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THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SABES

# ABE LICENSE UPDATE

## PLANNING FOR SABES FIELD TEST OF LICENSE SUPPORT MODEL IS UNDER WAY

With support from the Department, SABES has convened a Field Test Planning Group composed of five ABE teachers, one from each region, and staff members from each of the regional support centers (RSCs) and the central resource center (CRC). The twelve-member FTPG will meet five times in all through September 30<sup>th</sup> to design a formal Field Test of SABES' support model beginning in October, during which an expanded group of 25 teachers will actually go after the new license with SABES' support.

The five teacher members of the FTPG were nominated by their RSCs based on years of experience (at least five), interest in pursuing the license, and proven leadership abilities. As hoped, the FTPG teacher members have agreed to continue on into the actual Field Test (beginning October 2001) as leader/

facilitators of expanded five-member groups, one group per region.

The teacher-planners are Judith Dickerman-Nelson (representing Northeast SABES), Mary Dubois (Southeast SABES), Robin Kacprzicki (Central SABES), Carol Ann Novogroski (Western SABES), and Wendy Quiñones (Boston-ALRI). A round of introductions revealed that these individuals represent a wealth of talent, experience, knowledge, and enthusiasm. The RSC staff members are An-nemarie Espindola (SE), Janet Fischer (NE), Maria E. Gonzalez (Boston-ALRI), Pat Mew (Western), and Sue Miller (Central). Cathy Coleman and Carey Reid from the CRC round out the group.

At the first FTPG meeting (held on July 25<sup>th</sup>), the members strongly supported

the idea that SABES design a process in which license-seeking teachers work together in groups, or "cohorts." They also reached agreement on several other issues. Of great importance to the members was that worthy teachers who do not hold a bachelor's or a master's degree, a basic requirement for the license, receive the help they need--either from the Department of Education, SABES, or both--to clear that hurdle. They also agreed on an overall conception of a "SABES licensure support system" in which license-seeking teachers are connected quickly and easily to the resources they need--including each other--and are equipped with models and planning tools to make the process manageable.



*The ABE Teacher's License Update is published by the MDOE (Massachusetts Department of Education) in coordination with SABES (System for Adult Basic Education Support) in an effort to keep practitioners and interested parties apprised of the status of the ABE Teacher's License. This Update, past issues, and other relevant documents are*

*posted on the following web-sites:*

[www.doe.mass.edu/acls](http://www.doe.mass.edu/acls)

[www.sabes.org](http://www.sabes.org)

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IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR  
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## ABE License Work Group

The ABE License Work Group is meeting once a month, in addition to "virtual" discussions on-line between meetings. The Work Group is working hard to develop performance indicators for the teacher standards. The performance indicators will identify what the "core" of knowledge, skills, and behaviors are for each of the ABE teacher standards.

The Work Group is also working on drafts of guidelines to support the Regulations for the Licensure of ABE Teachers. Since there are two methods to obtain the license, ABE teacher preparation programs (when they become available) and the ABE Review Panel (available through the MDOE), the Work Group is developing guidelines to support both processes.

The Work Group hopes to have full drafts of the guidelines available for review by early September at which time they will ask for your feedback. Please watch the License Updates and the MDOE and SABES web-sites for more information.

## From the Department

The Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL) test dates for the remainder of 2001 are September 22 and December 8. For 2002, the test dates will be on February 23, May 11 and July 20. ABE Licensure candidates who do not have five years of ABE teaching experience or who do not possess a current Massachusetts teacher's license at either the Provisional with Advanced Standing or the Standard levels will need to take the MTEL tests.

For more on the tests, visit the Department of Education website at [www.doe.mass.edu/teachertest](http://www.doe.mass.edu/teachertest) or call the Massachusetts Department of Education at (781) 338-6600, or the Massachusetts Tests of Educator Licensure at (413) 256-2892.

## SABES Regional Support Centers to Host Pilot Courses

The SABES RSCs announce the licensure-compatible pilot courses each will host this coming year. These five courses will complete the pilot course offerings sponsored by the MDOE and will complete the MDOE/SABES development and piloting of a series of fifteen courses that are compatible with the ABE license. Compatible courses are not required for licensure, but will help interested practitioners fulfill licensure requirements.

Stay in touch with your RSC for information on the other

pilot courses as plans get finalized.

♦ **Foundations in Reading and Writing** course will begin this fall at NE SABES; please contact Sharon Klufts at 978-738-7302 or [klufts@aol.com](mailto:klufts@aol.com) for information and an application.

♦ **Reading and Writing 4-8 GLE** (SE SABES, to be presented in winter or spring, 2002)

♦ **Reading and Writing 9-12 GLE** (Western SABES, a spring 2002 presentation is most likely)

♦ **Multicultural Education in ABE** (Central SABES, a fall 2002 presentation is possible, but more likely winter or spring.)

♦ **Adult Human Development** (Boston-ALRI, either a winter or spring 2002 presentation.)

