

Teacher Certification Appeals Council

Meeting Minutes

July 24, 2014

1. Call to order

Dr. Rieck called to order the regular meeting of the Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC) at 9:00 a.m. on July 24, 2014, in 1-155 North Dakota Room.

2. Roll call

The following members were present: Dr. William Rieck, Dr. Sheila Jackson, Dr. Shirley Jacob, Dr. Louis Voiron, Dr. Brooke Muntean, Mr. Rick Wentzel, and Karen Richardson. Representing the Department were: Regina Poole, Rachel Normand, and Cindy Millard

3. Appellants in attendance

Tiffany LaGarde, Wanda Caldwell, Merril Dickerson, Nancy Gomez, and Kevin Scott LeJeune

4. Actions

Dr. William Rieck was voted as Council Chair and Dr. Sheila Jackson was voted as Council Co-Chair .

On the motion of **Dr. Jackson**, seconded by **Mr. Wentzel**, Council granted **Tiffany LaGarde** an Educational Leader Level 1 letter of eligibility based on her 240 plus hours of leadership experiences as a master teacher, her master's degree in Public Administration and successful completion of PRAXIS School Leader Licensure Assessment Exam. Ms. LaGarde lacked master's degree in education and documentation of 240 clock hours of leadership experiences for the EDL 1 eligibility letter.

On the motion of **Dr. Voiron**, seconded by **Ms. Richardson**, Council granted **Wanda Caldwell** add-on certification as an Educational Diagnostician to her Level 1 teaching certificate. Ms. Caldwell lacked the Level 2 teaching certificate for the add-on of Educational Diagnostician.

On the motion of **Dr. Jacob**, seconded by **Dr. Voiron**, Council deferred **Merril Dickerson's** appeal for add-on for Early Interventionist to the Spring 2015 TCAC meeting agenda TBA. The Council is awaiting official transcripts verifying the nine hours of course work she has taken, the passing score on the required PRAXIS Principles of Learning and Teaching, Early Childhood exam (0621), and a letter from the Dean of the College of Education stating the course in Foundations in Early childhood Education is not offered. Ms. Dickerson is lacking 12 hours of Early Interventionist course work and the PRAXIS Principles of Learning and Teaching : Early Childhood (0621).

On the motion of **Dr. Voiron**, seconded by **Dr. Jacob**, Council granted **Nancy Gomez** English as a Second Language certification based on her being a native speaker from Chile, master's degree in applied linguistics from a university in Chile, and her ESL teaching experience. Ms. Gomez lacked nine hours of course work for the ESL add-on: Methods of Teaching ESL, Introduction to Language and Culture, and Curriculum Design for the Multicultural Classroom.

On the motion of **Dr. Jackson**, seconded by **Dr. Voiron**, Council granted **Kevin Scott LeJeune** a letter of eligibility for an Educational Leader Level 1 certification, to serve as a Parish or City Supervisor/Director of Special Education valid for continuous service for the period and place of employment only. Mr. LeJeune lacks the Level 2 teaching certificate for the Educational Leader Level 1 certification.

On the motion of **Dr. Voiron**, seconded by **Dr. Jacob**, Council granted **Michelle Botos** add-on certification as an Educational Diagnostician to her Level 1 teaching certificate. Ms. Botos lacked the Level 2 teaching certificate for the add-on of Educational Diagnostician.

On the motion of **Dr. Voiron**, seconded by **Mr. Wentzel**, Council granted **Melanie Brenckle** a letter of eligibility for the Educational Leader Level 1 certification based on her two years of teaching experience in a TAP school and her successful TAP evaluations. Ms. Brenckle lacked the Level 2 teaching certificate for the EDL1 letter of eligibility.

On the motion of **Mr. Wentzel**, seconded by **Ms Richardson**, Council denied **Kimberly Burkley**, the letter of eligibility for Educational Leader Level 1 certification. The Council based this decision on her holding an Ancillary Speech-Language Pathologist certificate and her eight years of experience as a Speech Pathologist ; not a Level 2 teaching certificate,

and her leadership experiences as a Speech Pathologist did not meet the completion of an Educational Leadership Program. Ms. Burkley lacked the completion of a competency-based educational leader program and the Level 2 teaching certificate.

On motion of **Dr. Jackson**, seconded by **Mr. Wentzel**, Council denied **Kim Germany** add-on certification as a School Superintendent. The School Superintendent add-on certification was phased out as of 12/31/2008 and replaced by Educational Leader Level 3 certification. Once Ms. Germany successfully completes the PRAXIS School Superintendent Assessment Exam (6021) she will meet requirements for the Educational Leader Level 3/Superintendent letter of eligibility. Ms. Germany lacks three graduate hours of course work from Administration/Supervision of Business, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, or Speech and the Level 3 teaching certificate for the School Superintendent add-on certification.

On motion of **Ms Richardson**, seconded by **Dr. Jackson**, Council denied **Jason Loyola** Ancillary Talented Visual Arts certification based on lack of evidence of achievement in the arts, demonstrated as follows: There must be substantive evidence of artistic and /or creative accomplishment over an extended period of time. Evidence must be submitted in the form of newspaper articles, brochures, catalogs, playbills, programs, magazines, published music, or letters from accomplished peers. The Council asked Mr. Loyola to resubmit his request with an updated portfolio of his achievement to the Office of Teacher Certification, Preparation, and Recruitment for re-evaluation for the Ancillary Talented Visual Arts certification.

On motion of **Dr. Voiron**, seconded by **Dr. Jacob**, Council denied **Jeffrey Rothschild** a letter of eligibility for Educational Leader Level 1 certification based on lacking the Level 2 teaching certificate. Louisiana State Statute, ACT 54, requires three years of effective COMPASS evaluations for issuance of the Level 2 certificate required to serve as an Ed Leader.

On motion of **Dr. Voiron**, seconded by **Mr. Wentzel**, Council denied **Jennifer Winslett** a letter of eligibility for Educational Leader Level 1 certification based on the lack of completion of a competency-based graduate degree Educational Leadership program, the required PRAXIS School Licensure Assessment Exam (SLLA), and the Level 2 teaching certificate. The Alabama master's degree Ms. Winslett completed is not equivalent to the required EDL program aligned to Interstate School

Standards for School Leaders (ISLLC). Louisiana State Statute, ACT 54 requires three years of effective COMPASS evaluations for issuance of the required Level 2 certificate for EDL1 certification. Ms. Winslett lacks the Level 2 teaching certificate, competency-based EDL program, and PRAXIS SLLA exam required by Louisiana for the EDL 1 certification.

5. New Business

The Council asked to hold three TCAC meetings in 2015, in February, July, and early November. Ms. Poole will reserve rooms for the 2015 meetings and inform the TCAC of the scheduled dates for these meetings.

Council asked for a 10:00 a.m. start time for the meeting, if there are less than 12 appeals and a 9:00 a.m. start time, if there are 12 or more appeals.

6. Next Meeting

February 2015 TBA

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am