



STATE OF IDAHO
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION
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2020 2021 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION WORKING PLAN

Approved by the Professional Standards commission June 12, 2020

The 1972 Idaho State Legislature established the Professional Standards Commission (PSC) as an advisory commission to the State Board of Education. The PSC consists of 18 constituency members appointed or reappointed for terms of three years. This working plan, created and revised by the PSC, presents the mission, vision, operating philosophy, long-term goals, and objectives of the Commission. It also includes the associated key strategies for the annual work plan of each committee.

MISSION

The PSC makes recommendations to the State Board of Education and renders decisions that provide Idaho with competent, qualified, ethical educators dedicated to rigorous standards, preK-12 student achievement, and improved professional practice.

VISION

The PSC will continue to provide leadership for professional standards and accountability in Idaho's schools. We will handle that responsibility with respect and in a timely fashion. We will nurture positive relationships and collaborative efforts with a wide range of stakeholders. We will be a powerful voice advocating on behalf of Idaho's children.

OPERATING PHILOSOPHY

We are a representative professional team committed to providing a quality education to Idaho's youth. In pursuing our mission, we appoint members to standing committees: standards, authorizations, and executive. We strive to be proactive, informed, progressive, and accountable. Above all, we value ethical practice, professionalism, and broad collaboration among all stakeholders.

LONG-TERM GOALS

Long-term goals are driven by various challenges that impact the state of Idaho, educators, schools, educators-in-training, and preK-12 schoolchildren. They provide a framework for our major challenges. The development and application of professional standards and the full implementation of its statutory responsibilities would enable the PSC to:

- Increase the professional competence of all practicing and pre-service teachers in Idaho;
- Minimize the number of ethical violations by certificated educators through increased pre-service and in-service professional development; and
- Increase the level of understanding, communication, and collaboration between the PSC, the State Board of Education, and other stakeholders.

AUTHORIZATIONS COMMITTEE

Ensuring Idaho students are served by qualified alternatively certified educators

Objective #1: Review district requests for Alternative Authorizations

Strategies

- Ensure all requirements have been met prior to approval
- Present recommendations to full PSC for approval

Objective #2: Streamline Alternative Authorization application process

Strategies

- Maintain tracking system for processing Alternative Authorization applications
- Review and update the applications for Alternative Authorizations
- Review and revise application processes and documentation requirements

Objective #3: Maintain the alternative authorizations to certification and endorsement requirements

Strategies

- Review administrative rules and processes for content specialists, teacher to new, and emergency provisional authorizations annually and recommend changes where appropriate

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Ensuring fiscal responsibility

Objective: Monitor the PSC budget

Strategies

- Develop and maintain a budget system consistent with the State Department of Education's protocol
- Propose an annual budget to be approved by the full PSC
- Monitor PSC expenditures

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ensuring Idaho students are served by ethical educators

Objective #1: Streamline the ethics complaint process

Strategies

- Maintain tracking system for processing complaints
- Conduct investigations, hold formal hearings, and bring cases to conclusion in a timely manner
- Conduct trainings for and maintain a current list of hearing panel chairs

Objective #2: Maintain the Code of Ethics as a relevant and responsive set of standards of performance and conduct that will guide and direct all Idaho professional educators

Strategies

- Review the Code of Ethics annually and recommend changes where appropriate
- Research patterns of Code of Ethics violations
- Monitor and engage in national and regional dialogue concerning educator ethics
- Review courses related to disciplinary action remediation

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Communicating and coordinating

Objective #1: Increase the knowledge of major constituent groups regarding the purpose of the Professional Standards Commission

Strategies

- Meet with leaders of constituent groups to provide updates on current initiatives of the Professional Standards Commission

Objective #2: Set agenda for PSC activities and meetings

Strategies

- Create annual working plan for approval by full PSC at the last meeting of the fiscal year

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Ensuring Idaho students are served by highly effective educators

Objective #1: Develop recommendations for pre-service educator preparation standards and endorsement requirements for consideration by the State Board of Education

Strategies

- Review and recommend content, pedagogy, and performance assessments and qualifying scores
- Review and discuss data on the content assessments of Idaho Educator Preparation Programs
- Monitor activities of and provide feedback to the Idaho Educator Standards Working Group

Objective #2: Develop and make recommendations for educator certification and endorsement requirements for consideration by the State Board of Education

Strategies

- Review and discuss certification and endorsement issues arising out of local and federal non-regulatory guidelines and regulatory requirements
- Review the relationship between Idaho's certification requirements and those of other state and national requirements to determine alignment
- Review and discuss data on the number of pre-service educators at Idaho educator preparation programs being prepared for specific certificates and endorsements
- Review and discuss educator pipeline and make recommendations for specific certificates and endorsements as needed
- Monitor activities of and provide feedback to the Idaho Educator Standards Working Group

Objective #3: Develop and/or maintain review processes for educator preparation program approval

Strategies

- Maintain schedule for educator preparation program reviews
- Review educator preparation program annual progress reporting process
- Monitor activities of and provide feedback to the Idaho Educator Standards Working Group
 - Review and update the process for state program approval and manual
 - Develop guidelines to train state team members
 - Review and update process for the use of CAEP educator preparation institution standards for non-CAEP approved institutions