MEMORANDUM

TO: County and City Superintendents of Education
   Deans of Education

FROM: Thomas R. Bice
       State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: Praxis II Tests Revalidation: Requests for Nominations of Subject-Area Experts in Early Childhood Education

In the past, several superintendents and deans of education provided assistance to us by nominating teachers/instructional support personnel/higher education faculty to serve as experts on standard-setting study panels when assessments of the Alabama Educator Certification Testing Program (AECTP) 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 to serve as subject-area experts for the AECTP Praxis II Early Childhood test.

To represent the perspectives of your district or institution, we would like to involve teachers/instructional support personnel from your district or faculty from your institution. To that end, we ask that you consider nominating up to three individuals to participate. In order to get a cross-section of district and college/university representatives, as well as a diverse group of panelists, it is possible that not all individuals nominated will be selected to participate. ETS has established the deadline as Friday, November 21, 2014, to register nominees via the ETS Web site using the Web link: http://bit.ly/1tIhnaa. However, if you are unable to meet this deadline and have a nominee, please e-mail the nominee’s information to Dr. Jendia S. Grissett at jgrissett@alsde.edu no later than November 30, 2014.

Nominees serving at the P-12 level should be fully certified teachers with three to ten years of experience who have demonstrated knowledge of subject matter and are currently teaching in the area of early childhood to validate Praxis II Early Childhood. Educators with more than ten years of experience are welcome if they are actively involved in mentoring or supervising a beginning teacher in the aforementioned content area. Higher education faculty possessing any number of years of experience should be individuals who currently provide direct instruction to education majors in the aforementioned content area.
ETS will make selections that will result in a panel representative of the geographic, ethnic, gender, and teaching levels of those required to take the test.

ETS has a goal of six experts per state to include four teachers and two faculty members who prepare early childhood teachers. The standard setting schedule will include two panels: Early Childhood Panel I – February 9-10, 2015, and Early Childhood Panel 2 – February 12-13, 2015.

After nominees have submitted the requested information via the Web site, those selected to participate will receive an official invitation from ETS via e-mail on November 25, 2014, or soon thereafter. Invited nominees must confirm their participation with ETS by January 16, 2015. ETS will facilitate the study on the state’s behalf and will reimburse panelists for travel to the session that will be held at the Chauncey Conference Center, ETS Princeton Campus, NJ.

Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Grissett via e-mail at jgrissett@alsde.edu or by telephone at 334-242-9983. We appreciate your continued support.

TRB/JAM/JSG

cc: Mrs. Sherrill W. Parris
Mr. Larry E. Craven
Dr. Jayne A. Meyer
Mrs. Sarah P. Justiss
Dr. Jendia S. Grissett

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