September 7, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: County and City Superintendents of Education

FROM: Thomas R. Bice
State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: Praxis II Tests: Request for Nominations of Subject-Area Experts

In the past many superintendents and deans of education provided assistance to us by nominating teachers/instructional support personnel/higher education faculty to serve as subject-area experts on standard-setting study panels when Praxis II assessments were validated and reviewed for use as a certification requirement in the state of Alabama. We are once again in need of your help in nominating educators in the content areas listed on the attached chart for which we will be conducting standard-setting studies for new and existing tests that are offered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS).

We would like to involve teachers/instructional support personnel from your district or faculty from your institution and ask that you consider nominating up to three individuals for each test being reviewed to represent the perspectives of your district or institution. Since we are trying to get a cross-section of district and college/university types as well as a diverse group of panelists, not all individuals you nominate will be selected to participate. Please identify subject-area experts for as many areas as possible. Nominees must register via the ETS Web sites using the two Web links below the chart on the attachment no later than Tuesday, October 2, 2012.

Nominees serving at the P-12 level should be fully certified teachers with three to ten years of experience who have demonstrated knowledge of the subject matter and are currently teaching in the area of Early Childhood Education (P-3) to validate the early childhood education Principles of Learning and Teaching test, Middle School Education (4-8) to validate the middle grades Principles of Learning and Teaching test, or currently serving in the area of Psychology (6-12) to validate the psychology test. Educators with more than ten years of experience are welcome if they are actively involved in mentoring or supervising a beginning teacher in the content area(s) selected. Higher education faculty possessing any number of years of experience should be individuals who currently provide direct instruction to education majors in the selected subject area.

ETS personnel will make selections that will result in panels that are representative of the geographic, ethnic, gender, and teaching levels of those required to take the test. Our goal for each test is to assemble a panel of between 15 and 20 educators (teachers and a small number of college faculty members who prepare teachers in the relevant content areas).
After nominees have completed and submitted the requested information via the Web site, they will receive an official invitation to participate from ETS around October 9, 2012. ETS will be facilitating the study on the state’s behalf and will reimburse panelists for travel and lodging fees for one night if panelists meet established criteria that would allow them to stay overnight at the hotel at which the standard-setting study will be conducted in Montgomery. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

In the event we do not receive the required number of panelists through voluntary nominations, we will make attempts to invite subject-area experts identified in our certification database via e-mail with a copy to the educator’s superintendent.

Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Cory Murphy via e-mail at cmurphy@alsde.edu or telephone at 334-242-9983. Thank you for all you do to assist the Alabama State Department of Education. We appreciate the opportunity serve you.

TRB/SWP/CMM
Attachment
cc:  Deans of Education
     Certification Officers
     Private School Administrators
     Mrs. Sherrill W. Parris
     Mr. Larry Craven
     Dr. Jayne A. Meyer
     Mrs. Sarah P. Justiss
     Dr. Cory M. Murphy

FY12-2128
PRAXIS II TESTS

NOMINEES OF SUBJECT-AREA EXPERTS

Nominees must register to participate via the ETS Web site by using Web Links One and Two below, NO LATER THAN Tuesday, October 2, 2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area/Test Title</th>
<th>Test Code</th>
<th>Nominees Must Register No Later Than:</th>
<th>Standard Setting Study Month/Day</th>
<th>Nominees Must Provide the Following Responses When Registering Via Web Link One (Not Required for Web Link Two):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>0391</td>
<td>October 2, 2012</td>
<td>November 13, 2012</td>
<td>0391: Psychology General Area: select &quot;Content&quot; option Subject Area: select &quot;Psychology&quot; option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of Learning and Teaching: Grades 5-9</td>
<td>0623</td>
<td>October 2, 2012</td>
<td>November 15, 2012</td>
<td>0621: PLT: Grades 5-9 General Area: select &quot;Middle School&quot; option Subject Area: select &quot;PLT: Grades 5-8&quot; option</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Registration Web Link One:
http://surveys1013.websurveyor.net/wsb.dll/bfried/ETSPanelReg.htm?paction=resume

Registration Web Link Two:
http://creator.zoho.com/ecrgroup/ets-registration/form-perma/Standard_Setting_Registration_Cover/studyCode=AL11