
Minutes of the January-February 2006, Commission Meeting

Minutes of Jan. 31 - Feb. 1, 2006 Meeting of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing

COMMISSION MEMBERS ATTENDING

Leslie Peterson Schwarze, School Board Member, Chair
Catherine Banker, Public Representative
Paula Cordeiro, Public Representative
Cindy Dodge, Non-Administrative Services position
Guillermo Gomez, Teacher
Gloria Grant, Teacher
John Kenney, Teacher
Leslie Littman, Designee, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Aida Molina, School Administrator

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

Jon Stordahl, Teacher, Vice Chair

EX-OFFICIO REPRESENTATIVES

Marilyn McGrath, California Postsecondary Education Commission
Karen Symms Gallagher, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
Athena Waite, University of California
Beverly Young, California State University

STATE BOARD LIAISON

Ruth Bloom, absent

COMMISSION STAFF PRESENTING

Dr. Sam W. Swofford, Executive Director
Beth Graybill, Director of Professional Services
Mary Armstrong, General Counsel, Director, Profession Practices Division
Bonnie Parks, Director, External Relations and Business Affairs
Crista Hill, Manager, Fiscal Business Services Division
Amy Jackson, Administrator, Professional Services Division
Lawrence Birch, Administrator, Professional Services Division
Dale Janssen, Director, Certification, Assignment and Waivers Division
Rhonda Brown, Analyst, Certification, Assignment and Waivers Division
Dr. Marty Karlin, Senior Area Director, National Evaluation Systems, Inc.
Dana Griggs and Lynne Cook, Co-Chairs of the Committee on Accreditation
Susan Porter, Consultant, Professional Services Division

Marilynn Fairgood, Consultant, Professional Services Division
Jan Jones Wadsworth, Consultant, Professional Services Division

RECORDING SECRETARY

William Stockwin

Tuesday, January 31, 2005

General Session

Leslie Peterson Schwarze, Chair, called the meeting to order and went immediately into Closed Session.

1A: Reconvene General Session

Chair Schwarze reconvened the General Session. The roll was called and a quorum was declared. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chair Schwarze introduced new Commissioners Cindy Dodge and John Kenney and administered their oath of office.

1B: Approval of the November-December 2005 Minutes

Chair Schwarze asked for a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was made (Molina), seconded (Grant) and carried without dissent.

1C: Approval of the January/February 2006 Agenda

Before asking for approval of the agenda, Chair Schwarze filled several committee chair vacancies as follows: Commissioner Gloria Grant, Chair of the Professional Practices Committee of the Whole; Commissioner Catherine Banker, Chair of the Fiscal Policy and Planning Committee of the Whole and the Credentialing and Certificated Assignments Committee of the Whole; in Vice Chair Stordahl's absence, Chair Schwarze assumed the chair of the Legislative Committee of the Whole for this meeting.

Chair Schwarze then asked for a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was made (Littman), seconded (Gomez) and carried without dissent.

1D: Approval of the January/February 2006 Consent Calendar

Chair Schwarze asked for a motion to approve the 2006 Consent Calendar. The motion was made (Kenney), seconded (Molina) and carried without dissent.

Division of Professional Practices

The Commission approved the following items:

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF CREDENTIALS

Education Code section 44244.1 allows the Commission to adopt the recommendation of the Committee of Credentials without further proceedings if the individual does not request an administrative hearing within a specified time.

1. **ALTON, Amber L.** N. Highlands, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
2. **BERK, Jeremy D.** Los Angeles, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
3. **BORGQUIST, Katherine L.** Modesto, CA
All pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44345.
4. **BOROFF, Michael S.** San Francisco, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
5. **BROOKS, Terri A.** Alta Loma, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
6. **CLARK, Peter F.** Hanford, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of ten (10) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
7. **COLOMBO, Peter M.** Redwood City, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of sixty (60) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
8. **DEALWIS, Samudra J.** Richmond, CA
All pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44345.
9. **DOLIAS, Steven T.** San Jacinto, CA
All pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44345.
10. **DORWORTH, Kathleen M.** La Mesa, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of five (5) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421, effective immediately.

11. **DUNN, James E.** Alta Loma, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of thirty (30) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421
12. **DURGIN, Della M.** Denair, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
13. **ENGEL, Rudolf W.** Los Osos, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
14. **FISHER, William J.** Vista, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
15. **GONZAGA, ALEJANDRO** Bakersfield, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
16. **GRIGGS, Betsy H.** Fairfax, CA
Ms. Griggs is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
17. **HALE, Daniel J.** Whittier, CA
The *Administrative Services Credential* is **suspended for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
18. **HAMBRIGHT, Patrick W.** Stockton, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of ninety (90) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421, effective immediately.
19. **HOFF, Christina** Pacifica, CA
Ms. Hoff is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.

20. **IBRAHIN, Khalid K.** San Dimas, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
21. **KAILONN, Lynn** Merced, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of sixty (60) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
22. **LARSEN, Jens C.** Hesperia, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
23. **LOCKOVICH, Heidi M.** Menifee, CA
Ms. Lockovich is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
24. **MAGDAEL, Benny Y., Jr.** Stockton, CA
All pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44345.
25. **MANOU, John C.** Fresno, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
26. **MARTINEZ, Joseph A.** Redding, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
27. **McNICHOLAS, James J.** San Bernardino, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of thirty (30) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
28. **MENEZES, Diane K.** Clovis, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.

29. **MIRANDA, Michael J.** Stockton, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
30. **OBRIEN, Gary S.** Los Angeles, CA
Mr. Obrien is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421, effective immediately.
31. **PARISH, Kathleen T.** Buena Park, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
32. **REED, Edward C.** San Pablo, CA
Mr. Reed is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
33. **REGELBRUGGE, Heather S.** Point Arena, CA
All pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44345.
34. **REYNA, David B.** Tulare, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of thirty (30) days** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
35. **SIMON, Burnis L.** LaVerne, CA
Mr. Simon is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
36. **SIORDIA, Fernando** San Bernardino, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
37. **THOMETZ, Jose P.** Northridge, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of ten (10) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
38. **TIERNEY, Kirsta E.** San Diego, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of twenty (20) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.

39. **TOVAR, Alejandrina** Santa Ana, CA
Ms. Tovar is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
40. **VICTORERO, Enrique C.** Fontana, CA
Mr. Victorero is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421, effective immediately.
41. **VOGEL, Heather D.** Terra Bella, CA
Ms. Vogel is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
42. **WARTHLING, Daniel D.** San Leandro, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
43. **WASSERBURGER, Michael A.** San Jose, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **revoked** and any pending applications are **denied** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code sections 44421 and 44345.
44. **WINTER, William J.** Danville, CA
Mr. Winter is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
45. **YARACIYAN, Kirkor** Fountain Valley, CA
Mr. Yaraciyán is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
46. **YUILLE, Justin** Azusa, CA
All certification documents under the jurisdiction of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing are **suspended for a period of five (5) days** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421, effective immediately.
47. **YUNG, Cecilia** Saugus, CA
Ms. Yung is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421.
48. **WHITE, Thomas F.** Oakland, CA
Mr. White is the subject of **public reproof** for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421, effective immediately.

