

Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC)

Meeting Minutes

July 26, 2018

1. **Call to order**

Dr. Voiron called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the TCAC at 9:05 am on July 26, 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, Ms. Billie Smith, Dr. Louis Voiron, and Mr. Rick Wentzel. Representing the Department of Education (DOE) were Edmond Adams, Rachel Normand, and Paula Tonguis.

3. **Appellants in attendance**

Marvin Alexander, Caroline Alexius, Grace Asonye, Angelle Badeaux, David Barham, Elizabeth Buquoi, Lori Cambre, Rachel Chaney, Klayton Cooley (represented by Mike Hall), Vera Dunnaway, Del-Timoko Eades, David Graham, Crystal Green, Karen Hamilton, Sandra Keith, Annette McGehee, Tiffany Mitchell-Davis, Kevin Naquin, Whitney Stafford, Laura Thomas, and Joshua Walker

4. **Actions**

- A. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, with Dr. Louis Voiron abstaining from the vote on the appeals associated with educators from his school system, the Council granted **Kirstin Abadie, Tyler Alario, Angela Alfred, Jeremy Breaux, Jenais Broussard, Walter Broussard, Kymberlee Chenier, Ronisha Coppage, Stacey Dehon, Kayla Dubois, Nicholas Dupuis, Amanda Falgout, Gilene Fugatt, Tiffany Gongre, David Graham, Crystal Green, Kellie Hawkins, Frannie Hoffman, Anna Knuckols, Alyssa Louviere, Hannah McCormick, Tiffany McGee, Kayla Morgan, Kevin Naquin, Lauren O'Brien, Michael Phillips, Scott Quick, Franchesca Simmons, Whitney Stafford, Joshua Walker, Danielle Weatherford, and Jonkeyta White** one-year renewals of their Temporary-Authority-to-Teach (TAT) authorizations based on their attempts to pass the exams needed to be admitted into a teacher preparation program, evidence that they are teaching in demonstrated areas of need, evidence that they met the standards of effectiveness, and verification that the employing districts recommend the appellants and will continue to employ them in the upcoming school year.
- B. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Mr. David Beard, **Quincy Verdin's** appeal for a one year renewal of his Temporary Authority to Teach (TAT) authorization was granted with the contingency that his employing school system provide documentation relative to workforce needs as evidence that the teacher is teaching in a demonstrated area of need.

- C. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Dr. Christine Hypolite, the Council granted **Erika Sherman** a one-year extension of 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.
- D. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Mr. Rick Wentzel, the Council granted **Grace Asonye** a one-year extension of 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.
- E. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Angelle Badeaux** a one-year extension of 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. The Council could not consider her appeal to add on the English as a Second Language (ESL) endorsement due to her not having completed at least 50% of the coursework towards the add-on endorsement.
- F. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Tiffany Mitchell-Davis** 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. David Beard, seconded by Dr. Christine Hypolite, **Ebony Robert's** appeal for an extension of her Out-of-State (OS) certificate was deferred to the September 27, 2018 meeting. Council requested documentation of her attempts to prepare for, register, and attempt the required Praxis exams since there was no evidence of attempting Praxis within her appeal.
- H. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, the Council granted **Vera Dunnaway** 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.
- I. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, with Dr. Louis Voiron abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Angel Melancon** 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.
- J. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Sandra Lusk** 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.

- K. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Mr. Rick Wentzel, the Council granted **Chloe Johnson** 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 as well as a one-year extension on her Out-of-Field Authority to Teach (OFAT) certificate so as to provide more time to prepare and succeed at the secondary math content exam for add-on of Math 6-12.
- L. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Mr. Rick Wentzel, **Christa Ortego's** appeal for an extension of her Out-of-State (OS) certificate was deferred to the September 27, 2018 meeting. Council requested documentation of her attempts to prepare for, register, and attempt the required Praxis exams since there was no evidence of attempting Praxis within her appeal.
- M. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Karen Hamilton** the standard Level professional certificate from her Out-of-State (OS) by accepting her Louisiana teaching experience in elementary grades as her successful year of teaching on the OS rather than in her area of certification, PreK-3rd for Praxis exclusion. The year teaching in Louisiana while holding the OS in conjunction with her successful teaching experience in other states prior to the issuance of her OS certificate makes her eligible for Praxis exclusion.
- N. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Dr. Christine Hypolite, the Council granted **Monica Jones, John-Pierre LaFleur** and **Brandy Parnell** Ancillary School Counselor certification under the adopted guidelines which expired June 30, 2017 based upon their fulfilling all required coursework prior to the deadline, but were awaiting the conferral of their master's degrees which occurred after the June 30, 2017 date. Dr. Rhea Kiper and Ms. Billie Smith abstained from the vote for John-Pierre LaFleur's case due to associations with the appellant.
- O. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, **Latarsha Parker's** appeal for the issuance of the Ancillary School Counselor certificate under the adopted guidelines which expired June 30, 2017 was granted with the contingency that she successfully complete the course that fulfills the three semester hours in Principles and Administration of School Counseling Programs.
- P. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, with Dr. Christine Hypolite abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Elizabeth Landry** 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 hour course completed in Principles and Administration of School Counseling which was completed in the Fall 2017 at the University of New Orleans (UNO).

