

Nevada State Board of **NURSING**

MINUTES EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING April 9, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Nevada State Board of Nursing Education Advisory Committee was called to order by Michelle Johnson EdD, MS, APRN, CPNP-PC, Director of Nursing Education at 9:00 a.m. at the Board of Nursing offices via video conference between 4220 S. Maryland Pkwy, #B300, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 and 5011 Meadowood Mall Way, Ste. 300, Reno, Nevada 89502.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kimberly Baxter, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC
Brian C. Oxhorn, PhD, RN
Irene Coons, PhD, RN, CNE
Amber Donnelly, PhD, RN, CNE
Vicki Walker, DNP, RN
Jody Covert, MSN, RN
Nancy Hency-Cywinski, RN, BSN, MS, NHA
Susan Drossulis, MSN, RN, OCN-BC
Michael Johnson, PhD, RN, CNE
Angela Silvestri-Elmore, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, CNE

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kyle Salinas, Student Nurse
Ruby Wertz, MSHA, BSN, RN

OTHERS PRESENT

Michelle Johnson, EdD, MSN, APRN, CPNP-PC Chair
Fred Olmstead, Esq, General Counsel
Cathy Dinauer, MSN, RN, FRE
Brittney Hetzer, Education Management Assistant
Claudette Lachowicz, RN

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order By M. Johnson at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no public comments at the beginning of the meeting.

- A. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as written. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- B. **OLD BUSINESS:** None.

C. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Review and discuss 1st quarter 2021 NCLEX scores. M. Johnson provided the committee with the 1st quarter 2021 National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX) pass rates for Nevada programs. M. Johnson announced that she will provide Nevada pass rates compared to the national pass rates at the next committee meeting. Responding to committee member questions, F. Olmstead clarified that any action taken against a program for low pass rates would be completed by the board and is public knowledge. M. Johnson explained that the NCLEX pass rate reports are provided directly from the National Council State Board of Nursing (NCSBN), the owner of the exam. Committee members questioned the Board's role with students that fail the NCLEX and M. Johnson clarified that we follow the requirements outlined in Nevada Administrative code 632.165. The committee further discussed the role of the nursing program for repeat takers. The committee questioned the ability for RN student to take the LPN exam and M. Johnson confirmed that RN graduates are eligible to take the NCLEX exam. M. Johnson explained that she will send monthly NCLEX pass rates to each program, student names and number of attempts.
2. Review and discuss possible action related to planning future Deans and Directors Meeting. M. Johnson discussed next Dean's and Directors meeting to be held on May 17, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. M. Johnson solicited the committee for any items they would like to add to the agenda.
3. Review and discuss the results of recent surveys sent to nursing programs in Nevada regarding how nursing programs are adjusting to providing nursing education in the times of the pandemic, COVID-19. M. Johnson explained that a survey was sent to programs in September 2020 to gather information regarding where they were with delivering their didactic, lab, and clinical. At the previous Board meeting, Board members asked how nursing programs were utilizing simulation in their program. M. Johnson explained that she will be presenting this data to the Board during the May meeting. M. Johnson announced that NCSBN is a nationwide survey; to collect data about simulation use during the pandemic and eventually the outcome will be compared to NCLEX pass rates. The committee discussed the various types of clinical options available to nursing programs.
4. Review and discussion regarding the rights and obligations of students with disabilities to enroll in nursing programs in Nevada and to receive accommodations when taking the NCLEX. M. Johnson opened the discussion by reading public comment that came before the Board during its January 2021 meeting. The public comment was related to persons with disabilities being denied acceptance into medical and nursing schools for fear of the student not being able to meet school requirements. The writer of this public comment asked, for greater inclusion of nurses/students with disabilities in educational institutions and the profession, and for Board consideration of appointing nurses with disabilities to its committees. M. Johnson and committee members confirmed that nursing programs comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and federal requirements; schools must assess whether the student can meet outcomes pre and post grad. M. Johnson then discussed the process for requesting accommodations when taking the NCLEX. M. Johnson referred to the Board's Request for Accommodations Policy, which states: The Board will grant a test takers reasonable accommodation requests for the NCLEX exam once the following documentation has been received.
 1. The NCLEX exam candidate makes written request to NSBN for accommodation from Pearson Vue list of accommodations,
 2. The candidate supplies professional documentation with diagnosis code of learning disability, and
 3. The candidate provides documentation from Nursing school of accommodations received during nursing program.M. Johnson stated that accommodations may be more difficult to grant at this time, due to limited testing availability because of the pandemic; therefore, scheduling a test with accommodations may take a longer time. M. Johnson concluded that federal law requires that all schools have disability services which should be listed on each course syllabus and explained that there is no cost to students for NCLEX accommodations.
5. Review and discuss ServEdLink Update. M. Johnson introduced Brittany Hetzer the new Education Management Assistant for the Board. Brittany will be the administrator for ServEdLink, the clinical scheduling software for Nevada's nursing programs. M. Johnson discussed the capabilities of ServEdLink, including updating the agency profiles and schools reviewing programs on the calendar.

D. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING August 13, 2021: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.