| **Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item** | **Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia** |
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# Agenda Item: H

## Date: October 18, 2018

**Title: First Review of Recommendation of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) to Add New Education (Endorsement) Programs at Bluefield College and George Mason University**

#### Presenter: Patty S. Pitts, Assistant Superintendent for Teacher Education and

#### Licensure

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## Purpose of Presentation:

Action required by state or federal law or regulation.

## Executive Summary: Requests from Virginia institutions of higher education to add education (endorsement) programs must be approved by the Board of Education. Bluefield College requested a new graduate education (endorsement) program in Administration and Supervision PreK-12. George Mason University requested new undergraduate education (endorsement) programs in Early Childhood Special Education (undergraduate level) and Early/Primary Education PreK-3 (undergraduate).

Program specialists in the Department of Education reviewed the three programs. Program endorsement competencies, based on the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8VAC20-542-10 et seq.), were verified through the review of course descriptions and syllabi to determine alignment with each of the competencies required, including supervised classroom instruction. A review of the *Request for New Endorsement Program* application submitted by the institution evidenced written documentation of school division demand data, as well as institutional and school division support for the requested programs.

Section 8VAC20-542-40 of the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* requires institutions seeking education program approval to establish partnerships and collaborations based on PreK-12 school needs. A copy of the *Virginia Department of Education – Standards for Biennial Approval of Education Programs Accountability Measurement of Partnerships and Collaborations Based on PreK-12 School Needs (8VAC20-542-40.7.a) Education Programs (excluding Administration and Supervision Programs)* form for each requested program endorsement area is attached in the Appendix.The institution of higher education will submit a biennial report for the education programs.

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure reviewed the requests from the two institutions on September 17, 2018. The Advisory Board members unanimously recommended that the Board of Education grant approval to Bluefield College to add an education (endorsement) program in Administration and Supervision PreK-12 and to George Mason University to add programs in Early Childhood Special Education and Early/Primary Education PreK-3.

## Action Requested:

Other. Specify below:

The Board is requested to waive first review and approve the recommendation from ABTEL to approve the new education (endorsement) programs from Bluefield College and George Mason University.

## Superintendent’s Recommendation:

## The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education waive first review and approve the recommendation from the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure to approve the following new education (endorsement) programs:

## Bluefield College: Administration and Supervision PreK-12 (graduate)

## George Mason University: Early Childhood Special Education (undergraduate) Early/Primary Education PreK-3 (undergraduate)

## Previous Review or Action:

No previous review or action.

Background Information and Statutory Authority:   
The *Code of Virginia* requires education preparation programs to meet requirements for accreditation and program approval as prescribed by the Board of Education in its regulations.

*§ 22.1-298.2. Regulations governing education preparation programs.*

*A. As used in this section:*

*"Assessment of basic skills" means an assessment prescribed by the Board of Education that an individual must take prior to admission into an approved education preparation program, as prescribed by the Board of Education in its regulations.*

*"Education preparation program" includes four-year bachelor's degree programs in teacher education.*

*B. Education preparation programs shall meet the requirements for accreditation and program approval as prescribed by the Board of Education in its regulations.*

*C. The Board of Education regulations shall provide for education preparation programs offered by institutions of higher education, Virginia public school divisions, and certified providers for alternate routes to licensure.*

*D. The Board shall prescribe an assessment of basic skills for individuals seeking entry into an approved education preparation program and shall establish a minimum passing score for such assessment. The Board also may prescribe other requirements for admission to Virginia's approved education preparation programs in its regulations.*

*E. The Board shall establish accountability measures for approved education programs. Data shall be submitted to the Board on not less than a biennial basis.*

The *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8VAC20-542-10 et seq.) set forth the requirements for the accreditation and approval of programs preparing teachers, administrators, and other instructional personnel requiring licensure. These regulations establish policies and standards for the preparation of instructional personnel, further ensuring educational quality for Virginia public school students. Colleges and universities that offer programs for the preparation of professional school personnel must obtain education program (endorsement) approval from the Board of Education. Requests to offer new education endorsement programs are submitted to the Department of Education. Personnel in the Division of Teacher Education and Licensure and program specialists within the Department of Education review the programs to ensure competencies and other requirements have been addressed. The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) reviews and makes recommendations to the Board of Education on approval of Virginia education programs for school personnel. Final authority for program approval rests with the Board of Education. Requests for new program endorsements approved by the Board of Education will receive a rating of *Approved*; *Approved with Stipulations*; or *Approval Denied*.

The *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia,* in part, stipulate the following:

8VAC20-542-20. Administering the regulations.