CONSENT DETERMINATIONS

49. **BALDERAS, Gary P.** Lakewood, CA
The Proposed Consent Determination, that allows Mr. Balderas to **withdraw** his applications, for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44345, is adopted.
50. **PICANO, Branden M.** Escalon, CA
The Proposed Consent Determination, that allows Mr. Picano to **self revoke** all credentials, life diplomas or other certification documents under the jurisdiction of the Commission, and he agrees that any subsequent applications submitted will be rejected, for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421, is adopted.
51. **ROBINSON, Mark A.** San Francisco, CA
The Proposed Consent Determination which stipulates that Mr. Robinson's application for an *Administrative Services Credential* is **granted** and **revoked**, however, the **revocation is stayed**, and he is placed on **probation for a period of one (1) year**, for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421, is adopted.
52. **ROSE, Christine E.** Santa Rosa, CA
The Proposed Consent Determination which stipulates that all certification documents are **revoked**; however, the **revocation is stayed**, she will serve a **forty-five (45) day suspension**, and thereafter be placed on **probation for a period of five (5) years or three (3) years** from when she obtains employment as a teacher, whichever is shorter, for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421, is adopted.
53. **VERNON, Jack J.** Stockton, CA
The Attorney General's Proposed Consent Determination, in which Mr. Vernon agrees to **surrender** all credentials, life diplomas or other certification documents under the jurisdiction of the Commission, and he agrees that any subsequent applications submitted will be immediately denied, for misconduct pursuant to Education Code section 44421, is adopted.

RECONSIDERATION CONSENT

54. **CHAVEZ, Dora B.** Upland, CA
At its November/December 2005 meeting, the Commission denied Ms. Chavez's Petition for Reinstatement. Ms. Chavez submitted a letter dated December 21, 2005, requesting reconsideration. No new information was provided.
55. **CHAVEZ, Peter A.** Bakersfield, CA
At its October 6, 2005 meeting, the adopted the recommendation of the Committee of Credentials to revoke all certification documents and deny any pending applications. Mr. Chavez submitted a timely request for reconsideration of the Commission's action and submitted new and relevant information. The matter is remanded to the Committee of Credentials for consideration of the new and relevant information.

56. **TOYE, Zelda M.** Long Beach, CA
At its October 6, 2005 meeting, the Commission adopted the recommendation of the Committee of Credentials to revoke all certification documents and deny any pending applications. Ms. Toye submitted a letter dated November 9, 2005, requesting reconsideration. No new information was provided.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF FROM DEFAULT

57. **SALAZAR, Alberto R.** Fresno, CA
At its September 22-24, 2004 meeting, the Committee of Credentials recommended that Mr. Salazar's application be denied because of his 2002 conviction for spousal battery. He requested an administrative hearing and was served with the appropriate documents on August 4, 2005, but failed to return a timely Notice of Defense and failed to respond to a follow-up letter from the Office of the Attorney General. The Commission therefore adopted the Committee's recommendation at its November/December 2005 meeting by default. Mr. Salazar's attorney filed a Motion to Vacate the Decision and Request for Hearing. The request is denied. Mr. Salazar failed to provide evidence warranting vacating the default.

PRIVATE ADMONITIONS

Pursuant to Education Code section 44438, the Committee of Credentials recommends **two (2)** private admonitions for the Commission's approval.

DECISION AND ORDER

58. **PHELPS, Michael** San Leandro, CA
In accordance with the default provisions of Government Code section 11520, Mr. Phelps' credentials are **revoked**.

REQUEST FOR REVOCATION

The Commission may revoke credentials upon the written request of the credential holder pursuant to Education Code sections 44423 and 44440.

59. **FINNEY, Suzanne M.** Livingston, TX
Upon her written request, pursuant to Education Code section 44423, all certification documents are **revoked**, thereby terminating her probation with the Commission.

DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES MANDATORY ACTIONS

All certification documents held by and applications filed by the following individuals were mandatorily revoked or denied pursuant to Education Code sections 44346, 44346.1, 44424, 44425 and 44425.5, which require the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing to mandatorily revoke the credentials held by individuals convicted of specified crimes and to mandatorily deny applications submitted by individuals convicted of specified crimes.

60. **ARVIZU, Ricardo** Cypress, CA

61. **BARTLETT, Brett M.** Livermore, CA
62. **BAUER, Jeffrey R.** Downieville, CA
63. **CLIGNETT, Erica P.** Pomona, CA
64. **DAGESTINO, Barry S.** Anaheim Hills, CA
65. **FLYNN, Daniel T.** Newport Beach, CA
66. **GRAHAM, Nick C.** Bakersfield, CA
67. **JANESKI, John J.** Mariposa, CA
68. **LAPP, Kelly E.** San Diego, CA
69. **MARTINEZ, Brenda R.** Guadalupe, CA

AUTOMATIC SUSPENSIONS

All certification documents held by the following individuals were automatically suspended because a complaint, information or indictment was filed in court alleging each individual committed an offense specified in Education Code section 44940. Their certification documents will remain automatically suspended until the Commission receives notice of entry of judgment pursuant to Education Code section 44940(d) and (e).

70. **ARMSTRONG, James A.** Antelope, CA
71. **ESPINOZA, Mark A.** Paramount, CA
72. **JESSEE, K. Brian** San Jose, CA
73. **LIEN, Clayton J.** Grass Valley, CA
74. **LUMPKIN, Leviticus, G.** Los Angeles, CA
75. **MEAD, Larry M.** Salinas, CA
76. **NORKIN, Mathew L.** Redondo Beach, CA
77. **PEDRAZA, Christopher N.** Napa, CA
78. **ROGERS, Jay E.** Downey, CA
79. **WALLACE, Thomas A.** Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

CONSENT DETERMINATION AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION

All certification documents held by the following individual were automatically suspended pursuant to a Consent Determination and Order. The certification documents will remain automatically suspended until final disposition by the Commission.

80. **PARK, Michael C.** Fountain Valley, CA

NO CONTEST SUSPENSION

All credentials held by the following individual were suspended, pursuant to Education Code section 44424 or 44425, because a plea of no contest was entered to an offense specified in the above sections of the Education Code. The credentials will remain suspended until final disposition by the Commission.

81. **BOND, Frederick J.** Hermosa Beach, CA

DISABILITY SUSPENSIONS

82. **DODGE BROWN, Meralie A.** Victorville, CA
Pursuant to Education Code section 44336, all certification documents are **suspended** for the duration of the disability, effective November 16, 2005.

