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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Utah State Board of Education

FROM: Martell Menlove, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer

DATE: June 6, 2014

ACTION: R277-502-5 *Educator Licensing and Data Retention – Professional Educator License Areas of Concentration, and Endorsements and Under-Qualified Employees* (Amendment)

Background:

R277-502-5 *Professional Educator License Areas of Concentration, and Endorsements and Under-Qualified Employees* is amended in response to HB 150 *Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Amendments*, 2014 Legislative Session.

Key Points:

Amendments to R277-502-5 *Professional Educator License Areas of Concentration, and Endorsements and Under-Qualified Employees* provide new language that requires LEAs to recognize a STEM endorsement as a component of the LEA's salary scale.

Anticipated Action:

It is proposed that the Law and Licensing Committee consider approving R277-502-5, as amended, on first reading and, if approved by the Committee, the Board consider approving R277-502-5, as amended, on second reading.

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1 **R277. Education, Administration.**

2 **R277-502. Educator Licensing and Data Retention.**

3 **R277-502-5. Professional Educator License Areas of**
4 **Concentration, and Endorsements and Under-Qualified Employees.**

5 A. Unless excepted under rules of the Board, to be
6 employed in the public schools in a capacity covered by the
7 following license areas of concentration, a person shall hold
8 a valid license issued by the Board in the respective license
9 areas of concentration:

- 10 (1) Early Childhood (K-3);
- 11 (2) Elementary (1-8);
- 12 (3) Elementary (K-6);
- 13 (4) Middle (still valid, and issued before 1988, 5-9);
- 14 (5) Secondary (6-12);
- 15 (6) Administrative/Supervisory (K-12);
- 16 (7) Career and Technical Education;
- 17 (8) School Counselor;
- 18 (9) School Psychologist;
- 19 (10) School Social Worker;
- 20 (11) Special Education (K-12);
- 21 (12) Preschool Special Education (Birth-Age 5);
- 22 (13) Communication Disorders;
- 23 (14) Speech-Language Pathologist;
- 24 (15) Speech-Language Technician.

25 B. Under-qualified educators:

26 (1) Educators who are licensed and hold the appropriate
27 license area of concentration but who are working out of their
28 endorsement area(s) shall request and prepare an SAEP to
29 complete the requirements of an endorsement with a USOE
30 education specialist; or

31 (2) LEAs may request Letters of Authorization from the
32 Board for educators employed by LEAs if educators have not
33 completed requirements for areas of concentration or
34 endorsements.

35 (a) An approved Letter of Authorization is valid for one
36 year.

37 (b) Educators may be approved for no more than three

38 Letters of Authorization throughout their employment in Utah
39 schools. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction or
40 designee may grant [~~E~~]exceptions to the three Letters of
41 Authorization limitation[~~may be granted by the State~~
42 ~~Superintendent of Public Instruction or his designee~~] on a
43 case by case basis following specific approval of the request
44 by the LEA governing board. Letters of Authorization approved
45 prior to the 2000-2001 school year shall not be counted in
46 this limit.

47 (c) [~~Following the expiration of the Letter of~~
48 ~~Authorization, the educator who is still not completely~~
49 ~~approved for licensing shall be considered~~]If an education
50 employee's Letter of Authorization expires before the
51 individual is approved for licensing, the employee falls into
52 under-qualified status.

53 C. License areas of concentration may be endorsed to
54 indicate qualification in a subject or content area.

55 (1) LEAs shall recognize a STEM endorsement as a
56 component of the LEA's salary scale. The USOE shall determine
57 the mathematics-, engineering-, science-, and technology-
58 related courses and experiences necessary for the endorsement.

59 (2) An endorsement is not valid for employment purposes
60 without a current license and license area of concentration.

61 **KEY: professional competency, educator licensing**

62 **Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: [~~November 7,~~**
63 **2013]**

64 **Notice of Continuation: August 14, 2012**

65 **Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3;**
66 **53A-6-104; 53A-1-401(3)**