

Buckheit, James

From: Buckheit, James
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2006 3:28 PM
To: 'Jeanne Puskaritz'
Subject: RE: chapter 49 regulations

State Board of Education
333 Market Street First Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126 0333
December 14, 2006

RECEIVED
2006 DEC 15 PM 2:25
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Puskaritz::

Thank you for your letter received by the State Board of Education on December 13, 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

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

From: Jeanne Puskaritz [mailto:puskaritzj@parklandsd.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2006 11:26 AM
To: jbuckheit@state.pa.us
Subject: chapter 49 regulations

Please adopt the regulations so that all teachers are prepared to teach students with disabilities and English language learners in inclusive settings, as required by state and federal law. I am an ESL teacher at the middle school level. Very few teachers at my school have had any training in working with ELLs and feel they do not know how to effectively teach and make accommodations and adaptations for these students. That places these tasks back on the ESL teacher. Years ago that was not so much of an issue; however, as more and more ELLs become part of our schools, the chances of getting second language students in content classes are that much greater. The job can not be done by ESL teachers alone!

My daughter just graduated (2006) from a private college in PA with an elementary teaching certificate. She did not have any courses in special ed or ESL. She did her honors project on ESL and therefore she has some background, but this was her independent choice. I feel that she and

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all of her education classmates should have been required to take coursework in these two very important areas. Not only was she not required, but they were not available!!!! This is totally unacceptable to me as a teacher of ELLs.

Jeanne Puskaritz
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