
3B

Action

Professional Practices Committee

Committee of Credentials Vacancies for FY 2014-15

Executive Summary: The Commission will review the terms of the current members of the Committee of Credentials and determine whether to reappoint or declare vacancies for two public representatives, one elementary school teacher, and one school board member.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Commission reappoint public representatives Ms. Soliz and Ms. Roberts, elementary teacher Ms. Esquire, and declare the position of the School Board member vacant effective June 30, 2014.

Presenter: Nanette Rufo, Director, Division of Professional Practices

Strategic Plan Goal:

I. Educator Quality

- ◆ Effectively, efficiently, and fairly monitor the fitness of all applicants and credential holders to work with California students.

Committee of Credentials Vacancies for FY 2014-15

Introduction

The policy of the Professional Practices Committee and the Commission relative to selection of the members of the Committee of Credentials (Committee) are set forth in the Commission's Policy Manual. This item summarizes the policy and presents information concerning the vacancy, application and selection process.

Background

The Commission and its appointed Committee review individuals for fitness to receive and/or retain credentials. In addition, the Commission distributes information regarding the actions taken to all public and private schools and school districts in California and every other state in the nation.

The Committee is comprised of seven members appointed by the Commission and consists of one elementary teacher, one secondary teacher, one school board member, one school administrative employee, and three public representatives.

The Committee meets three days each month at the offices of the Division of Professional Practices in Sacramento. Members review allegations of misconduct at various levels of review each month.

The Commission's Professional Practices Committee is responsible for informing "the Commission when vacancies occur or may be expected to occur on the Committee of Credentials." (CTC Policy Manual §500.) The terms of the two public representatives, Tillie Soliz and Mary Jane Roberts; the elementary teacher, Katherine Esquire; and the school board member, Barbara Kilponen, expire on June 30, 2014.

The Commission's Policy Manual states that: "Prior to publicly announcing a vacancy, the Committee shall inquire, in writing, as to the availability of incumbents to serve an additional term." (CTC Policy Manual §500(a).) Pursuant to this provision, an inquiry regarding the availability of the eligible incumbents Tillie Soliz, Mary Jane Roberts, Katherine Esquire, and Barbara Kilponen was sent on October 7, 2013. Ms. Soliz has served two two-year terms and has expressed her willingness to serve an additional term. Ms. Roberts has served one two-year term and has expressed her willingness to serve an additional term. Ms. Esquire has served one two-year term and has also expressed her willingness to serve an additional term. Barbara Kilponen has indicated her willingness to serve an additional term, but has served for 3 ½ terms.

The Policy Manual also provides that "[a]t least one new member shall be appointed each year, but in the interest of continuity and stability, not more than three members should be replaced in one year," and that "[t]erms of appointment shall commence on July 1 and shall expire on June 30, except that an appointment to fill an unexpired term may be made effective upon the first day that a position becomes vacant." (CTC Policy Manual §503.)

Prior to any interviews, Commissioners may wish to attend a meeting of the Committee to observe its proceedings. Under Policy Manual 504(b) “Each Commissioner is encouraged to arrange his/her calendar so as to schedule attendance at a Committee of Credentials meeting each year in order to observe the Committee functions and to become familiar with Committee procedures.”

Committee of Credentials Members

The current and proposed composition of the Committee and the terms are as follows:

Name	Date First Appointed	Current Term Expires
TILLIE SOLIZ Public Representative	07-01-10	06-30-14
MARY JANE ROBERTS Public Representative	07-01-12	06-30-14
KATHERINE ESQUIRE Elementary Teacher	10-16-12	06-30-14
BARBARA KILPONEN School Board Member	12-11-07	06-30-14
HELIO BRASIL, Chair Administrative Employee	07-01-11	06-30-15
SHEILA RYSKAMP Secondary Teacher	07-01-11	06-30-15
RODONNA VAN PELT Public Representative	07-01-09	06-30-15

Staff Recommendation

In order to provide continuity on the Committee, staff recommends that the Commission reappoint Ms. Soliz, Ms. Roberts, and Ms. Esquire to a two-year term effective July 1, 2014. Since the Commission’s Policy Manual calls for a new member each year, staff recommends the school board member position be declared vacant as that member has served the longest term. Staff recommends that the Commission declare the school board member position vacant effective July 1, 2014.

Staff will begin the process of advertising for candidates for any vacant position(s) and schedule interviews for an Ad Hoc Interview Committee in June 2014.