



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC)

Meeting Minutes

June 25, 2020

1. Call to order

Dr. Arthur Joffrion called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Teacher Certification Appeals Council at 9:07 a.m. on June 25, 2020, held virtually via Zoom and streamed to the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) [YouTube Channel](#). Public comments provided to Paula.Bell@la.gov.

2. Roll call

The following members were present: Mr. Scott Devillier, Dr. Dustin Hebert, Dr. Arthur Joffrion, Mr. James Kennedy, Dr. Rhea Kiper, Dr. Verjanis Peoples, and Karen Parrino. Representing the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) were Ms. Paula Bell, Ms. Christy Bellue, and Ms. Rachel Normand.

3. Appellants attended the meeting via Zoom and watched the livestream from the Department YouTube channel.

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On motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council went into executive session at 9:09 a.m. to discuss appeals for the following individuals:

- a. Amanda Daigle
- b. Erin Overcast
- c. Daniel Vickberg
- d. Jennifer Malbrough
- e. Richelle Knoess
- f. Kandice Broussard
- g. Norretta Williams
- h. Ashley Euper
- i. Hannah Ebarb
- j. Natalie Arthur



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- k. Cheryl Russell
- l. Amanda Ledoux
- m. Joycelynn Saxon
- n. Cherie Masterson
- o. Thuy-Linh Nguyen
- p. Shalonda Madison
- q. Mary Patin
- r. Willia Hatter
- s. Emily Smiley
- t. Regan Bertrand
- u. James Boykins
- v. Barbara Herrle-Colosino
- w. Rachael Passman
- x. Winston Gentle
- y. Collette Jones
- z. Amanda Hardy
- aa. Robyn Denny
- bb. Karen Bowie
- cc. Lynda Delo
- dd. Qiana Smith
- ee. Candice Cole
- ff. Allison Johnson (Thomas)

A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Mr. Scott Devillier, Dr. Dustin Hebert, Dr. Arthur Joffrion, Mr. James Kennedy, Dr. Rhea Kiper, Dr. Verjanis Peoples, and Karen Parrino

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Absences: Dr. Christine Hypolite and Ms. Billie Smith

The roll call vote to go into executive session passed. It was noted that no votes would be taken in executive session; all votes would be made public.



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On motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council reconvened into regular session at 11:23 a.m. and continued with the regular order of the agenda. A quorum was present.

4. Actions taken

A. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Amanda Daigle** a one-year extension of the Temporary Authority to Teach (TAT) certificate, permitting time for successfully completing the required Praxis for admission into an alternative teacher preparation program.

B. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Erin Overcast, Daniel Vickberg, Jennifer Malbrough, Richelle Knoess, Kandice Broussard, Noretta Williams, Willia Hatter, and Candice Cole** non-practicing status of their certificates retroactive to the time they ceased employment in a Louisiana school system in the role for which they are certified.

C. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted extensions of professional level certificates as follows:

Level 1 extensions were granted to **Ashley Euper** (one year), **Hannah Ebarb** (one year), **Natalie Arthur** (one year); and

Level 2* extension was granted to **Emily Smiley** (one year).

The extensions will permit time to be evaluated for effectiveness in order to advance to the Level 2 or 3 certificates.

D. On the motion of Ms. Karen Parrino, seconded by Mr. Scott Deviller, the Council granted extensions of professional level certificates as follows:

Level 2 extensions were granted to **Amanda Ledoux** (two years), **Joycelynn Saxon** (two years), **Cherie Masterson** (one year), **Thuy-Linh Nguyen** (two years), **Shalonda Madison** (three years), **Mary Patin** (three years); and



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Level 3 extension was granted to **Cheryl Russell** (two years).

E. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Regan Bertrand** a three-year extension of the Out-of-State (OS) certificate as her certificate was issued prior to the implementation of the OS Eligibility letter, before employment was required before issuance. She has not served on this certificate.

