

November 14, 2012

Charles Michels, Executive Director
Delaware Professional Standards Board
John G. Townsend Building
401 Federal Street
Dover, DE 19901

RE: DOE Proposed Early Childhood Teacher Regulation [16 DE Reg. 488 (November 1, 2012)]

Dear Mr. Michels:

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed the Professional Standards Board and DOE proposal to adopt one change to the "Exceptional Children Special Education Teacher" regulation, 14 DE Admin. Code 1571. The GACEC endorses the proposed change.

The current regulation (§1.1) recites that the "Special Education Teacher" certification is required to teach grades K-12. The amendment clarifies the existence of an exception, i.e., an individual with an "Early Childhood Exceptional Children Special Education" certification (14 DE Admin Code 1570) may qualify as a special education teacher in grades K-2. An educator with the "Exceptional Children Special Education Teacher" certification can teach in grades K-12 so there is "overlap" with the "Early Childhood Exceptional Children Special Education" certification which covers grades K-2. Council did not identify any concerns with the proposed clarification.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our comments. Please feel free to contact me or Wendy Strauss should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Terri A Hancharick
Chairperson

TAH:kpc

CC: The Honorable Mark Murphy, Secretary of Education
Dr. Teri Quinn Gray, State Board of Education
Mary Ann Mieczkowski, DOE
Susan Haberstroh, DOE
John Hindman, Esq., DOE
Terry Hickey, Esq., DOE
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