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Action

Professional Practices Committee

Committee of Credentials Vacancies for 2011-12

Executive Summary: The Committee will review the terms of the current members of the Committee of Credentials and determine whether to reappoint, extend or declare vacancies for the school board member, public representative, administrative employee and secondary school teacher positions.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Commission reappoint public representative Ms. Van Pelt and declare the positions of the administrative employee member and the secondary school teacher vacant effective June 30, 2011.

Presenter: Mary Armstrong, Director, Division of Professional Practices

Strategic Plan Goal: 1

Promote educational excellence through the preparation and certification of professional educators

- ◆ Evaluate and monitor the moral fitness of credential applicants and holders and take appropriate action

January 2011

Committee of Credentials Vacancies for 2011-12

Introduction

The obligations of the Professional Practices Committee and the Commission relative to the Committee of Credentials (Committee) are set forth in the Commission's Policy Manual. This item summarizes those obligations 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 secondary teacher member, the administrative employee member, and the public representative member expires on June 30, 2011. Both members the secondary teacher member and the administrative employee member have served more than two terms.

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 incumbent Rodonna Van Pelt was sent on January 7, 2011. Ms. Van Pelt has served one two-year term and has expressed her willingness to serve an additional term.

The Policy Manual also provides that no member shall serve more than two successive two-year terms [CTC Policy Manual § 503(a)]. The Policy Manual's term limits have been waived in the past when the Commission determined that the Committee would benefit from the continuity and experience of incumbents. Mr. Rickabaugh, the administrative representative employee and current Chair of the Committee, is in his fourth two-year term. Mr. Ledesma, the secondary teacher member, is in his third two-year term. In each case the term limits were waived due to the vacancies of other members of the Committee.

The Policy Manual also provides in § 503 that “At 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 (§ 503(b)) and that “terms 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.”

Committee of Credentials Members

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

Name	Current Term	Proposed Term
GREGG LAW Elementary Teacher	06-30-2012	
BARBARA KILPONEN School Board Member	06-30-2012	
TILLIE SOLIZ Public Representative	06-30-2012	
MARK RICKABAUGH Administrative Employee	06-30-2011	Declare vacant as of 06-30-11
MARTIN LEDESMA Secondary Teacher	06-30-2011	Declare vacant as of 06-30-11
ALBERT DOLATA Public Representative	06-30-2011	Filled unexpired term in December 2010
RODONNA VAN PELT Public Representative	06-30-2011	Reappoint until 06-30-13

Staff Recommendation

In order to provide continuity on the Committee, staff recommends that the Commission (1) reappoint to a second two-year term effective July 1, 2011 Ms. Van Pelt; and (2) declare the secondary teacher member position currently held by Mr. Ledesma and the administrative employee member position currently held by Mark Rickabaugh, vacant effective July 1, 2011.

Staff should be directed to begin the process of advertising for candidates for the vacant positions and to schedule interviews for an Ad Hoc Interview Committee in June 2011.



Commission on Teacher Credentialing

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Office of the Executive Director

Via Electronic Mail and U.S. Mail

January 7, 2011

Rodonna Van Pelt
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Van Pelt:

On behalf of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, we would like to thank you for the time and dedication you have given as a member of the Committee of Credentials.

As you know, your term expires June 30, 2011. As such, it is time for the Commission to determine whether to declare a vacancy on the Committee. An incumbent's availability to accept reappointment is one of a number of factors the Commission may consider in determining vacancies. Accordingly, the Commission would like to know whether you would be available for potential reappointment to the Committee.

Section 500 of the Commission's Policy Manual further provides that your response to this inquiry "...shall be given orally, followed by a written communication." Please indicate below whether you would be willing to serve another term. Please respond by hand delivery or by mail within five (5) days of your receipt of this letter.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Dale A. Janssen
Executive Director

cc: Mary Armstrong, Director,
Division of Professional Practices

I am available for reappointment to the Committee for a two (2) year term effective June 30, 2011.

I am not available for reappointment to the Committee for a two (2) year term effective June 30, 2011.