

Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools Accreditation

ANNOUNCEMENT: Change in Standard Quality Indicator 5.04 and 5.07

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At its May 11-12, 2010 meeting, the Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools Accreditation (WRISA) Board of Directors reviewed Essential Quality Indicator 5.04 as it relates to persons teaching in the 'special' areas of art, music, physical education, technology, and foreign language in the elementary school grades.

The Board realizes that some schools struggle to find persons with proper educational coursework to teach in these areas. The Board encourage principals to continue to seek out the most highly qualified individuals who have a bachelor's degree that includes or has in addition to it 12 credits in teacher education classes. The Board also encourages individuals who are teaching in these 'special' areas and do not have this educational background to continue to seek further education, but the Board realizes that this might not be feasible for all.

Therefore, the Board of Directors has determined that individuals teaching in these 'special' areas in the elementary school grades will now be considered under Standard Quality Indicator 5.07 instead of Essential Quality Indicator 5.04.

This change is effective immediately and will be reflected in all communication related to the 2010-11 school year.

Essential Standard Quality Indicator 5.04 now reads:

5.04 **Qualifications/Degree/Instructional Staff: Instructional personnel have earned a bachelor's degree that includes 12 semester hours of credit in teacher education as part of or in addition to the degree, or is actively working toward meeting this requirement within three years. *Early childhood refer to Standard A. (4) *Elementary art, music, physical education, technology, and foreign language refer to Quality Indicator 5.07. [Amended 5/12/2010]

Standard Quality Indicator 5.07 now reads:

5.07 Qualifications/Specialized Personnel: Counselors; media specialists; instructors of art, music, physical education, technology, and foreign language; and non-teaching professional personnel have earned a degree in their assigned field. (2) [Amended 5/12/2010]