

# IX.B.

## CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

### TO BE PROPOSED:

January 3, 2018

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(2)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full approval for the period January 3, 2018, through December 31, 2021, to Western Connecticut State University (WCSU), with annual progress reporting required until WCSU's Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) site visit, for the purpose of certifying graduates from WCSU in the following new certification areas:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Remedial Reading/Language Arts	1-12	Advanced	Graduate
Reading/Language Arts Consultant	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Approved by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ this third day of January, Two Thousand Eighteen.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dianna R. Wentzell, Secretary  
State Board of Education

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Hartford**

**TO:** State Board of Education

**FROM:** Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell, Commissioner of Education

**DATE:** January 3, 2018

**SUBJECT:** New Educator Preparation Program Approval: Western Connecticut State University—Remedial Reading/Language Arts Program and Reading/Language Arts Consultant Program

**Executive Summary**

**Introduction**

Connecticut educator preparation providers (EPPs) and other organizations proposing new educator preparation programs must seek official approval through the Connecticut State Board of Education (SBE). EPPs are required to participate in a Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) evaluation process designed to guide and support new program proposals. The proposal then moves forward to the CSDE Review Committee, which makes recommendations to the Commissioner of Education regarding new program approval based on evaluation findings (Attachment A). This report presents a summary of evaluation findings for the Western Connecticut State University (WCSU) proposal for a new Remedial Reading/Language Arts Program and a new Reading/Language Arts Consultant Program, and includes the Commissioner of Education's recommendation for approval.

**History/Background**

WCSU consists of a main campus located in downtown Danbury and a smaller campus approximately three miles from the main campus. WCSU enrolls approximately 5,700 students across four schools — Ansell School of Business, School of Arts and Sciences, School of Professional Studies, and School of Visual and Performing Arts—and employs 222 full-time faculty members and 493 part-time faculty members. The Education and Educational Psychology Department, housed within the School of Professional Studies, partners with the School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Fine and Applied Arts for the preparation of teacher candidates. The Department offers preparation programs at the bachelor's, Master's and doctoral levels, and serves approximately 800 students per year. WCSU educator preparation programs are currently fully approved by the CSBE and nationally accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

WCSU is seeking SBE approval for a new Remedial Reading/Language Arts Program and a new Reading/Language Arts Consultant Program. In December 2016, WCSU submitted a proposal to the CSDE for these two new reading programs.

During spring 2017, a CSDE evaluation team reviewed the proposal to evaluate the quality of the new proposed programs in the following areas:

- (1) design, scope and sequence, including coursework and fieldwork/clinical experiences;
- (2) candidate assessments, including data collection, analysis, and reporting methods;
- (3) faculty and instructor qualifications; and
- (4) resources to support training of program candidates and program viability.

CSDE consultants also reviewed the proposal for compliance with Connecticut statutory and regulatory requirements.

The evaluation team identified areas for improvement for the WCSU proposal, and was unanimous in its decision that the proposal be revised based on team feedback, re-submitted and reviewed again by the team. Based on a review of the revised proposal, the evaluation team unanimously recommended that the proposal move forward to the CSDE Review Committee for consideration. During a meeting on October 27, 2017, the Review Committee recommended full approval for the WCSU proposal. The Review Committee also recommended annual progress reporting until WCSU's Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) site visit, currently scheduled for spring 2021, during which all WCSU educator preparation programs will be reviewed.

#### **Recommendation and Justification**

Based upon evaluation team findings and the recommendation of the CSDE Review Committee, I recommend that the WCSU programs for Remedial Reading/Language Arts and Reading/Language Arts Consultant be granted full approval for the period January 3, 2018, through December 31, 2021, with annual progress reporting required until WCSU's Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) site visit, during which all WCSU's educator preparation programs will be reviewed.

#### **Follow-up Activity**

If granted full approval by the SBE, the dean of the WCSU Education and Educational Psychology Department will be notified immediately so that WCSU may start recruiting for the fall 2018 semester.

Prepared by: Katie Moirs, Ph.D., Program Approval Coordinator  
Bureau of Educator Effectiveness

Approved by: Sarah J. Barzee, Ph.D., Chief Talent Officer  
Talent Office

**CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Educator Preparation Review Committee Members**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Representation</b>	<b>Term Ending</b>
1. Hari Koirala	Eastern Connecticut State University	Higher Education	Jan. 3, 2019
2. Tamika La Salle	University of Connecticut	Higher Education	Jan. 3, 2020
3. Catherine O'Callaghan	Western Connecticut State University	Higher Education	Jan. 3, 2020
4. Julie Sochacki	University of Hartford	Higher Education	Jan. 3, 2020
5. Joseph Bonillo	Waterford Public Schools	K-12	Jan. 3, 2019
6. Thomas Danehy	Area Cooperative Educational Services	K-12	Jan. 3, 2020
7. David Erwin	Berlin Public Schools	K-12	Jan. 3, 2019
8. Ana Ortiz	Oxford Public Schools	K-12	Jan. 3, 2020
9. Shuana Tucker	New Britain Public Schools	K-12	Jan. 3, 2020
10. Evette Avila	Connecticut Center for School Change	Community	Jan. 3, 2020
11. A. Bates Lyons	A. Bates Lyons Associates	Community	Jan. 3, 2019