83. **GRAHAM, Sandra P.** Bakersfield, CA
Pursuant to Education Code section 44336, all certification documents are **suspended** for the duration of the disability, effective November 18, 2005.

84. **QUICK, Jack L.** Chico, CA
Pursuant to Education Code section 44336, all certification documents are **suspended** for the duration of the disability, effective December 29, 2005.

TERMINATION OF AUTOMATIC SUSPENSIONS

Pursuant to Education Code section 44940(d), the automatic suspension of all credentials held by the following individuals is terminated and the matters referred to the Committee of Credentials for review.

85. **CORTELL, William D.** Los Angeles, CA
86. **HARLEY, Jason S.** Los Angeles, CA
87. **NORKIN, Mathew L.** Redondo Beach, CA
88. **PORTILLO, Edward** Monterey Park, CA
89. **STONE, Gregory A.** Pomona, CA

TERMINATION OF PROBATION

90. **DACANAY, Alfonso A.** Stockton, CA
Having violated the conditions of probation set forth in the Consent Determination and Order adopted by the Commission at its September 30/October 1, 2004 meeting, his **probation is terminated, the stay is lifted, and his credential is revoked.**
91. **GUNNELL, Christine E.** San Marino, CA
Having successfully complied with the terms and conditions of probation contained in the Consent Determination and Order, which was adopted by the Commission on May 6, 2004, **the stay order has been made permanent and her certificate is restored.**
92. **JIMENEZ, Angelica J.** Baldwin Park, CA
Having violated the conditions of probation set forth in the Consent Determination and Order adopted by the Commission at its January 31/February 1, 2005 meeting, her **probation is terminated, the stay is lifted, and her credential is revoked.**
93. **POSTEN, Ralph W., Jr.** Soulsbyville, CA
Having violated the conditions of probation set forth in the Consent Determination and Order adopted by the Commission at its October 1, 2004 meeting, his **probation is terminated, the stay is lifted, and his credential is revoked.**

Certification, Assignment & Waivers Division

DENIAL OF CREDENTIAL WAIVER REQUESTS

The Appeals and Waivers Committee having reviewed these waiver requests has recommended they be denied. The employing districts have not asked for reconsideration of the Committee's decisions.

1. Keith Matthew Davis/Konocti Unified School District
2. Marlene Spector Horwitz/San Jose Unified
3. Corey Paul Reihl/Linden Unified School District
4. Daniel Lorenzo Mercado/Turlock Unified School District
5. Tracie E. Fox-McDaniel/Coalinga/Huron Joint Unified School District
6. Parin Oshidari/Coachella Valley Unified
7. Matthew Wayne Harding/Coachella Valley Unified

1E: Chair's Report

No Chair's report was given.

1F: Executive Director's Report

Dr. Swofford welcomed three new Commissioners: Cindy Dodge, Paula Cordeiro and John Kenney. He commended the expertise and experience they bring to the Commission and said he was looking forward to additional Commission appointments by the current administration.

He also announced the departure of Amy Jackson, Administrator in the Professional Services Division, who has accepted the position of Deputy Director for the National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality with Learning Point Associates. He commended her for her work and oversight of the Commission's examination programs including Reading Instruction Competency Assessment (RICA), California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) and Subject matter examinations, and for co-administering the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) program and the development of the California Formative Assessment and Support System (CFASST).

Dr. Swofford recognized the contributions of Dale Janssen, Director of the Certification, Assignments and Waivers Division and the excellent quality of his division's work despite significant staffing reductions and budget cuts. He also commended 16 student assistants at the Commission for contributing to the work of the Commission and allowing experienced staff members to focus on more complex and higher priority areas.

Dr. Swofford remarked on the Western States Certification Conference was held in San Francisco on January 9-12, where it was learned that California is leading other states in the areas of fingerprinting and the use of the Internet to submit credential applications. He said no other state has the sophisticated technology being used for the Commission's on-line Virtual Credentialing Officer.

1G: Commission Member Reports

There were no Commission member reports given.

1H: Liaison Reports

There were no liaison reports given.

Professional Practices Committee of the Whole

Committee Chair Gloria Grant called the Committee to order.

2A: Committee of Credentials: Expiration of Terms and Declaration of Vacancies

Mary Armstrong, Director, Division of Professional Practices, said the Commission was charged with reviewing the availability of two incumbents for reappointment to the Committee of Credentials and deciding whether or not to declare the positions vacant.

Ms. Armstrong reported that the terms of Rita Bianchi and Mark Rickbaugh would expire on June 30, 2006. Both had served one, two-year term. Letters were sent in December querying their respective availabilities to serve another term, and both indicated willingness to serve again. Ms. Armstrong said that the policy manual allows for members to serve two, two-year terms and that staff recommended both be reappointed.

Commissioner Grant requested a motion on the reappointment of Ms. Bianchi and Mr. Rickbaugh.

The motion was made (Littman), seconded (Banker) and carried without dissent.

Following the vote Ms. Waite asked about the ongoing problem the Committee of Credentials has had in finding members who had time to participate in three to four days of meetings per month.

Ms. Armstrong said that staff plans to meet with the California Teachers Association to discuss workload issues.

Fiscal Policy and Planning Committee of the Whole

Committee Chair Catherine Banker called the Fiscal Policy and Planning Committee of the Whole to order.

3A: Update on the Proposed 2006-07 Governor's Budget

Crista Hill, Manager, Fiscal Business Services Division, presented this item. She said Governor Schwarzenegger released the proposed 2006-07 state budget on January 10, 2006. She said for the first time in three years the budget proposal appeared to keep the Commission solvent without further reductions in staff and daily operations. The budget also proposes to restore \$2.7 million in expenditure authority for both the Teacher Credentials Fund and the Test Development and Administration Fund. In addition, she said, the administration proposes to redirect and bifurcate four vacant positions from the Professional Service Division to the Certification, Assignment and Waivers Division to address the current credentialing backlog.

Ms. Hill said other major adjustments in the Governor's proposed budget included eliminating the \$2.7 million one-time General Fund provided in the Budget Act of 2005 to address CTC's special fund revenues shortfall. For 2006-07, she said, the Test Development and Administration Account is projected to have a fund balance of \$2.6 million, after providing for a transfer of \$139,000 to the Teacher Credentials Fund.

She said the budget process is a year-long endeavor and that the 2006-07 budget process began in September. The next step in the process will be the release of the Legislative Analyst's analysis of the Governor's budget at the end of February. The Legislative hearing process begins shortly thereafter. The budget's May Revision will be released on May 14, 2006 and hearings will continue until a final budget is agreed upon by both houses and the Governor.

Dr. Young said she was surprised that the budget had such detail as to reassign positions within the agency. She expressed concern about the Professional Services Division's ability to function if it loses four high level positions.

