MINNESOTA
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR
LICENSING AND STANDARDS BOARD

Board Meeting

9:30 am

April 17, 2026

Agenda

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Board Meeting Agenda

III. Discipline Matters (Closed)

IV. Consent Agenda

V. Public Comment

VI. Unfinished Business

- A. Rulemaking Schedule Update
- B. Heritage Language Rulemaking

VI. New Business

- A. Science Licensure Work Group

VII. Reports

VIII. Adjourn

MINNESOTA
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR
LICENSING AND STANDARDS BOARD

Board is in Closed Session for Discipline Matters

- Call to Order
- Oral Arguments
- Discipline Matters
- Consent Agenda
- Public Comment
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Reports
- Adjourn

Discipline Report Out

Dr. Lucy Payne, Chair

Call to Order
Oral Arguments
Discipline Matters
Consent Agenda
Public Comment
Unfinished Business
New Business
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Consent Agenda

Please refer to pages 3 and 4 of the Board meeting agenda.

- Call to Order
- Oral Arguments
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Public Comment

Call to Order
Oral Arguments
Discipline Matters
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Kate Lynne Snyder

Education Minnesota

Call to Order
Oral Arguments
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Laura Mogelson

MN Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (MACTE)

Call to Order
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Rulemaking Schedule Update

Steve Rollin, Rulemaking Attorney

Unfinished Business

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RULEMAKING SCHEDULE

FY25-26	FY26-27	FY27-28	FY28-29	FY29-30	FY30-31	FY31-32
School Counseling Programs (complete)	Science and Science via Exam	Reading	World Languages	Math	Tiered Licensure & License Renewal	Elementary
ECE (R4863 - in process)	Unit & Program Approval	Special Education: High Incidence/Low Incidence/Core Skills	ESL	Career and Technical Education	Educator Ethics	Social Studies
Ethnic Studies (R4863 - in process)	Heritage Language	Arts				Language Arts
Computer Science (R4863 - in process)	Speech Language Pathologist					
Legislative Policy (R4863 - in process)						

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Heritage Language Rulemaking

Alex Vitrella, Education Evolving/Heritage Language Fellows

Unfinished Business

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Timeline

- 2020 – Education Evolving publishes report on the need for heritage language educators
- 2022- PELSB committees discuss policy recommendations and add the Heritage Language Pathway to its legislative priorities
- 2023 – Heritage Language Pathway is passed
- 2024 – Heritage Language Pathway cohorts begin
- November 2024 – Heritage Fellows request that the Board create a Heritage Language License. The Board agrees and directs the fellows to draft language.

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Science Licensure Working Group

Steve Rollin, Rulemaking Attorney

PELSB Science Teacher Educator and Licensure Working Group

Overview of Working Group Deliverables and Process

- The working group met monthly (November 2025- April 2026) to review current Minnesota Science teacher education and licensure and recommend any needed changes.

PELSB Science Teacher Educator and Licensure Working Group

HS Science Licensure Options

- Option 1 - Maintain content science license at the high school grades
- Option 2 - One Generalized content science license at the high school grades
- Option 3 - Two Generalized content science licenses at the high school grades
- Option 4 - Continue to allow teacher candidates to obtain the current licenses, and add a 9-12 General Science license option

PELSB Science Teacher Educator and Licensure Working Group

MS Science Licensure Options

- Option 1 – Extend Science Licensure to Grades 5-12 – Single License
- Option 2 – Extend Science Licensure to Grades 5-12 – Two Subject Area Licenses
- Option 3 – HS Science Licensure – Two Subject Area Licenses, with full 5-8 as well
- Option 4 – Leave MS Science as is
- Option 5 – Add 6th Grade to all existing 7-12 Earth & Space Science licenses
- Option 6 – Add 9th grade Earth Science to all current 5-8 general science licenses
- Option 7 – Allow 7-12 and 9-12 licensed science teachers to test into the 5-8 general science license

PELSB Science Teacher Educator and Licensure Working Group

- Elementary Licensure Options
  - Option 1 – Discuss issues, but table the deliberation until elementary licensure is up for review.
- Teacher Preparation Program (TPP) Options
  - Option 1 – TPPs could adapt to streamlining HS science licensure.
  - Option 2 – TPPs could adapt to combining HS and MS science licensure.
  - Option 3 – TPPs should not streamline content or extend grade levels in HS and MS science licensure
  - Option 4 – TPPs should expand coursework to include HS advanced courses in science

PELSB Science Teacher Educator and Licensure Working Group

Recommendations to the PELSB Board - Which options do we support?

