

Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC)

Meeting Minutes

September 27, 2018

1. **Call to order**

Dr. Voiron called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the TCAC at 9:03 am on September 27, 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, 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**

Melanie Anderson, Candy Caesar, Tammy Chaffin, Kimberly Davis, Matthew Franszczak, Elaine Futrell, Aaron Harrison, Allison Smith, Barbara Stratton, Sally Voisin, and Zane Whittington

4. **Actions**

- A. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Mr. David Beard, **Christa Ortego's** appeal for an extension of her Out-of-State (OS) certificate was deferred to the November 29, 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.
- B. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Dr. Christine Hypolite, the Council granted **Ebony Robert** 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.
- C. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Allison Leckelt** 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 Mr. David Beard, the Council granted **Chelsea Thames** 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. David Beard, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Aaron Harrison** 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.
- F. On the motion of Dr. Christine Hypolite, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Mary Moore** 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.
 - G. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Mr. David Beard, with Dr. Rhea Kiper and Dr. Christine Hypolite abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Sally Voisin** 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.
 - H. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, the Council granted **Michelle James** 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.
 - I. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Dr. Christine Hypolite, the Council granted **Allison Smith** a three-year extension of her Level 2* teaching certificate to permit her time to be evaluated for effectiveness while teaching in a Louisiana public school system, in her area(s) of certification in order to move to the Level 2 or 3 certificate.
 - J. On the motion of Dr. Verjanis Peoples, seconded by Mr. Rick Wentzel, the Council granted **Michael Rainwater** a one-year extension on his Practitioner License (PL2) based upon his continued enrollment in the alternative teacher certification program and effective final Compass evaluations while completing the remaining portion of his internship.
 - K. On the motion of Dr. Christine Hypolite, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, the Council granted **Elizabeth Womack** a one-year extension on her Practitioner License (PL3) based upon her continued enrollment in the master's alternate program and effective final Compass evaluations while completing her internship.
 - L. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Candy Caesar** a one-year extension on her Practitioner License (PL3) based upon her continued enrollment in the master's alternate program and effective final Compass evaluations while completing her internship.
 - M. On the motion of Dr. Verjanis Peoples, seconded by Mr. David Beard, the Council granted **Barbara Stratton** a three-year extension of her Out-of-Field Authority to Teach (OFAT) certificate in the area of Early Intervention so as to permit time for her to enroll and

- complete remaining six-semester hours and exams required for adding on the endorsement to her standard teaching certificate.
- N. On the motion of Dr. Gwile Freeman, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Matthew Franszczak** a two-year extension of his Out-of-Field Authority to Teach (OFAT) certificate in the area of Mild/Moderate 6-12 so as to permit time for him to enroll and complete remaining twelve semester hours required for adding on the endorsement to his standard teaching certificate.
- O. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Gaynelle Hawkins'** request to add-on the Mild/Moderate 4-8 endorsement by substituting her National Teacher's Exam (NTE) Professional Knowledge pedagogy exam for the required Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) 5-9 exam and by substituting her NTE Education in the Elementary School core content exam for the required middle school content exam for add-on purposes.
- P. On the motion of Dr. Christine Hypolite, seconded by Dr. Gwile Freeman, the Council granted **Tammy Chaffin** the School Librarian add-on endorsement waiving three semester hours of the "organization and administration of a school library" requirement based upon four years of successful work experience as a school librarian.
- Q. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Mr. David Beard, **Elaine Futrell's** appeal to substitute three semester hours earned in "Methods of Preschool Teaching" for the required three semester hours in "Early Intervention Methods" as required for the addition of Early Interventionist is deferred to a date to be determined based upon her successful completion of the other eighteen semester hours required for the add-on. Council requested that she fulfill the other requirements prior to their reconsideration of this appeal.
- R. On the motion of Dr. Verjanis Peoples, seconded by Mr. David Beard, the Council granted **Kimberly Davis** 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 in the Fall 2017 at Missouri Baptist University with her master's degree being awarded in January 2018.
- S. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Mr. Rick Wentzel, with Dr. Rhea Kiper abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Zane Whittington** the educational leader 1 eligibility letter substituting his master's degree from Louisiana State University in Natural Sciences for the required master's degree in education within the guidelines for educational leader 1 alternate pathway 2 based upon the contents of his degree plan as documented by the university and by his fulfilling all other requirements.

- T. On the motion of Mr. David Beard, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council denied **Melanie Anderson's** request to accept her bachelor's degree earned from Arlington Baptist University in 1999 for Louisiana teacher certification purposes and the issuance of the Out-of-State (OS) certificate. Arlington Baptist University is not a regionally accredited university.

 - U. On the motion of Mr. Rick Wentzel, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Rory Fore, Chiye Fox, Jacqueline Paige, Cheryl Savoy, Leslie Sterling,** and **Jasmine West** the Extended Endorsement License (EEL) in the area of mild/moderate within their designated grade levels based upon their successfully completing content exams previously adopted in Louisiana in lieu of the current content exams.
5. The Teacher Certification Appeals Council is scheduled to meet again in a regularly scheduled appeals meeting November 29, 2018.

 6. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 A.M.