Ms. Graybill said she shared those concerns, but also that this was just the first of many proposals the legislature will consider before arriving at a final budget.

Commissioner Kenney asked for the total changes in Professional Services Division staff from its peak to this year's projections.

Ms. Graybill said the peak staff was around 40 and at the beginning of this year the division's position count was 31.3. She noted that there is currently about 25 staff in the division.

3B: Recommendations for the Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program Grant Awards.

Crista Hill, Manager, Fiscal Business Services Division, presented this item. She began by citing Section 610 of the CCTC Policy Manual, which requires that agreements or contracts of \$100,000 or more be approved by the Commission. She reminded Commissioners that at the August 2005 meeting they had approved the release of the 2005-06 Paraprofessional Competitive Grant process, which allows local education agencies to start new paraprofessional programs where such programs are not currently established. She said four out of seven applying programs had met the grant process requirements and been recommended for funding. The approved proposals include 435 new paraprofessionals and totaled approximately \$1.3 million in additional funding for the current fiscal year.

Ms. Hill said the proposed expenditures are within the appropriated amount for the program for the 2005-06 fiscal year and that this item provided a list of agreements requiring approval for this fiscal year and staff was seeking approval for the executive director to execute those agreements.

A motion was made to approve the Paraprofessional Teacher Training Grant awards (Dodge), seconded (Littman) and carried without dissent.

3C: Proposal to Release a Competitive Grant Process for Local Assistance Teacher Development Programs

Crista Hill, Manager, Fiscal Business Services Division, presented this item. She described the item as an overview of the Commission's role in administering the Alternative Certification (Intern) and California School Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program (PTTP) grants that support local programs that assist interns and paraprofessionals pursuing a teaching credential. The item presents for consideration a Competitive Grant Process that would enable the Commission to fund new Intern and PTTP programs for the 2006-07 fiscal year should funds be appropriated for that purpose in the annual budget act.

She said staff needed the Commission's approval to release the FY 2006-07 competitive grant process for the Intern and Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program.

Commissioner Dodge asked if this grant making process was significantly different than prior years and Ms. Hill said that it was not.

A motion was made to release the Competitive Grant Process for Local Assistance Teacher Development Programs (Molina), seconded (Kenney) and carried without dissent.

3D: Proposed Amendments to the Contract for the Administration of the Bilingual Crosscultural Language and Academic Development (BCLAD) Examinations

Crista Hill, Manager, Fiscal Business Services Division, presented this item. She said staff was requesting permission to amend the current Bilingual Crosscultural Language and Academic Development (BCLAD) Examinations contract for one fiscal year. This would enable staff to keep the exam program stable for candidates in the Fiscal Year 2006-07 by offering the same administration cycle as in the previous year. In addition, she said staff needed to wait for the outcome of the policy discussion of the BCLAD panel recently convened by the Commission before bringing options regarding the program to the Commission at a future meeting.

She said if the Commission chose to offer a new certification program and/or examinations, that it would take approximately 18 months to 24 months to complete the work. Extending the current contract for an additional year would provide additional time to allow that work to take place and would allow candidates to earn BCLAD certificates under the current certification options.

She said staff was seeking approval for amending the current contract to continue BCLAD examinations beyond June 2006.

A motion was made to extend the BCLAD examinations beyond June 2006 (Gomez), seconded (Grant) and carried without dissent.

Credentialing and Certificated Assignments Committee of the Whole

Acting Committee Chair Catherine Banker called the Credentialing and Certificated Assignments Committee of the Whole to order.

4A: Efficiencies From Technology in the Certification, Assignment and Waivers Division.

Dale Janssen, Director, Certification, Assignment and Waivers Division, presented this item. He noted that the purpose of this agenda item was to review the application processing efficiencies from the Teacher Credential Service Improvement Project (TCSIP) and to present the Commission with a timeline when further efficiencies will be implemented.

Mr. Janssen began his update on the TCSIP with a review of Phase 1 implementation completed in October 2001, that provides an “on-line look-up system” that replaces the previous FAX system to view the status of applications and resulted in a significant savings of staff time previously spent fielding thousands of FAXes. He said Phase 2 was implemented in June 2002, with the roll out of a new system for online renewal. Phase 3 was implemented Feb 2005 with entirely new hardware and software.

He said currently, implementation of these efforts was occurring fairly efficiently and specifically mentioned the Virtual Credential Officer (VCO), a fully automated system that allows on-line renewal of credentials; the IHE online recommendation process,

which reduces the time spent on a university application in half; the e-mail notification process to teacher applicants regarding the status of their applications; and paperless Certificates of Clearance, which he explained are fingerprint clearance so that student teachers can enter the classroom.

He said future efficiencies would include paperless county copies of documents, to be ready by spring 2006; submission of county and school district online applications, to be implemented before fall 2006; IHE online recommendation VCO, expected to be ready by spring 2007; and a paperless credential that would generate considerable cost savings to Commission, which might be ready by late 2007.

Mr. Janssen also said an on-line certificate of clearance process for applications would hopefully be running by April 2006.

Commissioner Kenney asked about security precautions being taken as the Commission considers paperless credentials. Mr. Janssen responded that the actual system resides in Georgia, behind a firewall. He characterized it as very secure.

Commissioner Kenney asked if the system notified the Commission of data entered by individuals. Mr. Janssen said yes.

Commissioner Littman asked if there was a way to constantly update status of applications and Mr. Janssen said yes, it was already on the Commission website.

Commissioner Dodge said her school district colleagues have been very pleased with the on-line system.

Ms. McGrath asked for some elaboration on the psychological problem of letting go of paper.

Regarding paperless credentials, Mr. Janssen said some teachers would still like a document. He said that could be dealt with via a pdf document that could be downloaded and printed. He said eliminating paper altogether was not something that would happen in the near future. He noted that a major challenge currently is figuring out how to receive secure transcripts.

Commissioner Dodge suggested there might be some lessons to be learned from the Healthcare industry and how patient medical records are protected and secured.

Commissioner Kenney asked if safeguards were built into the system for online renewal and credential application to prevent false information about another individual from being entered. Mr. Janssen said access to the system needed a social security number and a birth date. He noted that this problem is not unique to a technologically-based system but has always been a concern with the paper application process as well.

Commissioner Banker adjourned the committee.

Recess

Chair Schwarze recessed the General Session until the following day.

Wednesday, February 1, 2005

Reconvene General Session

Roll was called and a quorum declared.

II: Presentation by Alan Bersin, Secretary of Education

The Secretary discussed with the Commission the Schwarzenegger Administration's priorities for education and teacher quality.

Secretary Bersin began by saying he wanted to initiate a dialogue between the Commission, his office and the Governor's office regarding a vision of the next stage of teacher professionalization. He said speaking before the Commission was a "little like coming home," referring to his time serving on the Commission several years ago. He said an enormous transformation had taken place in American education since the Supreme Court decision in *Brown vs. Board of Education*, but that fifty years later we have yet to achieve our goals of ensuring every child has a quality education.