F. On the motion of Dr. Verjanis Peoples, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **James Boykins** a one-year extension of the Practitioner's License (PL) certificate, permitting time for successfully completing a teacher preparation program.

G. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council denied **Barbara Herrle-Colosino's** request to reinstate her Type B certificate, substituting professional development hours in lieu of the required six semester hours.

H. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted with contingency **Rachael Passman's** request to add the Spanish K-12 endorsement to her Level 2 teaching certificate, substituting the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) 7-12 exam and six years of teaching Spanish for the World Languages Pedagogy exam required for the endorsement upon fulfilling the content requirement for the add-on. Content requirements include obtaining either the deficient nine semester hours of Spanish coursework or passing the Spanish Content Exam #5195.

Dr. Dustin Hebert was recorded as being opposed to the motion.

I. On the motion of Dr. Verjanis Peoples, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted **Winston Gentle's** request to add the Mild/Moderate 6-12 endorsement, substituting SPED 741 and his master's degree in Special Ed for the deficient three semester hours.



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Dr. Rhea Kiper recused herself from voting on this item.

Dr. Dustin Hebert was recorded as being opposed to the motion.

J. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Collette Jones**' request for issuance of an Ancillary Guidance Counselor certificate under guidelines which had to be completed prior to June 30, 2017 on the basis that all coursework was completed prior to the deadline, although her final three semester hour practicum was completed in Fall 2017.

K. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Karen Parrino, the Council granted **Amanda Hardy** and **Robyn Denny**'s requests to place their ancillary counselor and teaching certificates into Operational Role status, freezing the certificate validity while serving in roles which are not being evaluated per student growth measures.

L. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council denied **Karen Bowie**'s request to substitute professional development for the New Instructor workshop in order to advance from the CTTIE-1 to CTTIE-2 certification requirements.

M. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Lynda Delo** Educational Leadership 1 eligibility via alternate route two by substituting her Master's of Library Science for the required Master's in Education as she has fulfilled all other requirements including the exam and 240 documented educational leader clock hours.

N. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council denied **Qiana Smith**'s request for Educational Leadership 1 eligibility via master's pathway, Educational Leader 1 eligibility via alternate pathway 2, addition of Parish/City Supervisor of Instruction, and addition of Provisional Principal/Elementary Principal as she was deficient the current School Leaders Licensure Assessment exam for EDL1 eligibility and deficient coursework for the addition of the endorsements under the old leadership structure/guidelines.



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O. The Council deleted **Allison Johnson (Thomas)**'s appeal, deferred in the February 2020 meeting, from the agenda as her case was resolved via policy where an appeal is unnecessary.

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On motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council went into executive session at 11:42 a.m. to discuss:

- gg. Denise Anderson
- hh. Brittany Carlock
- ii. Candy Caesar
- jj. Ariante Wallace
- kk. Jennifer Whitehead
- ll. Romain Besson
- mm. Laurie Duplantis
- nn. Melissa Hartwell
- oo. Gillian King
- pp. Elizabeth Meche
- qq. Wendy Mills
- rr. Sophie Tognazzoni (Nicorvo)
- ss. Allison Oliver
- tt. Benjamin Ploeger
- uu. Katie Smith
- vv. Leslie Spencer
- ww. Lacrechia Terrance
- xx. Annemarie David
- yy. Tristen Guillory
- zz. Sarah Parham
- aaa. Hannah Austin
- bbb. Mary Hetzel
- ccc. Lesley Magee
- ddd. Sara Habetz
- eee. Sheena Bouie



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- fff. Kathryn Lanier
- ggg. Clintina Williams
- hhh. Jermaine Alphonse
- iii. Amber Langlinais
- jjj. Kathryn Rogers
- kkk. Malcolm Henry
- lll. Erin Pizarro

A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Mr. Scott Devillier, Dr. Dustin Hebert, Dr. Arthur Joffrion, Mr. James Kennedy, Dr. Rhea Kiper, Dr. Verjanis Peoples, and Karen Parrino

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Absences: Dr. Christine Hypolite and Ms. Billie Smith

The roll call vote to go into executive session passed. It was noted that no votes would be taken in executive session; all votes would be made public.