- High School Option 1 – Maintain content science at the high school grades (67% support)
- Middle School Option 4 – Leave middle school science as is (grades 5-8) (75% support)
- Middle School Option 5 – Add 6th grade to all existing 7-12 earth & space science licenses (67% support)
- Middle School Option 6 – Add 9th grade Earth Science to all current 5-8 general science licenses (50% support)
- Middle School Option 7 – Allow 7-12 and 9-12 licensed science teachers to test into the 5-8 general science license (50% support)
- Elementary School Option 1 – Discuss issues, but table the deliberation until elementary licensure is up for review (67% support)

PELSB Science Teacher Educator and Licensure Working Group

<u>The working group explored problems related to the selected options and what would need to be done to make them work:</u>

- Rural and small schools are having a hard time finding science teachers
  - Encourage a streamlined method and alternative pathways for testing into other science licensure subjects (e.g., coursework or testing).
  - Review testing to make sure it is up-to-date.
  - Encourage “boot camps” and other professional development to train science teachers for additional science licensure.
  - Request legislation to help fund pathways for science teachers to expand their licensure.
- Rural and small schools have had to rely heavily on OFPs to meet licensing requirements.
  - Consider extending the OFPs for licensures for science teachers.
  - Consider Middle School options 5, 6, & 7 to add grade levels to some existing science licenses.

PELSB Science Teacher Educator and Licensure Working Group

The working group explored problems related to the selected options and what would need to be done to make them work (continued):

- The higher education programs were designed for specialized science licenses.
  - Work with TPPs to develop science education pathways to multiple science license subjects.
- Keeping the 5-8 license as it is does not provide a streamlined way for high school science teachers to add on a middle school license.
  - Consider a 5-8 endorsement for high school science teachers.
- Adding 6th grade to all existing 7-12 Earth and Space Science licenses would be a change to a legacy license instead of a current license.
  - PELSB has already allowed grade extensions for various non-legacy licenses, and this change would make good use of current science teachers with a 7-12 legacy license.

PELSB Science Teacher Educator and Licensure Working Group

The working group explored problems related to the selected options and what would need to be done to make them work (continued):

- Licensure rules need to change for science and those should inform the elementary rules and how those change.
  - We will need to make some recommendations regarding science specialists as well as pre-K science.
- Science teacher license academic standards need to match up to the science curriculum standards adopted by MDE.
  - PELSB should approve writing groups to work on the academic standards.
  - PELSB should meet with several neighboring states (MI, WI, ND) to discuss their experience with single science licensure.

PELSB Science Teacher Educator and Licensure Working Group

Minority Opinion

- A minority of members in the working group said the recommendations do not go far enough to address the current patchwork of hundreds of science OFPs in the state.

PELSB Science Teacher Educator and Licensure Working Group

Comments from Individual Members of the Working Group

- Rob Danneker, Director of Human Resources, Monticello Public Schools
- Kent Gordon, Board Member-MN Earth Science Teachers' Association, Earth Science Teacher, North St. Paul Maplewood Oakdale
- Haley Kalina, Instructional Coach, Alexandria Public Schools/ President, Minnesota Science Teachers Association
- John Olson, Science Education, Metro State Univ., retired from MDE
- Dana Smith, MnSTA Earth & Space Science Discipline Director; ESTEP Coordinator

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Committee Reports

Executive

Licensing

Teacher Preparation

Legislative

Increase Teachers of Color and Indigenous Educators

Standards and Rules

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Staff Reports

Dr. Yelena Bailey, Executive Director

Staff Reports

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Work Group/Community Partner Meeting	Focus Area	Board/Staff Lead	Date
AAQEP Symposium	National Acceditation Practices	Erin Doan	3/25-3/27
IWA/GWDB/MNP20 Committee on Educator Workforce	Educator Workforce	Yelena	4/3
Midwest Community of Practice Joyce Foundation	Teacher Recruitement and Retention	Yelena, Erin	4/9-4/10
MN Educator Expo	Teacher Recruitment	Lucy Payne and staff	3/31

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Chair Report

Dr. Lucy Payne, Chair

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The meeting is adjourned.

Upcoming Meetings:

May 15, 2026

Please visit https://mn.gov/pelsb/board/meetings/ for more information.

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