Secretary Bersin said that this transformation has continued over the last 15 years as the federal courts withdrew from micromanaging school districts, leaving the job to the districts, which came up with a standards-based education model where students would no longer be compared to other students on a bell curve, but all students would be compared to a fixed set of standards. Secretary Bersin characterized this change as a revolution.

He noted that his broad proposal is to implement a similar outcomes-based system with respect to teacher preparation as a vision for the next phase of work for teacher certification, preparation and assessment. The broad vision is to look at outcomes, he said, describing the three parts of vision as instruments for assessment, structure of credentials, and accountability for producing the best quality teachers. He said he would speak to the first two parts of that vision at this meeting, and return later to discuss accountability and accreditation.

The Secretary estimated that California would need 100,000 teachers over the next 10 years to replace the generation of teachers preparing for retirement. He said a major portion of the Governor's budget was devoted to teacher recruitment, training and retention. He said that the matter of what a modern, streamlined credentialing system for the 21st Century might look like still needs to be determined.

Secretary Bersin noted that one aspect that requires change is with respect to out of state teachers and equivalency. He said that California should eliminate credentialing hoops for out-of-state teachers, and instead, determine what teachers need to learn when they

come to California as well as to streamline the process to welcome new teachers into the state. He said legislation has already been introduced to remove unnecessary credentialing hoops for out-of-state teachers.

Regarding instruments of assessments such as CBEST and RICA, Secretary Bersin said it was time to step back and survey those examinations and concede that we have added assessments on an ad hoc basis and that it is time for us to ask whether are we assessing too often, too expensively, too inefficiently and whether there is a way to consolidate examinations so that there is a route of assessment that will take into account both Subject matter knowledge and pedagogical capacity and competence.

The Secretary noted that he had no specific proposal in mind presently, but said any changes must be made deliberately without radical turns. He said he was convinced that credentialing can be streamlined and that teachers could be assessed in more cost efficient ways via a more coherent system of examination and assessments. He said the CSET is an important starting place to improve and consolidate where possible.

Secretary Bersin noted that an important part of the SB 2042 vision that still remained to be addressed is the teaching performance assessment (TPA) that has not been widely implemented due to lack of funding. He said it was an investment we ought to consider making and that he looked forward to re-igniting that discussion.

Of credentialing, he said it was important to never solve problems without knowing the problem being solved. The nomenclature issue of internship credentials, preliminary credentials and professional clear credentials needs more understanding and clarification and as a proposal the Secretary suggested the following: the internship credential could be a Level 1 certificate issued to individuals who have completed their degree and Subject matter requirements and ready to enroll in an internship program. A Level 2 credential would be an associate teacher, issued on completion of internship, a blended program, or a one-year student teaching program, but coming at the end of capstone assessment. He said it would signify pedagogical competence, and that the holder was ready for a two-year induction program leading to professional clear credential. A Level 3 credential would certify that the holder is fully inducted into the teaching profession and would signal a level of readiness to take on the job of improving student achievement.

The Secretary ended his remarks by saying they were intended to spark discussion and that he was looking forward to coming back to the Commission in April for more dialogue.

Chair Schwarze thanked Secretary Bersin for his time and his remarks. She commented that the Commission will look forward to welcoming him back at the next meeting to continue the dialogue.

Chair Schwarze then welcomed new Commissioner Paula Cordeiro and issued the oath of office.

Legislative Committee of the Whole

Acting Committee Chair Leslie Peterson Schwarze called the Legislative Committee of the Whole to order.

6A: Analyses of bills of Interest to the Commission

Bonnie Parks, Director, External Relations and Business Affairs, presented this item. Ms. Parks began with Assembly Bill 49 (Benoit), which deals with the CBEST exemption for prelingually deaf credential candidates. The bill would extend the exemption to candidates meeting the requirements for any five-year teaching or services credential. Ms. Parks said the bill authorizes the credential holder to only teach deaf students and had a minor fiscal impact and had no opposition.

Next, Ms. Parks discussed Assembly Bill 476 (Baca), which deals with the Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE) for mathematics and science credentials. Ms. Parks said the bill opens up the APLE to teachers already credentialed but who are pursuing a single-subject credential to teach science or mathematics. Current law restricts eligibility for APLE awards to persons needing to complete training to become fully credentialed. She said there was no fiscal impact to the Commission and no opposition.

Commissioner Littman moved to support both of these bills. Commissioner Banker seconded the motion and it passed without dissent.

6B: Items of Interest to the Commission

Bonnie Parks, Director, External Relations and Business Affairs, presented this item. She began with an update on the Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program (PTTP). She said the bill sponsored by the Commission to address technical issues in the PTTP will be carried by Senator Jack Scott, chairman of the Senate Education Committee, and that proposed language has been sent to Legislative Counsel.

Ms. Parks reported that the Senate Education Committee held an informational hearing on teacher supply and quality on January 25. As a result Senator Scott had introduced AB 1209 to implement recommendations from the committee hearing.

Ms. Parks discussed AB 1691, which would have made it possible for applicants convicted of a serious or violent felony to obtain a teaching credential after receiving a certificate of rehabilitation. She explained that this bill did not make it out of the Appropriations Committee.

Finally, she reported that SB 933, which authorizes the Commission to issue district intern credentials to participants in programs providing instruction in special education classes, had moved to the Assembly.

Professional Services Committee of the Whole

Committee Chair Aida Molina called the Professional Services Committee of the Whole to Order.

7A: Recommended Initial Passing Standards for the California Subject matter Examinations for Teachers (CSET): American Sign Language (ASL)

Amy Jackson, Administrator, Professional Services Division, and Dr. Marty Karlin, Senior Area Director, National Evaluation Systems, Inc. presented this item. Ms. Jackson opened the item then turned the discussion over to Dr. Karlin.

Dr. Karlin said the process used for identification of the initial passing standards for the CSET: American Sign Language (ASL) is identical to that used for other tests in the CSET series. This process involved gathering a panel of expert judges and California educators to review the items on the test forms, make a series of judgments and recommendations, and agreeing to final recommendations to the Commission's staff for presentation to the Commission.

Commissioner Banker moved to adopt the initial passing standards for the CSET: ASL. Commissioner Gomez seconded the motion. It carried without dissent.

7B: Recommended Initial Passing Standards for the California Teachers of English Learners (CTEL) Examination

Amy Jackson, Administrator, Professional Services Division, and Dr. Marty Karlin, Senior Area Director, National Evaluation Systems, Inc. presented this item.

Dr. Karlin said the process for developing the CTEL initial passing standards was identical to those used to develop the passing standards for the CSET examinations, as described in the previous item.

