

## Item 12:

### Consider and Take Appropriate Action on the Core Subjects Early Childhood-Grade 6 Certification Examination

#### DISCUSSION AND ACTION

**SUMMARY:** This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) an opportunity to discuss and approve a new format for the Core Subjects Early Childhood-Grade 6 examination.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.041(b)(4) and §21.048(a).

TEC, §21.041(b)(4), requires the SBEC to propose rules that specify the requirements for the issuance and renewal of an educator certificate.

TEC, §21.048(a), requires the SBEC to propose rules prescribing comprehensive examinations for each class of certificate issued by the SBEC.

**PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:** The Core Subjects examinations were last discussed at the April 2016 SBEC meeting.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION:** House Bill 2012, 83rd Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2013, amended TEC Tm[ )]d70ETended Ti)lass2013es ch claTexas

better prepared to instruct students and have demonstrated sufficient subject matter knowledge. Redevelopment of the Core Subjects EC-6 test will take at least a year, so until this step can be completed, TEA staff recommends continuing the use of the current examination until the new test is finalized and ready for administration in the 2017-2018 testing year.

TEA staff recognizes the importance of involving stakeholders to develop recommendations that will ensure opportunities remain in place for individuals to teach fine arts, health, and physical education at the elementary level as well as their input on potential test format changes for these subject areas. In the interim, individuals who hold a Generalist EC-6 certificate or the current Core Subjects EC-6 certificate, remain eligible for placement in fine arts, health, and physical education assignments. Also because there may be more candidates eligible for

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