

Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC)

Meeting Minutes

November 29, 2018

1. **Call to order**

Dr. Voiron called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the TCAC at 9:25 am on November 29, 2018 in 1-155 North Dakota Room.

2. **Roll call**

The following members were present: Mr. David Beard, Dr. Gwile Freeman, Dr. Christine Hypolite, Dr. Rhea Kiper, Dr. Verjanis Peoples, Ms. Billie Smith, Dr. Louis Voiron, and Mr. Rick Wentzel. Representing the Department of Education (DOE) were Sara DeLano, Felicia Jackson, Rachel Normand, Yshauna Sanders, and Paula Tonguis.

3. **Appellants in attendance**

Anne Authement, Jennifer Gaudet, Mary Gonzales, Patrick Greer, Jane Opiri, Rebecca Rossi, Micheleen Washington, Jennifer Whiddon, and Rachel Young

4. **Actions**

- A. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Rebecca Rossi** the Ancillary School Counselor certification under the adopted guidelines which expired June 30, 2017 based upon her fulfilling all requirements prior to the deadline, with the exception of the six semester hours completed after the deadline at Seton Hall University with her master's degree being awarded in August 2018.
- B. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Rachel Young** the Ancillary School Counselor certification under the adopted guidelines which expired June 30, 2017 based upon her fulfilling all requirements prior to the deadline, with the exception of the three semester hours completed after the deadline at University of Southern Mississippi with her master's degree being awarded in May 2018.
- C. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, the Council granted **Christa Ortego** a one-year extension on her Out-of-State (OS) certificate to permit time for her successful completion of the Praxis exams required for initial certification.
- D. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, with Dr. Louis Voiron abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Nadia Kyles** a one-year extension on her Out-of-State (OS) certificate to permit time for her successful completion of the Praxis exams required for initial certification.

- E. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, the Council granted **Shemiko Kay** a one-year extension on her Out-of-State (OS) certificate to permit time for her successful completion of the Praxis exams required for initial certification.
- F. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, the Council granted **Felicia Jacobs** a one-year extension on her Out-of-State (OS) certificate to permit time for her successful completion of the Praxis exams required for initial certification.
- G. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Mr. David Beard, with Dr. Rhea Kiper and Ms. Billie Smith abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Micheleen Washington** a one-year extension on her Out-of-State (OS) certificate to permit time for her successful completion of the Praxis exams required for initial certification.
- H. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Jane Opiri** a one-year extension on her Out-of-State (OS) certificate to permit time for her to meet Praxis exclusion with a successful year of teaching on the OS in conjunction with her successful teaching experience in other states prior to the issuance of her OS certificate.
- I. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Melanie Anderson's** request to accept her bachelor's degree earned from a non-regionally accredited university, Arlington Baptist University, for Louisiana teacher certification purposes and the issuance of the Out-of-State (OS) certificate. The request was granted based upon American Association Of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) affiliation, her twenty years of teaching experience, successfully completing teacher preparation coursework, and the Texas Education Agency's approval of the university in Texas.
- J. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Jennifer Whiddon** a three-year extension of her Level 1 teaching certificate to permit her time to teach in her area of certification in order to move to the Level 2.
- K. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Mr. David Beard, with Dr. Rhea Kiper and Ms. Billie Smith abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Mary Gonzales** a three-year extension of her Level 1 teaching certificate to permit her time to be evaluated for effectiveness while teaching in her area(s) of certification in order to move to the Level 2 or 3 certificate.
- L. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, with Dr. Rhea Kiper and Dr. Christine Hypolite abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Kellie Growl** a five-year extension of her Level 2 teaching certificate to permit her time to be evaluated for effectiveness in order to renew the Level 2.

- M. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Dr. Christine Hypolite, the Council granted **Anne Authement's** request to add-on the Mild/Moderate 1-5 endorsement by substituting her eleven years of teaching special education students for the deficient three-semester hours in the area of Instructional Practices in Special Education.
- N. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Mr. Rick Wentzel, the Council granted **Rebecca Mayeux's** request to add-on the Mild/Moderate 4-8 endorsement by substituting her eight years of teaching special education students for the deficient three-semester hours in the area of Fundamentals of Instructional Technology.
- O. On the motion of Dr. Verjanis Peoples, seconded by Mr. Rick Wentzel, the Council granted **Jennifer Gaudet's** appeal to add-on the Visually Impaired K-12 endorsement to her teaching certificate by accepting the two, two-semester hour Braille courses successfully completed at the University of North Dakota for the required two, three-semester hour courses in Braille prescribed in the add-on policy based upon the course length and content being equivalent.
- P. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Donsherie Sullivan's** appeal to add-on the Provisional Principal endorsement to her teaching certificate by accepting her successful completion of Louisiana's current School Leaders Licensure Assessment exam #6011 for the older School Leaders Licensure Assessment exam #1010 or the Educational Leadership: Administration & Supervision exam #0410 which was required under the add-on guidelines if completed prior to December 31, 2008. She fulfilled all requirements prior to the December 31, 2008 deadline for the Provisional Principal add-on with the exception of the exam.
- Q. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, the Council granted **Patrick Greer's** appeal to add-on the School Superintendent endorsement to his teaching certificate by substituting his twenty years educational leadership experience for the deficient three-semester hour course in School Community Relations, accepting his three semester hour EDUC 589 Advanced Research and Statistics course and his successful completion of the Louisiana Superintendent's Academy for six semester hours deficient in the elective areas.
5. The Council discussed recommendations for identifying a replacement chair and co-chair to serve due to Dr. Louis Voiron's vacating his place on the council. It was decided by a unanimous vote of the Council that Mr. Rick Wentzel would serve as chair, with Dr. Christine Hypolite serving as co-chair.
6. The Teacher Certification Appeals Council is scheduled to meet again in a regularly scheduled appeals meeting March 28, 2019.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 A.M.