Ms. Jackson corrected the table on page PSC 7B-5, under CTEL II, *computed median based on panel recommendations*. She noted that the number 19.99 that appears in the item was incorrect and that it should read 10.09.

Commissioner Banker moved to accept the CTEL initial passing standards. Commissioner Dodge seconded the motion and it carried without dissent.

7C: Update on the Validation Study of the Reading Instruction Competency Assessment (RICA)

Amy Jackson, Administrator, Professional Services Division, presented this item. She said that the purpose of this item is to update the Commission on the progress in selecting panel members for the RICA Validity Study Design Team and to request the Commission select a Commission liaison to that team.

She said the panel nominations form has gone out to the field and 17 nominations had come in. She said that was a limited pool in light of the need for a 12 to 15-member panel. Therefore a new deadline had been set for February 7 and that additional

notifications were being sent for nominations, particularly for elementary teachers. She said the obligation would be for three design team meetings.

Chair Schwarze suggested changing the meeting time (November) to a different month, as that time of year seems to calendar a lot of teacher meetings.

Commissioner Kenney asked about the length of the meetings and how long teachers would be out of their classrooms.

Ms. Jackson responded that typically, such a commitment would require approximately two days. She also said the Commission needed to appoint a liaison to the RICA Validity Design Team.

Commissioner Molina asked for nominations and Commissioner Banker nominated Commission Chair Schwarze, who accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Banker moved that Leslie Peterson-Schwarze be the RICA Study Design Team liaison. Commissioner Grant seconded the motion and it passed without dissent.

7D: Update on the Field Review of Recommendations from the Accreditation Study

Dr. Lawrence Birch, Administrator, Professional Services Division, presented this item. Dr. Birch acknowledged the work of staff consultants Teri Clark and Cheryl Hickey in developing the survey instrument. Dr. Birch said the survey was refined during the October Committee on Accreditation (COA) meeting, that was posted on the Commission's web, and will close on February 10, 2006. He explained that the structure of survey asks respondents to provide general demographic information as well as experience with the accreditation. The survey asks individuals to respond to a number of statements about accreditation. He reported that there have been 301 responses to date, divided roughly even between IHE and K-12 representatives, and nine from the general public. He said the results will be brought to the February 16th meeting of COA and will then be brought to the Commission at its April meeting.

Chair Schwarze asked if 301 responses was a normal rate. Dr. Birch responded that he didn't know but that he is pleased with that result.

Commissioner Kenney complimented the survey as being nicely structured and easy to use.

7E: Annual Report of the Committee on Accreditation (COA)

Dana Griggs and Lynne Cook, Co-Chairs of the Committee on Accreditation, and Lawrence Birch, Administrator, Professional Services Division, presented this item. This item provided background information about the COA and presented the Tenth Annual Accreditation Report summarizing the accomplishments, activities and plans of the COA.

Ms. Griggs opened the item, saying she represents K-12 education on the committee and that Dr. Cook represents post secondary education on the committee. She said the COA

had completed its eighth year of full accreditation decision making responsibility and implementing the Commission's accreditation policies. In the past year the COA acted on four accreditation team reports from the merged NCATE/CTC accreditation visits. Additionally, COA made initial accreditation decisions for 133 professional preparation programs, mainly for multiple and single-subject credentials, fifth year of study education specialist credentials and pupil personnel services credentials.

Dr. Cook said the major effort of the COA in during 2005 was assisting the Commission in completing the review of the accreditation system with the members of the Accreditation Study Work Group. The work consisted primarily in defining the charge to the workgroup, selecting the four COA members who would participate in work. The COA devoted the majority of its time during 2004-05 to discussion of the issue before the workgroup and preparing recommendations for the Commission.

David Simmons, Ventura County Office of Education, said he agrees with the work done by the Accreditation Study Work Group and the COA, in particular the recommendations related to the credentials for designated subjects, induction, AB 75 and AB 2913. He said all of those should go through the same accreditation process and that students deserve a rigorous process. He said the designated subjects program had never been looked at since initial accreditation. He said the induction program should go through the same accreditation process as other credential programs.

Commissioner Banker asked how Mr. Simmons' comments related to accepting the COA Annual Report. He said he was speaking in support of the report.

Commissioner Kenney moved to accept the report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dodge and it and carried without dissent.

7F: Update on the Bilingual Certification Review

Susan Porter, Consultant, Professional Services Division, and Marilyn Fairgood, Consultant, Professional Services Division, presented this item. Commissioner Banker opened the item saying she is enjoying her participation with the panel and that she has learned quite a bit. She then turned it over to Susan Porter and Marilyn Fairgood.

Ms. Porter said work on this review had been progressing since June 2005, when the Commission approved a three-part plan to explore policy questions related to bilingual certification. Ms Porter explained that the policy questions were the result of staff consultation with the field over the past two years. The Commission decided to address these policy questions prior to updating the bilingual certification routes, so that the needs of the field were taken into consideration and recent policy shifts had been addressed.

Ms. Porter said the first policy question for the Commission is, should other routes, such as course work options, be considered for already-credentialed teachers? A second policy question related to bilingual certification is, with 2042 credential structure in place and with a unit cap of one year of full time course work for the basic credential requirements, should BCLAD Emphasis programs be continued as a 2042 option? Ms. Porter explained

that alternatives such as concurrent certification programs might be considered as an alternative to the BCLAD Empasis program for new teachers earning SB2042 credentials.

The third policy question pertained to bilingual language authorization and changing demographics of language groups in California is how can the Commission accommodate these changing demographics especially for local districts serving English learners whose primary language is not included in the current BCLAD authorizations. The fourth and final policy question is how bilingual certification requirements accommodate the newer models of bilingual instruction and how would this change the current requirements of what bilingual teachers need to know how to be able to do in California classrooms?

Ms. Porter explained that the three part plan, approved by the Commission, included an on-line survey, holding a series of stakeholder meetings around the state and forming an expert workgroup that would develop recommendations for the Commission to consider later this Spring.

Ms. Fairgood described the on-line survey conducted by Commission staff as part of the three part plan. A bilingual survey was posted on the Commission's web site from August 29 through September 26. She said 350 surveys were completed and those responses had in turn been compiled and posted on the Commission web page. She said three main points came across from the survey: 1) there is a continued need for bilingually certified teachers in California and they play multiple roles at school sites and districts depending on need; 2) flexible, multiple options for earning bilingual certification are highly favored by the field; and 3) there is a need to add the number of language authorizations available from the Commission for bilingual certification.

Ms. Fairgood reported that, in all, 8 stakeholder meetings were held throughout the state, from September, 2005, to January, 2006. She said that these well-attended public meetings have provided much valuable information on how best to reply to the four policy questions outlined by Ms. Porter. Ms. Fairgood also described the progress of the expert work group and explained that its last meeting would be in March of 2006.

Commissioner Gomez, who attended some of those meetings agreed with Ms. Fairgood on the quality of information and questions generated.