D. Institutions of higher education seeking approval of an education program shall be accredited by a regional accrediting agency….

H. Education programs shall be approved under these regulations biennially based on compliance with the criteria described in 8VAC20-542-40….

**8VAC20-542-40. Standards for biennial approval of education programs.**

Approved education programs in Virginia shall have national accreditation or be accredited by a process approved by the Board of Education and demonstrate achievement biennially of the following accountability measures:

1. Candidate progress and performance on prescribed Board of Education licensure assessments. Candidate passing rates, reported by percentages, shall not fall below 70 percent biennially for individuals completing and exiting the program. Achievement of an 80 percent biennial passing rate shall be required by July 1, 2010. Candidates completing a program shall have successfully completed all coursework, required assessments, including those prescribed by the Board of Education, and supervised student teaching or internship. Candidates exiting a program shall have successfully completed all coursework, regardless of whether the individuals attempted, passed, or failed required assessments, including those prescribed by the Board of Education, and/or who may not have completed supervised student teaching or required internship.
2. Candidate progress and performance on an assessment of basic skills as prescribed by the Board of Education for individuals seeking entry into an approved education preparation program….
3. Structured and integrated field experiences to include student teaching requirements….
4. Evidence of opportunities for candidates to participate in diverse school settings that provide experiences with populations that include racial, economic, linguistic, and ethnic diversity throughout the program experiences….
5. Evidence of contributions to PreK-12 student achievement by candidates completing the program….
6. Evidence of employer job satisfaction with candidates completing the program….
7. Partnerships and collaborations based on PreK-12 school needs….

Timetable for Further Review/Action:  
Upon Board of Education approval, the institutions will be notified, and the programs will be posted on the Department of Education’s website.

## Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

The administrative impact will be absorbed within existing resources.

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| ATTACHMENT A ***Virginia Board of Education - Standards for Biennial Approval of Education Programs***  ***Administration and Supervision Program***  ***Name of Institution: Bluefield College***  ***Contact Person: Dr. Thomas M. Brewster***  ***Date: May 18, 2018*** | | | | |
| **Number** | **Administration and Supervision Programs - Partnership and Collaboration Name** | **Partnership and Collaboration Description** - Please provide a brief description of the partnership and collaboration (about 50 words or less). | **Description of School Leadership Needs -** Briefly describe (about 50 words or less) how the partnership and collaboration meet the identified school leadership needs of the school community. | **Partners and Collaborators** - Please list the names of the entities that took part in the partnership and collaboration. |
| 1. | Tazewell County Public Schools | Graduate candidates seeking an Administration and Supervision PreK-12 endorsement will be placed in the public schools to complete field experience hours and activities required for coursework and practical experience. Experienced school leaders will serve as mentors for leadership candidates. Candidates observe under the supervision of their mentor leader and College supervisor. | Formal and informal feedback from local school administrators indicated a need for qualified leadership candidates to fill Administration and Supervision Prek-12 positions. | Tazewell County Public Schools  George Brown, Superintendent  506 Jeffersonville Street  Tazewell, VA 24651  (276) 988-5511 |
| 2. | Bland County Public Schools | Graduate candidates seeking an Administration and Supervision PreK-12 endorsement will be placed in the public schools to complete field experience hours and activities required for coursework and practical experience. Experienced school leaders will serve as mentors for leadership candidates. Candidates observe under the supervision of their mentor leader and College supervisor. | Formal and informal feedback from local school administrators indicated a need for qualified leadership candidates to fill Administration and Supervision Prek-12 positions. | Bland County Public Schools  Scott Meade, Superintendent  361 Bears Trail Bastian, Virginia 24314 (276) 688-3361 |
| **Number** | **Administration and Supervision Programs - Partnership and Collaboration Name** | **Partnership and Collaboration Description** - Please provide a brief description of the partnership and collaboration (about 50 words or less). | **Description of School Leadership Needs -** Briefly describe (about 50 words or less) how the partnership and collaboration meet the identified school leadership needs of the school community. | **Partners and Collaborators** - Please list the names of the entities that took part in the partnership and collaboration. |
| 3 | Buchanan County Public Schools | Graduate candidates seeking an Administration and Supervision PreK-12 endorsement will be placed in the public schools to complete field experience hours and activities required for coursework and practical experience. Experienced school leaders will serve as mentors for leadership candidates. Candidates observe under the supervision of their mentor leader and College supervisor. | Formal and informal feedback from local school administrators indicated a need for qualified leadership candidates to fill Administration and Supervision Prek-12 positions. | Buchanan County Public Schools  Sherry Fletcher, Assistant Superintendent 1176 Booth Branch Road Grundy, Virginia 24614 (276) 935-4551 |

