

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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OCTOBER 2003 INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 9, 2003
TO: Members, State Board of Education
FROM: Karen M. Steentofte, Chief Counsel

SUBJECT: NCLB Teacher Requirement Regulations and Resource Guide

At its September meeting, the Board amended the proposed NCLB Teacher Requirement regulations based on public comments, and directed staff to send the amended regulations out for the 15-day public review period. Nine comments were received during the 15-day review period. A couple of these comments were objections to the proposed September Board amendments and therefore the regulations were not sent to the Office of Administrative Law.

The objections focused on two areas. First, Part One of the HOUSSE analysis for teachers “not new to the profession” was not clear. Since the September Board meeting, a HOUSSE (Part One) form for demonstrating subject matter competence has been developed and reviewed by stakeholders as part of the Resource Guide. Stakeholder comments have been positive about this form and the assignment of points for years of service, in-depth standards aligned professional development, advanced coursework and service to the profession. One means of responding to the latest comments would be to incorporate by reference the HOUSSE (Part One) form into the regulations. The second area of concern was that “grade span” was not defined. “Grade span” was not defined in the regulations in order to allow LEAs to determine, based on local practice, what particular grades constituted grade span. This could be explicitly stated in the regulations.

The proposed regulations will come back to the Board at the November meeting. If additional revisions are required, the regulations will go out for an additional 15-day public comment period. A special teleconference meeting of the Board in the beginning of December may also be required to finally adopt the proposed regulations.

The Title 1 Committee of Practitioners will review the proposed NCLB Teacher Requirement regulations at their next meeting October 22-23, 2003.

In light of the above timetable, there is an opportunity to obtain additional input on the NCLB Teacher Requirement Resource Guide from school districts and teachers. Therefore, an updated version of the DRAFT Resource Guide will be posted the week of October 13, 2003, on the CDE website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/nclb/> The Guide cannot be final until the regulations are adopted.