Commissioner Banker said that testing for languages is becoming more of a challenge and that the Commission should look for tests it can readily use, rather than developing tests of its own.

Commissioner Molina recognized Ex-Officio member Waite, who asked if demographic information is available for those 350 individuals who responded to the survey. Ms. Fairgood confirmed it was and Ms. Porter noted that the information is available on the Commission's web site in the Program Administration section under Bilingual Certification designation.

7G: Update on Issues Concerning Education Specialist Credentials

Jan Jones Wadsworth, Consultant, Professional Services Division, presented this item which provided an update on some current issues in the area of special education that may have implications for Commission policy relative to structure and authorization for the Education Specialist Credential.

Ms. Jones Wadsworth opened the item with some background, saying that prior to 1997, all candidates pursuing a special education credential were required to obtain a basic multiple subject or single subject teaching credential, and then earn the special education authorization as an advanced specialization. When the Commission adopted the current standards, it designed the education specialist structure as a basic credential eliminating the prerequisite teacher credential requirement. She said the credential also became a two-level credential – preliminary level one and professional clear. In 2001, the Commission adopted new program standards (SB 2042) for multiple and single subject credential teacher preparation. This new credential structure may have an influence on the education specialist structure.

Ms. Jones Wadsworth said there were at least four topics in need of further discussion relative to special education credentials: Subject matter preparation; English language learner authorization; professional level II induction programs; and the consistency with the structure of other basic credential structure.

Regarding subject matter preparation, Ms. Wadsworth said although subject matter competence is required for both education specialist and multiple and single subject credentials, the subject matter for education specialist does not have to be related to the specific assignment of the individual. She said that this topic will need further discussion as the Commission decides how to meet IDEA/NCLB requirements established by the California State Board of Education, particularly regarding the definition of “highly qualified” teachers.

Ms. Jones Wadsworth explained that the English Language Learner (ELL) authorization is embedded in the multiple/single subject credential requirements, but not in the current education specialist credential requirements. The result is that education specialist candidates cannot receive ELL authorization without taking additional course work or a test.

On the topic of Professional Level II Induction, she said Level II is not the same for multiple/single and education specialist credential programs. She said that becomes an issue when candidates decide to earn both a multiple or single subject credential and an education specialist credential. She said the degree of consistency between the credentials is such that the topic may need further consideration. She also directed the Commissioners’ attention to four policy questions for consideration at the end of the agenda item, saying staff was seeking direction about which of them the Commission would like further information on.

Commissioner Molina recognized David Simmons of the Ventura County's Office of Education for a public comment. Mr. Simmons said prior to the meeting, he polled all of Ventura County's personnel directors and special education directors and all strongly favored adapting education specialist standard to include ELL content. He said the current process is not a streamlined process. He said no basic credential should be recommended without ELL authorization.

Dr. Nina Winn, Orange County Department of Education, which serves approximately 2000 teachers annually, also addressed the ELL issue. She said her department sees people coming in with special education credentials who have to be told they need to do more credential work to obtain ELL authorization. She said she was speaking to encourage the Commission to fix the problem by embedding ELL standards within existing education specialist standards.

Commissioner Banker asked for clarification on the subject matter preparation issue of education specialist teaching assignments not necessarily being related to a teacher's subject matter preparation.

Ms. Jones Wadsworth answered that the decision for the education specialist credential candidate to have subject matter competence was implemented in 1997 as a result of standards adopted in 1996, prior to NCLB and current IDEA regulations for subject matter competence. Now, under IDEA/NCLB California will need to be in compliance with federal law. She added that the credentials are structured as K-12 for mild/moderate and moderate/severe. Teachers may be assigned to teach those students at any grade level. Final decisions about the definition of the "highly qualified teacher" still must be made by the State Board of Education. Those regulations will likely be adopted in the next few months.

Ms. Jones Wadsworth said the problem is made more challenging by the variety of settings for teachers, including those with credentials in areas of low incidence. Education specialists are assigned as itinerant teachers, work in resource rooms for the blind, special day classes, and co-teach with a general education teacher, among other things.

Commissioner Gomez said quite often it takes a great deal of time before a student can be identified as needing special education. The blending of teachers with the knowledge and specific pedagogies will allow servicing the special education population quicker, without waiting for a formal decision.

Dr. Young, referring to Commissioner Banker's comment regarding education specialist teaching assignments not necessarily being related to a teacher's subject matter preparation, said that it creates a lot of confusion and points out the difference between the credential requirement and the employment requirement of being highly qualified in a subject area. She said CSU campuses advise education specialists to think about at what level they plan to teach and take the appropriate CSET exam, not just any CSET exam.

Ms. Wadsworth also described situations where candidates take a specific core test, assuming they will be teaching that particular single subject, but then their assignment changes.

Dr. Young said, looking at the four questions at the end of the item, that the answers are very obvious. She said the Commission should get on top of the problem as soon as possible, in preparation for the restructuring Secretary Bersin has alluded to in his comments earlier.

Ms. Waite said there are programs in the state offering both a special education and general education credential preparation in such a way that you can earn both credentials. The special education credential allows candidates to get a “certificate of eligibility” if they are not employed as a special education teacher; however, the general credential mandates that candidates complete two years of induction within five years of obtaining the preliminary credential. For this reason, dually credentialed teachers feel they must accept a general education teaching position in order to retain that credential. Once a new teacher has completed a two year, general education induction program, it is difficult to get them to move back into a special education position where they would have to again complete another two year induction program. She said we do not want them to have to go through four years of induction or feel they must obtain a general education position first. This is a problem and it will impact even more students this June because these multiple and single subject graduates are now all in SB 2042 programs. She urged staff to bring back some options at the next Commission meeting for solving the problem. Commissioner Banker said she would like to see a panel in place to begin answering these questions even before the arrival of federal guidance.

Commissioner Littman said some issues need to be addressed more quickly, particularly the ELL and induction issues, so those coming out this spring will not get hit with multiple requirements. The bigger policy issues that need more time can be resolved more slowly, she said.

Commissioner Kenney said that, as a classroom teacher, he felt it was important to keep in mind there is not always the option of having a teacher in every subject area qualified in special education, so that a special education component should be incorporated for all regular classroom teachers.

Commissioner Molina asked staff what the next steps might be to move the issues described in the discussion forward.

Dr. Birch said staff would bring back further information about the issues, with a priority given to ELL and induction issues.

7H: Issues in Determining Language Proficiency for Languages Other Than English

Beth Graybill, Director, Professional Services Division, and Phyllis Jacobson, Consultant, Professional Services Division, presented this item. Ms. Graybill said this

item highlights the issues involved in determining language proficiency for candidates seeking a single subject credential to teach a foreign language that is not commonly taught in public schools. She said the matter is prompted by the passage last year of AB 420 by Assembly Member Horton, who raised the question of how teachers wishing to teach these languages can demonstrate Subject matter knowledge. She said that legislation also directed the Commission to develop a CSET exam for Filipino, for which an expenditure plan has been submitted to the Department of Finance.

