ITEM: Commission Correspondence

ACTION: INFORMATION / POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Commission take one (1) of the following two (2) actions:

Resolved that the Commission clarify and communicate a rationale for the current TSPC rule which prevents the addition of certain endorsements to existing Teacher Licensure through the successful completion of a Commission approved content knowledge exam.

or

Resolved that the Commission direct TSPC Staff to begin the rules revision process directed toward a result of all available teacher licensure endorsements being eligible for addition to existing Teacher Licensure through the successful completion of a Commission approved content knowledge exam.

INFORMATION: TSPC Staff received correspondence from the field which calls into question current rules related to the addition of a teaching endorsement to an existing Teacher Licensure by the completion and passage of a Commission approved content knowledge exam.

Specifically, the correspondence seeks rationale for current TSPC rules which prevent educators from adding endorsements such as Physical Education (PE), Music, or Drama to their existing Teacher Licensure through the completion of a content knowledge exam. Currently, the only Commission approved method to add the endorsements listed above is through the completion of a full educator preparation program.

Since TSPC rules allow for the addition of the majority of available Oregon endorsements to be added to existing licenses through the completion of a content knowledge exam, the correspondence suggests that holding these few endorsements to a different standard appears “very biased and inequitable”. Additionally, the correspondence suggests that an unintended consequence of the current rule construction is a hardship in filling vacant teacher positions within these subject areas.

Attachment:
1.8a Email Communication

Data Classification Level – 1 Published

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