



**Paul Craft
State Superintendent of Public Instruction
State Board of Education Agency
Ohio Sunset Review Committee
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Good afternoon, Chair Wilkin, Vice-Chair Hillyer, and members of the Sunset Review Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to address the committee today. My name is Paul Craft, and I am the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State Board of Education (SBOE). In carrying out its statutorily-prescribed functions, the State Board of Education relies on the Educator Standards Board (ESB) and the Credential Review Board (CRB) for support in carrying out its mission.

My testimony will address two SBOE agency entities for review:

- Educator Standards Board (ESB)
- Credential Review Board (CRB)

Educator Standards Board

The ESB was established almost fifteen years ago to develop and recommend to the State Board of Education high quality standards for entering and continuing in the educator professions and standards for educator professional development.

The ESB is comprised of 26 members in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3319.60. The members include the following.

1. Ten persons employed as teachers in a secondary school.
2. One person employed as a teacher in a chartered, nonpublic school.
3. Five persons employed as school administrators in a school district.
4. One person who is a member of a school district board of education.
5. One person who is a parent of a student currently enrolled in a school operated by a school district.
6. One person who represents community schools established under Chapter 3314 of the Revised Code.
7. The Chancellor of Higher Education shall appoint three persons employed by institutions of higher education that offer educator preparation programs.
8. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two persons who are active in or retired from the education profession.
9. The President of the Senate shall appoint two persons who are active in or retired from the education profession.
10. The Superintendent of Public Instruction, Chancellor of Higher Education, or their designees and the chairpersons and the ranking minority members of the education



committees of the Senate and House of Representatives shall serve as nonvoting, ex officio members.

The comprehensive list of members ensures that the educational standards are reflective of the needs and realities of all stakeholders.

The ESB also reviews all educator licensure administrative rules during the rule drafting process, revises educator evaluation frameworks, and provides standards for local professional development committees to ensure that educators have access to quality professional development at all stages of their careers. Most importantly, the ESB promotes educator quality and professionalism by developing and maintaining standards for teachers, principals, and superintendents, school treasurers and counselors throughout the state.

Credential Review Board

The CRB consists of at least thirteen members who are appointed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction through an open nomination process and are comprised of school district administrators, other practicing administrators, classroom teachers, related services providers, higher education representatives, and community and business leaders.

The CRB is the mechanism used to recommend licensure or outline specific individualized plans for candidates who need an individualized licensure approach. The CRB provides a pathway to licensure for individuals with significant educational and work experience who do not meet conventional licensure requirements. A real world example of this would be the individual who completed a bachelors degree program out-of-state in Sign Language Studies (non-school licensure program) and had nine years experience in a K-12 school setting as an American Sign Language interpreter. The CRB recommended this candidate for a 5-year Associate Interpreter for Hearing Impaired license in 2023.

The CRB plays a crucial role in ensuring that highly qualified candidates, despite having non-traditional educational backgrounds, can be considered for licensure. The Board reviews each candidates' qualifications on a case-by-case basis, considering factors such as experience, academic achievements, and professional accomplishments.

The CRB meets on an as needed basis or four times a year and most recently convened on April 25th of this year. Since 2005 the CRB has reviewed a total of 1371 cases and issued 1177 total licenses.

Due to the importance of these two Board's, we respectfully recommend the reauthorization of the Educator Standards Board and Credential Review Board.

Thank you, Chair Wilkin. I am happy to answer any questions at this time.