She said the Commission offers single subject credentials in 10 different language areas most frequently taught in public schools. Candidates can prove their competency by taking a CSET exam or by completing an approved undergraduate Subject matter program, the latter being the route chosen by roughly two thirds of candidates, she said. There are some language areas for which there are no Subject matter programs available, leaving candidates with only a CSET exam. Then there are language areas for which neither a CSET exams nor Subject matter programs are available for candidates wishing to teach those languages.

Ms. Graybill noted that, because the Commission's exams are required to be self-sustaining, fees must be set high enough to cover development and administration costs. That could lead to highly inequitable exam fees, she said, for language areas with low demand. The alternative is to spread the costs over examinees taking other tests who must then subsidize those fees.

Ms. Graybill suggested some policy questions Commissioners might think about including how to establish criteria to evaluate the demand for language exams in certain areas, and how alternative assessments could be used when there is a need but not a strong demand statewide for some language exams.

Ms. Jacobsen spoke to some guideline for alternative assessments in additional languages other than English. She said there are no off-the-shelf tests in less frequently taught languages that would reflect California's K-12 academic content standards or that are of comparable scope and rigor to the CSET exams. A potential approach, she said, would be for the Commission to identify organizations having the expertise necessary to offer examinations to candidates. That would entail developing guidelines for exams administered by those expert organizations, which were outlined in the agenda item.

Another alternative approach, she said would be in "repurposing" standard CTEL and BCLAD exams. There would need to be consideration, however, for those Subject matter requirements assessed by CSET that CTEL and BCLAD do not currently cover such as literature of the target language, she said.

Commissioner Cordeiro asked if there are particular other languages stakeholders have asked about.

Ms. Graybill said there have been no formal requests from any particular group, but that at least two legislative offices had inquired on behalf of their constituencies for an exam in Armenian.

Commissioner Cordeiro said San Diego is seeing a rise in its Portuguese-speaking population and asked if that language is being considered.

Ms. Graybill said that was a good example of how a growing population can increase the demand for teachers, which is the policy issue the agenda item seeks to address.

Commissioner Cordierio asked if any other states might be offering assessments in some of these languages.

Ms. Jacobsen said based on a nationwide inquiry she had made there are none and that other states wanted to know if California had something they could use.

Dr. Young asked if there were currently any Subject matter routes in languages that do not have exams.

Ms. Graybill noted that there was an approved program for Latin, but no exam.

Dr. Young said that if Subject matter programs are eliminated for secondary credentials, there would no be longer a program route for languages. Therefore, this issue affects many more languages than those currently without an examination route.

Commissioner Kenney asked if it would be reasonable to look at this as a blanket issue in light of 52 language groups in California and work to come up with a operational method of adding single subject assessment for all of those language groups rather than doing it one language at a time.

Ms. Graybill said that since we do not know how many of those languages may be taught as a foreign language, the Commission needs to look at, the development of guidelines to address requests for new language areas in the future.

Following up, Commissioner Kenney asked if the Commission could get an initial assessment on some of the alternative methods by comparing them with currently approved CSET language tests. Dr. Jacobsen responded that was suggested in the agenda item.

Dr. Young said the issue was not just all the languages out there, but also which school districts are looking to offer low incidence languages and what if the actual demand for low incidence language was known.

Commissioner Banker said the problem is also legislators and that if they decide to legislate something then the Commission has to do it.

Commissioner Littman asked about “repurposing” existing exams. Referring to NCATE program approval in other states, she said if there is some way to utilize a similar system, using a process with a set of standards tied to something already existing that just becomes part of Subject matter approval process.

Dr. Swofford, referring to Commissioner Banker’s comment about legislative intent, said unfortunately the appropriation doesn’t always go along with that intent, and if there is no appropriation with the mandate the Commission is put in a box. Punjabi was mandated years ago, he said, but only 2-3 people have taken this test in which the Commission had made a substantial investment. He cautioned Commissioners that when they talk about testing for 52 or more languages to keep the substantial funding problems in mind as well.

Chair Schwarze asked if the Language Defense Institute in Monterey had been contacted as a possible source on this issue.

Ms. Jacobson said yes, as well as the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages which has a test known as the OPI (Oral Proficiency Interview). She said even though tests like that are useful, no other tests covers all the Subject matter requirements of CSET.

Commissioner Molina asked if the Commission has actually shown the legislature the numbers of people who have applied for these tests. Ms. Graybill said yes.

Commissioner Dodge asked if there have been requests for other languages.

Ms. Graybill said none that she was aware of other than the legislator request about Armenian. In respect to the demand issue, she said, it may be a chicken and egg kind of scenario and noted that some individuals argue that demand will increase over time if exams are offered.

Asked to recap the discussion, Ms. Graybill said the next step will be a more in-depth analysis on cost effectiveness and demand, including planning for the long range on language testing needs and also taking a closer look at options listed in the item.

Commissioner Kenney asked if it would it be reasonable to come forward with two proposals for alternative routes to language testing and outline the general nature of that testing and implementing a small pilot to demonstrate its validity and actual costs of implementation. Ms. Graybill said staff could do that.

Commissioner Molina adjourned the committee.

Reconvene General Session

Chair Schwarze recapped the biographies of new Commissioners Cindy Dodge and John Kenney for the Wednesday session's expanded audience.

1J: Report of Closed Session Items

Chair Schwarze presented the report of closed session. She noted that the Commission denied John Olszewski's petition for reinstatement. The Commission took action to reject the Administrative Law Judge's Proposed Decision, revoke all certification documents and deny any pending applications in the matter of Patrick Kercheval and that the findings will be submitted at the April 4-5, 2006 Commission meeting for adoption. She reported that the Commission rejected the Proposed Decision and called for the transcript in the matter of Mr. Vega.

1K: Report of Appeals and Waivers Committee

The Committee recommended and unanimously approved the November 30, 2005 minutes, the consent calendar and the conditions calendar.

1L: New Business

The Quarterly Agenda for January-February, April, and May/June 2006 was presented.

Audience Presentations

Monica Massino, President, California Student Teachers Association, presented CSTA's new liaison Chante Fauntleroy.

Commissioner Banker asked for an agenda to discuss the policy manual and Chair Schwarze said it would be available in April.

Dr. Young mentioned the *CSU Annual Report: Standards-Based Teacher Preparation in the California State University*, and provided copies of the report to each member of the Commission.

Ms. Graybill introduced Sawssan Abdelhak, who is a new staff member in the Professional Services Division.

1M: Adjournment

Chair Schwarze adjourned the meeting and noted that the next meeting of the Commission will be April 4-5, 2006.