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On motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council reconvened into regular session at 1:35 p.m. and continued with the regular order of the agenda. A quorum was present.

5. Actions taken

A. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Denise Anderson** and **Brittany Carlock** a one-year extension of the Temporary Authority to Teach (TAT) certificate, permitting time for successfully completing the required Praxis for admission into an alternative teacher preparation program.



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B. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted with contingency **Candy Caesar** a one-year extension of the Practitioner's License (PL) certificate, permitting time for successfully completing a teacher preparation program, upon her providing documentation from her program provider verifying her enrollment. The Council noted this would be the final PL extension considered via appeal.

C. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Ariante Wallace** and **Jennifer Whitehead** a one-year extension of the Out-of-State (OS) certificate to permit more time to pass the Praxis exams required to advance to the level certificate.

D. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted **Romain Besson, Laurie Duplantis, Melissa Hartwell, Gillian King, Elizabeth Meche, Wendy Mills, Sophie Tognazzoni (Nicorvo), Allison Oliver, Benjamin Ploeger, Katie Smith, Leslie Spencer, and Lacrechia Terrance** non-practicing status of their certificates retroactive to the time they ceased employment in a Louisiana school system in the role for which they are certified.

Dr. Rhea Kiper recused herself from voting on this item.

E. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted extensions of professional level certificates as follows:

Level 1 extension was granted to **Sara Habetz** (one year);

Level 2 extensions were granted to **Hannah Austin** (one year), **Mary Hetzel** (two years), **Lesley Magee** (one year);and

Level 3 extensions were granted to **AnneMarie David** (three years), **Tristen Guillory** (two years), and **Sarah Parham** (three years).

The extensions will permit time to be evaluated for effectiveness in order to be granted the five-year renewal of or advancement to the Level 2 or 3 certificates.

Dr. Rhea Kiper recused herself from voting on this item.



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F. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted extensions on certificates as follows:

Sheena Bouie was granted a three year extension of ancillary counselor certificate;

Kathryn Lanier was granted a three year extension of ancillary counselor certificate;

Clintina Williams was granted a one year extension ancillary counselor certificate; and

Jermaine Alphonse was granted a three year extension of ancillary artist certificate.

The extensions will permit time to be evaluated for effectiveness in order to be granted the five-year renewal the ancillary certificates.

G. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Amber Langlinais's** request to add educational leader eligibility to her Level 1 teaching certificate in consideration of her fulfilling all certification requirements with the exception of the higher level teaching certificate. The 2019-2020 teaching evaluation via Compass could not be finalized due to school closures during the COVID-19 pandemic which prevented her advancing to the Level 2 teaching certificate. The Council considered the Compass observation results conducted during the 2019-2020 school year which were indicated as "highly effective."

I. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council denied **Kathryn Rogers's** request to add the PK-3 endorsement to her teaching certificate as she had not successfully completed the BESE-adopted Praxis exam #5621 or the 12 semester hours in nursery school/kindergarten coursework.

J. On the motion of Dr. Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Malcolm Henry's** request to add the secondary math endorsement to his teaching certificate substituting the engineering courses for the deficient three semester hours of math required considering he successfully completed the



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secondary Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) exam as well as 27 semester hours of math coursework.

K. The Council was unable to consider **Erin Pizarro's** request to add the academically gifted endorsement to her teaching certificate as she had been previously denied certification during the July 2018 Teacher Certification Appeals Council meeting. The documentation submitted with her appeal indicated no change in the previously provided evaluation noting deficiency of a master's degree and three semester hours in coursework . LA R.S. 17:7 notes, "A decision of the council shall be a final decision."

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The next meeting of the Teacher Certification Appeals Council is scheduled to convene on September 10, 2020.

With no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.