offer technical assistance to the Fresno Unified BTSA Induction Program. An Induction Program

Review is scheduled for this program on May 12-15, 2008 and a report from this review will be presented to the Commission at the August 2008 meeting.