***Accountability Measurement of Partnerships and Collaborations based on PreK-12 School Needs***

***Education Programs -- Early Childhood Special Education and Early/Primary Education PreK-3***

***Name of Institution: George Mason University***

***Contact Person: Ellen Rodgers***

***Date: September 10, 2018***

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| **Number** | **Education Programs - Partnership and Collaboration Name** | **Partnership and Collaboration Description** - Please provide a brief description of the partnership and collaboration (about 50 words or less). | **Description of PreK-12 School Needs -** Briefly describe (about 50 words or less) how the partnership and collaboration meet the identified needs of the PreK-12 community. | **Partners and Collaborators -** Please list the names of the entities that took part in the partnership and collaboration. |
| 1. | Early Childhood Education Program (ECE) and Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) | The Early Childhood Education program and FCPS have formed a partnership that enables students to participate in internships required for licensure and in field experiences required for their coursework. FCPS teachers teach as adjuncts in Early Childhood Education program and serve in an advisory capacity for the program. | The students who are engaged in internships and field experiences provide additional support within the classroom and in the school. Program completers are hired to fill positions in shortage areas. | Fairfax County Public Schools Personnel |
| 2. | Early Childhood Education Program and Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) | The Early Childhood Education program and ACPS have formed a partnership that enables students to participate in internships required for licensure and in field experiences required for their coursework. ACPS teachers teach as adjuncts in Early Childhood Education program and serve in an advisory capacity for the program. | The students who are engaged in internships and field experiences provide additional support within the classroom and in the school. Program completers are hired to fill positions in shortage areas. | Alexandria City Public Schools Personnel |
| 3. | Early Childhood Education Program and Arlington County Public Schools (APS) | The Early Childhood Education program and APS have formed a partnership that enables students to participate in internships required for licensure and in field experiences required for their coursework. APS teachers teach as adjuncts in Early Childhood Education program and serve in an advisory capacity for the program. | The students who are engaged in internships and field experiences provide additional support within the classroom and in the school. Program completers are hired to fill positions in shortage areas. | Arlington Public Schools Personnel |
| **Number** | **Education Programs - Partnership and Collaboration Name** | **Partnership and Collaboration Description** - Please provide a brief description of the partnership and collaboration (about 50 words or less). | **Description of PreK-12 School Needs -** Briefly describe (about 50 words or less) how the partnership and collaboration meet the identified needs of the PreK-12 community. | **Partners and Collaborators -** Please list the names of the entities that took part in the partnership and collaboration. |
| 4. | Early Childhood Education Program and Prince William County Public Schools (PWCS) | The Early Childhood Education program and PWCS have formed a partnership that enables students to participate in internships required for licensure and in field experiences required for their coursework. PWCS teachers teach as adjuncts in Early Childhood Education program and serve in an advisory capacity for the program. | The students who are engaged in internships and field experiences provide additional support within the classroom and in the school. Program completers are hired to fill positions in shortage areas. | Prince William County Public Schools Personnel |
| 5. | Early Childhood Education Program and Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) | The Early Childhood Education program and LCPS have formed a partnership that enables students to participate in internships required for licensure and in field experiences required for their coursework. LCPS teachers teach as adjuncts in Early Childhood Education program and serve in an advisory capacity for the program. | The students who are engaged in internships and field experiences provide additional support within the classroom and in the school. Program completers are hired to fill positions in shortage areas. | Loudoun County Public Schools Personnel |
| 6. | Early Childhood Education Program and Manassas City Public Schools | The Early Childhood Education program and LCPS have formed a partnership that enables students to participate in internships required for licensure and in field experiences required for their coursework. LCPS teachers teach as adjuncts in Early Childhood Education program and serve in an advisory capacity for the program. | The students who are engaged in internships and field experiences provide additional support within the classroom and in the school. Program completers are hired to fill positions in shortage areas. | Manassas City Public Schools Personnel |
| 7. | Early Childhood Education Program (ECE) and Stafford County Public Schools (SCPS) | The Early Childhood Education program and SCPS have formed a partnership that enables students to participate in internships required for licensure and in field experiences required for their coursework. SCPS teachers teach as adjuncts in Early Childhood Education program and serve in an advisory capacity for the program. | The students who are engaged in internships and field experiences provide additional support within the classroom and in the school. Program completers are hired to fill positions in shortage areas. | Stafford County Public Schools Personnel |