TO: Deans/Chairs, Minnesota Colleges and Universities
FROM: Alex Liuzzi, Executive Director
       Michelle Sandler, Teacher Education Specialist
DATE: May 14, 2018
RE: Kindergarten endorsement licensure option

On May 11, 2018 the MN Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) approved the resolution included on page 3 of this memo. As a result of the resolution, PELSB will have the authority to issue a kindergarten license (as an endorsement to a 1-6 elementary license) to applicants who are recommended by an approved Minnesota college or university.

1. If your unit would like to offer kindergarten licensure as an endorsement program, you must submit a written request to waive MN Rule 8710.0550, Subpart 3. State that the course(s) are provided to candidates who hold a MN 1-6 license and seek to add kindergarten. The waiver request must include:
   • The duration of the course and time period when candidates will be recommended for licensure.
   • The specific dates that the course/program will be offered.
   • The specific title of the course and course number, a current syllabus, and the instructor’s resume evidencing his/her academic preparation to teach the kindergarten methods and his/her teaching experience in kindergarten.
   • A supervised and evaluated practicum in kindergarten is required to be part of the preparation program and should be clearly stated on the course syllabus.

2. The course syllabus will be reviewed and the instructor’s qualifications for teaching kindergarten methods will be verified.

3. Teachers who complete an approved kindergarten methods course must submit the standard licensure endorsement application, including the college recommendation for kindergarten, and an unofficial transcript evidencing the completion of the approved kindergarten course, with related processing fees.

Once approved, the unit will receive approval notification from PELSB and the kindergarten program will be posted on the PELSB website as an approved program option.
To request kindergarten program approval, submit a waiver request addressing all the details in item one above to:

Michelle Sandler, Teacher Education Specialist  
Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB)  
1500 Highway 36 West, Suite 300  
Roseville, MN  55113-4055

or email to michelle.sandler@state.mn.us
APPROVED RESOLUTION

Regarding the extension of MN Rule 8710.0550, Subpart 3

WHEREAS, MN Rule 8710.0550, Subpart 3 provided:

Subp. 3. Kindergarten. Until June 30, 2005, an applicant holding a current entrance or professional elementary teaching license first granted by the Board of Teaching prior to September 1, 2001, shall be granted kindergarten licensure upon submitting evidence of having completed requirements for methods of kindergarten education in a state-approved teacher preparation program at a college or university that is accredited by the regional association for the accreditation of colleges and secondary schools and a recommendation for kindergarten licensure from that college or university.

WHEREAS, MN Rule 8710.0550, Subpart 3 provided that the provision to add a kindergarten license by licensees licensed prior to 2001 ended on June 30, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) has the authority to waive its rules pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 14.055; and

WHEREAS, in May of 2018 the deadline of this rule was extended to June 30, 2020,

This Board resolution will be in effect until June 30, 2020. Therefore, teachers must complete the approved kindergarten methods program prior to this date.