

Memorandum

Date: September 19, 2025

To: PELSB Board Members

From: Steve Rollin, Rulemaking Attorney

Re: R4863 Rulemaking

Background

On April 21st, PELSB closed a 60-day request for comments on proposed rule R4863 relating to teacher licensure, license renewal, and other legislative requirements. Proposed changes include:

- implementing legislative changes that expand the exemption from a bachelor's degree requirement for licensure to include teachers seeking licensure in World Language & Culture, and the Visual or Performing Arts (pp. 11, 13, 16, 19 & 20 of the 9/5/25 draft rule);
- Adopting required components to the renewal requirement specific to American Indian history and culture (pp. 7, 14, 16, 17, 18 & 63 of the 9/5/25 draft rule);
- Streamlining certain components of the licensure via portfolio process (pp. 23-29 of the 9/5/25 draft rule);
- Defining "meaningful progress," for the purpose of determining whether a teacher on a Tier 2 license can renew (pp. 9, 21, 22, 60 & 61 of the 9/5/25 draft rule); and,
- Early Childhood Education (pp. 32-38 of the 9/5/25 draft rule), Ethnic Studies (pp.39-53 of the 9/5/25 draft rule), and Computer Science licensure (pp. 53-60 of the 9/5/25 draft rule).

Rule Subcommittee Revisions

In May, the Board Chair assigned three board members to review comments. The subcommittee met three times in July and recommended the following changes to the proposed rule:

Bachelor of Arts (BA) Exemption (pp. 11, 13, 16, 19 & 20 of the 9/5/25 draft rule)

- None.

American Indian History & Culture Renewal Requirement (pp. 7, 14, 16, 17, 18 & 63 of the 9/5/25 draft rule)

- None.

Portfolio Streamlining (pp. 23-29 of the 9/5/25 draft rule)

- Remove Ag Ed, Business, FACS, Work-Based Learning, and Accommodation Specialist from the requirement for a CTE core skills portfolio, as they are not required to have the CTE Core (only the “career” fields require CTE Core) (p. 25 of the 9/5/25 draft rule).

Meaningful Progress Licensure (pp. 9, 21, 22, 60 & 61 of the 9/5/25 draft rule)

- Change the definition of meaningful progress changed to reflect differing requirements in teaching programs (p. 9 of the 9/5/25 draft rule).
- Remove statements in the rule “as defined by the provider”, which limits the definition of meaningful progress (pp. 21, 22, 60 & 61 of the 9/5/25 draft rule).

Early Childhood Education Licensure (pp. 32-38 of the 9/5/25 draft rule)

- Allow variances for cooperating teacher qualifications for working in clinical experience with new ECE teachers (p. 37 of the 9/5/25 draft rule).

Ethnic Studies Licensure (pp.39-53 of the 9/5/25 draft rule)

- Change ethnic studies license from a preK-12 to a grade 5-12 license (pp. 39 & 47 of the 9/5/25 draft rule).
- Change ethnic studies license to a K-6 elementary level endorsement for ethnic studies (MISSING from the 9/5/25 draft rule – this will be added in to the next rule draft).
- Add ethnic studies endorsement for social studies teachers grades 5-12 (pp.47, 52 & 53 of the 9/5/25 draft rule).
- Add in the equivalent of social studies reading standards (pp. 45-47 of the 9/5/25 draft rule).

Computer Science Licensure (pp. 53-60 of the 9/5/25 draft rule)

- Change computer science license from a preK-12 to a grade 5-12 license (pp. 53 & 60 of the 9/5/25 draft rule).
- Change computer science license to a K-6 elementary level endorsement for Computer Science (MISSING from the 9/5/25 draft rule – this will be added in to the next rule draft).
- Add in the equivalent of math reading standards (pp. 58 & 59 of the 9/5/25 draft rule).

The subcommittee’s discussion and more information are available on the PELSB website at [R4863 Rulemaking](#).

Additional Issues arose after adjournment of the subcommittee. PELSB staff recommend:

- that the requirement of demonstrating the social studies scope & sequence strands be removed (pp. 40 & 48 of the 9/5/25 draft rule).
- under the ethnic studies, computer science and early childhood education licenses, that a candidate for additional licensure demonstrate they have met the standards for effective practice (pp. 33, 40, 48 & 53 of the 9/5/25 draft rule) .
- the definition of meaningful progress should apply to candidates with an out-of-field permission (and not just Tier 2 candidates) (pp. 21-22 of the 9/5/25 draft rule).

Update Since August Board Meeting

At the August 15 meeting, the Board asked for a revised version of the proposed rule in order to see all the changes as one document. The Revisor's office prepared a revised rule. An audit showed that two changes are still missing from the revised rule – the K-6 endorsement licenses in Ethnic Studies and Computer Science. The Revisor's office has been made aware of the needed changes. In the meantime, the proposed rule wording for two K-6 endorsements is added to the Board materials for this meeting.

The Board indicated it would review the recommended changes and additional issues again at the September 19 meeting.

Request

No request at this Board meeting.

Options

This is a report. No action is needed.