Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE)
Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC)
Thursday, August 26, 2021
Minutes — Unofficial

The August 26, 2021 meeting of the Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC) was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Dr. Arthur Joffrion. Members present were:

Dr. Dustin Hebert, Dr. Arthur Joffrion, Dr. Verjanis Peoples, Mr. Scott Devillier, Mr. James Kennedy and Dr. Kiper.

Ms. Jeanie Achord served as proxy for Ms. Karen Parrino.

Absences were: Dr. Hypolite.

Appellants in attendance: Glenda Brame, Esther Castay, Amie Clark, Janna Husser, Amanda LeCerte

Representing the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) were Ms. Paula Bell, Ms. Christy Bellue, Mr. Ryan Gremillion, Dr. Keith Leger, Ms. Rachel Normand and Ms. Ashley Townsend.

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Dr. Joffrion requested a motion to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2021 TCAC meeting. The Council's response was as follows:

- 1. On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hebert, the Council approved the June 10th meeting minutes.
- 2. A request was made to amend the agenda to include an appeal for Glenda Brame. Per Louisiana Revised Statute 42:19, unanimous approval is required. On the motion of Dr. Hebert, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the motion was approved.

A roll call vote was taken.

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

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

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- 3. On motion of Mr. Devillier, seconded by Dr. Peoples, the Council went into executive session at 9:04 a.m. to discuss appeals for the following individuals:
 - a. Shanda Bordelon
 - b. Fallon Kisor
 - c. Holli Moreau
 - d. Bethany Vignes
 - e. Tessa Holyfield
 - f. Cheryl Rami
 - g. Jessica Sellers
 - h. Judy Loflin
 - i. Rishaun Bruce
 - j. Janna Husser
 - k. Amanda LaCerte
 - Bridget Nall
 - m. Amie Clark
 - n. Doyle Sandifer
 - o. Esther Castay
 - p. James Smith
 - q. Adriana Hasley
 - r. Glenda Brame

A roll call vote was taken.

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

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

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

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- 4. On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Devillier, the Council reconvened into regular session at 12:25 p.m. and continued with the regular order of the agenda. A quorum was present.
- 5. On the motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hebert, the Council granted **Shanda Bordelon**'s request to extend her Level 1 teaching certificate for one year in order to earn a third effective evaluation so the certificate can be advanced to the renewable higher level certificate.

- 6. On the motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hebert, the Council granted Fallon Kisor's request to extend her Level 1 teaching certificate for one year in order to earn a third effective evaluation so the certificate can be advanced to the renewable higher level certificate.
- 7. On the motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hebert, the Council granted Holli Moreau's request to extend her Level 1 teaching certificate for two years in order to earn effective evaluations so the certificate can be advanced to the renewable higher level certificate.
- 8. On the motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hebert, the Council granted **Bethany Vignes**' request to extend her Level 1 certificate for one year in order to earn a third effective evaluation so the certificate can be advanced to the renewable higher level certificate.
- 9. On the motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hebert, the Council denied **Tessa Holyfields**'s request to extend her Level 2 teaching certificate for two years because other options to make her certificate valid are available within policy.
- 10. On the motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hebert, the Council granted **Cheryl Rami**'s request to extend her Level 2 teaching certificate for one year in order to earn a third effective evaluation so the certificate can be renewed.
- 11. On the motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hebert, the Council granted **Jessica Sellers**' request to extend her Level 2 teaching certificate for three years in order to earn effective evaluations so the certificate can be renewed.
- 12. On the motion of Mr. Devillier, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the Council granted **Judy Loflin**'s request for an Out-of-State (OS) letter of eligibility to be issued and once hired, allow the LDOE to grant a one-year extension of the Out-of-State (OS) certificate in order to successfully teach in a Louisiana school system, qualifying her for Praxis Exclusion.
- 13. On the motion of Dr. Peoples, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the Council granted **Rishaun Bruce**'s request to extend her Practitioner's License (PL) for one year in order to pass the Praxis pedagogy exam needed for Level certification. The Council noted that this will be the final extension of the PL.
- 14. On the motion of Dr. Hebert, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the Council granted **Janna Husser**'s request to substitute her advanced degree in human resource education in lieu of the advanced education degree for the purposes of Educational Leadership eligibility via alternate pathway 2. She has met all other requirements.

- 15. On the motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hebert, with Dr. Kiper abstaining, the Council denied **Amanda LaCerte**'s request to substitute her advanced degree in public administration in lieu of the advanced degree in education for the purposes of Educational Leadership eligibility via alternate pathway 2. She has met all other requirements.
- 16. On the motion of Dr. Hebert, seconded by Dr. Peoples, it was recommended the Council consider denying **Bridget Nall**'s request to substitute her K-6 and 7-12 pedagogy exams for the required 5-9 pedagogy exam for purposes of adding on Middle School Science. On a substitute motion of Mr. Devillier, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, with Dr. Hebert and Dr. Peoples voting nay, the Council granted Middle School Science certification substituting her K-6 and 7-12 pedagogy exams for the required pedagogy 5-9 exam.
- 17. On the motion of Dr. Peoples, seconded by Mr. Devillier, the Council granted **Amie Clark**'s request to substitute the Praxis Teaching Reading exam for the required semester hours of reading for purposes of adding on Mild/Moderate 1-5.
- 18. On the motion of Dr. Hebert, seconded by Dr. Peoples, the Council granted **Doyle Sandifer**'s request to consider him as being initially prepared as an elementary grade level educator (per his transcripts) prior to the adoption of re-designed special education programs (Mild/Moderate 1-5, 4-8, and 6-12) in order to add-on Educational Diagnostician to his Mild/Moderate 1-12 teaching certificate.
- 19. On the motion of Dr. Peoples, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, with Dr. Kiper abstaining, the Council granted **Esther Castay**'s request to extend her Out-of-Field-Authority-to-Teach (OFAT) certificate for one year in order to complete the librarian practicum required for librarian certification, fulfilling OFAT requirements.
- 20. On the motion of Dr. Hebert, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the Council granted **James Smith**'s request to extend his Out-of-Field-Authority-to-Teach (OFAT) in Mild/Moderate 6-12. The Council noted that this will be the final extension of the OFAT.
- 21. On the motion of Dr. Hebert, seconded Mr. Kennedy, the Council granted **Glenda Brame**'s request to substitute the following courses: two semester hours in EDFN226 and CURR 167 and the three semester hour course, ELED 603, for the deficient three semester hours in Fundamentals of Instructional Technology course for purposes of adding on Mild/Moderate 4-8.

22. Considerations of Old Business

At the June 2021 meeting, the Council deferred consideration of the appeal submitted by Adriana Clark.

On the motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr.Hebert, the Council granted **Adriana Hasley**'s request to substitute three years of special education teaching experience in lieu

of three years of elementary education experience to grant issuance of the Level 1 under State-as-a-Provider minimal requirements where all other requirements were met for initial Level 1 certification.

On the motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hebert, the Council denied **Adriana Hasley**'s request to accept her coursework and degree completed after 2017 to meet the School Counselor add-on requirements.

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With no further business, on the motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Peoples, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

The next meeting of the Teacher Certification Appeals Council is scheduled to convene on November 4, 2021.