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Action

Professional Practices Committee

Committee of Credentials Substitute Members

Executive Summary: The Commission may appoint former Committee of Credential members to serve as substitute members of the Committee of Credentials to address anticipated short absences.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Commission appoint substitute members to the Committee of Credentials and authorize them to serve as needed.

Presenter: Ani Kindall, Attorney, Division of Professional Practices

Strategic Plan Goal:

I. Educator Quality

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

Committee of Credentials Substitute Members

Introduction

The Commission makes appointments to the Committee of Credentials (“Committee”) pursuant to Education Code section 44240.¹ This item presents information concerning appointment of substitute members to the Committee to address anticipated short absences.

Background

Pursuant to subdivision (a) of Education Code section 44240, 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 administrator 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 educator misconduct to determine whether to recommend discipline.

¹ § 44240. Appointment and composition of Committee of Credentials; Terms

(a) The commission shall appoint a Committee of Credentials, consisting of seven persons for terms fixed by the commission but not to exceed two years. The committee shall include:

(1) One member who shall be a full-time certified classroom teacher in the public elementary schools with not less than five years of classroom experience.

(2) One member who shall be a full-time certified classroom teacher in the public secondary schools with not less than five years of classroom experience.

(3) One member who shall be a certified administrative employee in the public schools.

(4) One member who shall be a member of the governing board of a school district. A member of the governing board of a school district whose tenure on the governing board ends while serving a term on the committee may continue to serve the remainder of the term on the committee, but shall be ineligible for reappointment to the committee pursuant to this paragraph.

(5) Three members who shall be representatives of the public. No person who is currently employed in a certificated position in the public schools or who is currently a member of the governing board of a school district or a county board of education shall be appointed as a public member.

(b) (1) (A) The commission may establish an alternate list of individuals qualified pursuant to subdivision (a) for the purpose of filling an unanticipated vacancy on the Committee of Credentials.

(B) If a member of the committee is absent from any four regularly scheduled meetings in a calendar year, his or her position shall be deemed vacant.

(2) The commission may also establish a substitute list of individuals qualified pursuant to subdivision (a) who have at least 12 months of prior experience serving on the committee. The commission may designate an individual on the substitute list as a short-term substitute in the temporary absence of a regular member.

(c) Appointments to the Committee of Credentials shall reflect, to the extent feasible, the ethnic and cultural diversity of California public schools.

Effective January 1, 2019, subdivision (b)(2) was added to Education Code section 44240. It provides that the Commission “may also establish a substitute list of individuals qualified pursuant to subdivision (a) who have at least 12 months of prior experience serving on the committee. The commission may designate an individual on the substitute list as a short-term substitute in the temporary absence of a regular member.”

Potential Substitute Committee of Credentials Members

The terms of school administrator Helio Brasil and secondary teacher Sheila Ryskamp expire on June 30, 2019. Dr. Brasil is the current chairperson of the Committee. Ms. Ryskamp is the current vice chairperson. Both have served as Committee members since July 1, 2011, and both have expressed willingness to serve as substitutes when their terms expire.

The following former members of the Committee have also expressed their willingness to serve as substitutes:

Name	Date First Appointed	Date Last Served
MARIO MOYA Elementary Teacher	10-14-2014	06-30-2018
TILLE SOLIZ Public Representative	07-01-2010	01-19-2018
MARY JANE ROBERTS Public Representative	07-01-2012	10-21-2016

Substitute Committee members will be fingerprinted, take an oath of office, and will complete Statements of Economic Interest, as required.

Once appointed, individuals will remain on the substitute list until such time as they indicate that they are no longer available to serve or they are removed from the list by the Commission.

Designation to Serve as Short-term Substitute

Since Committee absences normally occur on short notice, it would be most effective for the Commission to authorize staff to contact one or more individuals on the substitute list, on a rotating basis, to serve during a temporary absence.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission appoint Helio Brasil, Sheila Ryskamp, Mario Moya, Tillie Soliz, and Mary Jane Roberts as substitute members of the Committee and to designate each to serve as a short-term substitute as needed.