

TOPIC: REAUTHORIZATION OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION UNIT AT WESTERN STATE COLLEGE

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I. SUMMARY

This consent item recommends reauthorization of Western State College's educator preparation unit and educator preparation programs.

II. BACKGROUND

Pursuant to C.R.S. §23-1-121 the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) considers reauthorization of all educator preparation programs at public and private institutions of higher education after receiving an affirmative recommendation from the State Board of Education. The process for reauthorization of educator preparation programs is as follows: Colorado Department of Education (CDE) conducts a review of the endorsement programs to ensure that the content is designed and implemented in a manner that will enable a candidate to meet the requirements for licensure in Colorado (C.R.S. §22-60.5). Department of Higher Education (DHE) reviews the unit and its programs for the following statutory performance criteria: admission system; screening and counseling of educator candidates; integration of theory and practice in coursework and field based training; supervised field based experience; and assessment of candidates' subject matter and professional knowledge and ability to apply the professional knowledge base (C.R.S. §23-1-121.2). DHE and CDE then jointly conduct an on-site visit of the unit and its educator preparation programs. CDE then makes a recommendation to the State Board of Education, which then makes a recommendation to DHE. Upon receiving an affirmative recommendation, DHE makes a recommendation to CCHE.

III. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVAL

At its meeting on September 14, 2011, the Colorado State Board of Education approved the content of the educator preparation programs at Western State College. CDE staff transmitted its affirmative recommendation to DHE.

IV. DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION REVIEW

Pursuant to C.R.S. §23-1-121 Department staff reviewed the educator preparation unit and its programs and confirmed that they meet performance criteria.

V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission reauthorize the educator preparation unit and the following educator preparation programs at Western State College:

- **Art (8.04)**
- **Elementary Education (8.02)**
- **English Language Arts (8.09)**
- **Foreign Language (8.10)**
- **Mathematics (8.14)**
- **Music (8.15)**
- **Physical Education (8.16)**
- **Principal (3.03)**
- **Reading Specialist (10.04)**
- **Reading Teacher (10.03)**
- **Science (8.17)**
- **Social Studies (8.18)**
- **Special Education Generalist (9.06)**

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Copies of all relevant statute, policy, and the letter of approval from the State Board of Education are on file in the Academic Affairs Office.

VII. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

§22-60.5 C.R.S.
§23-1-121 C.R.S.