- Q. On the motion of Dr. Christine Hypolite, seconded by Mr. David Beard, the Council granted **Annette McGehee** a three-year extension of her Level 1 teaching certificate based upon her effective teaching evaluations to permit her time to teach in her area(s) of certification and/or to add-on the area in which she has been teaching in order to move to the Level 2 or 3 certificate.
- R. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Courtney Collins** 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.
- S. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Caroline Alexius** 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.
- T. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Mr. David Beard, the Council granted **Nicholas Fortuna, Keith Sellers, and Laura Thomas** one-year extensions on their Practitioner License (PL3) based upon their continued enrollment in the master's alternate programs and effective final Compass evaluations while completing their internships.
- U. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Del-Timoko Eades** the Out-of-State Principal 1 (OSP1) certificate based upon fulfilling certification requirements and using her work experience as the STEM-Science Coordinator and instructional coach in Texas for the required minimum two years of experience as a principal or assistant principal in another state.
- V. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Rachel Chaney** the educational leader 1 eligibility letter substituting her master's degree in liberal arts in conjunction with her doctoral courses in education for the required master's degree in education within the guidelines for educational leader 1 alternate pathway 2 based upon her fulfilling the other requirements and work experience in education with the contingency that she document and provide the 240 clock hours of leadership experiences to the DOE.
- W. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Klayton Cooley** the addition of the educational diagnostician endorsement to his Level 1 teaching certificate contingent upon his successful completion of the deficient three semester hours for the mild/moderate 1-5 add-on endorsement.
- X. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, with Dr. Louis Voiron abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Lindsay Errington** the mild/moderate 1-5 add-on endorsement by accepting a course substitution for the deficient three semester hours in

Collaborative Teaming and by accepting the 2.67 semester hour courses for the three semester hour courses for two of the requirements.

- Y. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Mr. David Beard, the Council denied **Gaynelle Hawkin's** request to add-on the mild/moderate 4-8 endorsement due to her being deficient in the required Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) 5-9 and middle school core content Praxis exams.
- Z. On the motion of Dr. Christine Hypolite, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Tammy Ozuna** the middle school science add-on endorsement based upon her successfully completing the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) K-6 exam and PLT 7-12 exam in place of the required PLT 5-9 exam while she fulfilled all other requirements.
- AA. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Mr. David Beard, the Council denied **Erin Pizarro's** request to add-on the academically gifted endorsement due to her being deficient in a master's degree and the three semester hours in social/emotional needs of the gifted course.
- BB. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Dr. Christina Hypolite, the Council granted **Sandra Keith** the Hearing Impaired K-12 add-on endorsement waiving two semester hours of the requirements based upon her extensive coursework and work experience with hearing impaired students.
- CC. On the motion of Dr. Christina Hypolite, seconded by Mr. David Beard, with Dr. Louis Voiron abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Marvin Alexander** the school superintendent add-on endorsement based upon substituting related completed coursework for the deficient 3 semester hours within the electives requirements. All coursework and add-on requirements were fulfilled prior to the December 31, 2008 transition to the current leadership structure.
- DD. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Lori Cambre** a course substitution for the significant disabilities 1-12 three semester hour communications course requirement. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Dr. Christina Hypolite, the Council substituted her teaching experience with significantly disabled students for the three semester hours of coursework in the area of characteristics of students with significant disabilities and the three semester hours of coursework in the area of instructional strategies. The Council advised her to successfully complete the remaining three semester hours of coursework for the addition of significant disabilities 1-12.
- EE. On the motion of Dr. Christina Hypolite, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Renae Colwich** Ancillary Child Search Coordinator based upon substituting three semester

hours of her speech therapy coursework for the deficient three semester hours in special education.

FF. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council denied **Elizabeth Buquoi**'s request for the Ancillary Talented Art certificate due to her not having substantive documented evidence of artistic and creative accomplishment over an extended period of time.

GG. On the motion of Dr. Christina Hypolite, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council deferred **Anissa Jones**' request to place her Level 1 teaching certificate back into practicing status due to her not being employed in a Louisiana employing school system. The DOE will provide a verification letter to Ms. Jones and the credentialing agency in Georgia which will confirm her valid certification and explain renewal of a Louisiana certificate is contingent upon effective evaluations by a Louisiana employing school system which is the reason her certificate has been placed into non-practicing status.

HH. On the motion of Dr. Christina Hypolite, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, with Dr. Rhea Kiper and Ms. Billie Smith abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **David Barham** a one-year extension of his Out-of-State 1 (OS1) teaching certificate to permit time for him to successfully complete six semester hours of coursework due to his not having taught in five years.

5. The Teacher Certification Appeals Council is scheduled to meet again in a regularly scheduled appeals meeting September 27, 2018.
6. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 P.M.