

2583

Buckheit, James

From: Buckheit, James
Sent: Friday, December 08, 2006 2:05 PM
To: 'FRED BARTOSH JR'
Subject: RE: new certification regulations

State Board of Education
333 Market Street First Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126 0333
December 8, 2006

Fred Bartosh
Assistant Superintendent
Wilson Area School District
FBARTOS@wilsonareasd.org

RECEIVED
2006 DEC 13 PM 1:40
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Bartosh:

Thank you for your letter received by the State Board of Education on December 8, 2006 regarding the proposed Chapter 49 Certification of Professional Personnel regulations.

Your letter is considered official public comment. As such copies are shared with each member of the State Board of Education, the chairs of the House and Senate Education Committees and Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC). Your letter is also considered a public document that may be publicly released upon request.

The Regulatory Review Act provides that notice regarding final regulations be provided to those who make official comment if requested. If you would like to receive a copy of the final-form regulation when it is submitted for final approval by the legislative committees and IRRC, please submit a written request to me at the address listed above.

Sincerely,
Jim Buckheit
Executive Director

Cc: Members of the State Board
Senator James Rhoades
Senator Raphael Musto
Representative Jess Stairs
Representative James Roebuck, Jr.
IRRC

-----Original Message-----

From: FRED BARTOSH JR [mailto:FBARTOS@wilsonareasd.org]
Sent: Friday, December 08, 2006 1:45 PM
To: jbuckheit@state.pa.us
Subject: new certification regulations

The grade configurations identified in the proposed regulations for certification are not reflective of the

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majority of school district/building configurations which makes no sense. The division will cause significant staffing problems in small districts as they become staffed with teachers holding the k-3 and 4-8 certificates. Small districts are often impacted with temporary population shifts affecting the numbers of sections in a particular grade. As these population changes move through a school there may become cause to need more teachers with one certificate and fewer of the other. This will result in need to furlough some staff and hire others. as the population shift then changes it will again impact what teachers are needed and what certificates they will need.

The 4-8 certificate will not solve the problems of middle schools reflective of both meeting the needs of increasing achievement expectations and highly qualified issues under NCLB.

Much more thought must be given to the regulations to enable the placement of quality professional employees in positions to have the greatest positive impact on student achievement.

Sincerely

Fred Bartosh

Assistant Superintendent

Wilson Area School District