

## Discussion of Strengthening and Streamlining Accreditation

### October 2014

#### Overview

This agenda item is a continuing discussion about efforts underway to strengthen and streamline the Commission's accreditation system.

#### Staff Recommendation

This is for information only.

#### Background

Efforts are currently underway to convene the several task groups identified in the adopted Work Plan. In August 2014 the Commission requested applications from educators interested in serving on these task groups. The six identified task groups will each focus on specific aspects of the work as follows:

- Preliminary Teacher Preparation Standards: recommend revisions to the preliminary multiple and single subject standards.
- Induction Standards, Policies and Regulations: review recent policy changes and recommend revisions to induction standards and regulations governing the General Education (Multiple Subject and Single Subject) Clear Credential.
- Performance Assessments: provide guidance regarding teacher and administrator performance assessments, including standards governing the development and implementation of performance assessments.
- Outcomes and Data: review and redesign surveys based on changes in standards, make recommendations regarding useful reporting practices and formats, and standardize the use of this information in accreditation.
- Accreditation Policy Procedures: recommend needed changes in accreditation policy and procedures based on new standards, assessments, and outcomes data.
- Public Access and Data Dashboards: recommend ways to improve public access to information about preparation programs and institutions.

Staff is now finalizing the review of applications and the Executive Director will appoint applicants to the six Task Groups in early October 2014.

In addition, the plan calls for an Accreditation Advisory Panel to serve as a sounding board and provide feedback to the groups. Key stakeholder groups have been invited to identify a designee to serve on the Accreditation Advisory Panel, which will also include the chairs of each of the six task groups. It is expected that the first Accreditation Advisory Panel meeting will take place before the end of 2014.

### **Identification of Exemplary Practices**

Related to the work around strengthening and streamlining accreditation has been a consistent call from Commissioners to identify exemplary institutions, programs and practices. The COA has discussed this topic at several COA meetings in the recent past. The Commission is scheduled to discuss a specific proposal on this topic at its October 2014 Commission meeting. Information will be posted about the proposal on the COA website as soon as that information is available and posted for the Commission.