

Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC)

Meeting Minutes

August 22, 2019

1. Call to order

Dr. Christine Hypolite called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the TCAC at 9:21 am on August 22, 2019 in 1-141 Colorado Room.

2. Roll call

The following members were present: Mr. Scott Devillier, Dr. Dustin Hebert, Dr. Christine Hypolite, Dr. Arthur Joffrion, Mr. James Kennedy, Dr. Rhea Kiper, and Ms. Billie Smith. Representing the Department of Education (DOE) were Paula Bell, Christy Bellue, and Rachel Normand.

3. Appellants in attendance

Helen Claire Alvarado, Lagenia Bradford, Tammy Bradley, Vera Dunnaway, Kimberly Edwards, Talora Gross, Kellie Guilbeau, Adriana Hasley, Allyson Havens, Mark Jeanmard, Katrina Jefferson, Joseph Derek Landry, Amber Landry, Candace Langton, Princetta Mays, Elizabeth McArthur, Angel Melancon, Rollan Moore, Tia Neal, Felicia Nelson, April Sams, Cheryl Smith, Ashley Statham, Ieshia Strong, Ashlee Wilson, Weslyn Young

4. Actions

A. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Tia Neal's** request to add the Educational Diagnostician endorsement by substituting her successful academically gifted teaching experience, service as Educational Diagnostician, and an advanced degree in Curriculum and Instruction for the deficient one-year classroom teaching experience in a properly certified, general area of special education.

B. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Arthur Joffrion, with Dr. Rhea Kiper and Ms. Billie Smith abstaining from the vote, the Council denied **Princetta Mays'** request to add-on English as a Second Language. The Council advised her to obtain the detailed course description and/or syllabus for TESOL 575 completed at University of Phoenix, and re-apply for certification through the certification office. The Council noted TESOL 575 appears to have the content, which would fulfill the deficient three-semester hours in curriculum design for the multicultural classroom.

C. On the motion of Dr. Arthur Joffrion, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council denied **Helen Claire Alvarado's** request to add-on School Librarian. She was deficient the three semester hours of school librarian internship, which can be waived with three years of work experience as a school librarian. Her experience teaching reading and history was not accepted by the Council as sufficient to fulfill the internship or three years as school librarian.

D. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, with Dr. Dustin Hebert noted as the only opposing vote, the Council granted **Helen Claire Alvarado**'s request to add-on Social Studies grades 6-12 using her twenty-seven years of teaching experience in history, to fulfill the deficient three semester hours of social studies coursework contingent upon her successful completion of the Principles of Learning and Teaching 7-12 exam #5624.

E. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council denied **Kellie Guilbeau**'s request to add-on Significant Disabilities using professional development to fulfill the deficient six semester hours and work experience to fulfill the internship hours required to add-on requirements.

F. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council denied **Adriana Hasley**'s request to use her master's degree in clinical mental health counseling, earned at Southern University for the addition of school counselor to her Level 1 teaching certificate. Southern University's counseling programs are not accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Program (CACREP).

G. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Dr. Arthur Joffrion, the Council granted **Candace Langton**'s request to add-on the school counselor endorsement to her Type C teaching certificate as her master's degree in school counseling was earned at Lamar University which is not currently accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Program (CACREP) but was CACREP accredited at the time of her enrollment in the program. She has fulfilled all other add-on requirements including the internship and practicum hours as well as the school guidance and counseling Praxis exam.

H. On the motion of Dr. Arthur Joffrion, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council granted **Rollan Moore** the Out-of-State Superintendent (OSS) letter of eligibility. Once employed as an Assistant Superintendent or Superintendent in a Louisiana school system, the OSS can be issued at the Louisiana employer's request. Mr. Moore was deficient two years of verified teaching experience in order to fulfill all requirements for eligibility. The Council accepted his service as the "Academic Behavior Coordinator," classified as a Title I teaching position, for the deficient two years teaching experience of the required five years.

I. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted **Julia Campbell**'s appeal for the issuance of the Educational Leader 1 (EDL1) eligibility letter by substituting her master's degree in human resource education earned at Louisiana State University for the required master's degree in education in order to fulfill the EDL1 certification via Alternate Pathway 2 as she has successfully fulfilled all other requirements for eligibility for the EDL1 certificate.

J. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, with Ms. Billie Smith noted as the only opposing vote, the Council denied **Joseph Derek Landry**'s

request to substitute his master's degree in math for the required master's degree in education to fulfill the Educational Leader 1 (EDL1) certification via Alternate Pathway 2 for eligibility for the EDL1 certificate. The Council guided Mr. Landry to seek leadership preparation, which will result in EDL1 eligibility via one of the other alternate pathways.

K. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Dr. Arthur Joffrion, the Council granted **Mark Jeanmard's** appeal for the issuance of the Educational Leader 1 (EDL1) eligibility letter by substituting his twenty years teaching non-public school experience, his most recent public school teaching experience where he earned a "Highly Effective" evaluation rating, in conjunction with Level 1 teaching certificate for the higher Level 2 or 3 teaching certificate required as he has successfully fulfilled all other requirements for the issuance of the EDL1 certificate.

L. On the motion of Dr. Arthur Joffrion, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, with Dr. Rhea Kiper and Ms. Billie Smith abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Katrina Jefferson** a one-year extension on her Ancillary Family and Consumer Science Occupational Provisional certificate to permit time to successfully serve on the certificate one more year in order to be eligible for the qualified certificate. The appellant served only two of the required three years during the validity of the initial ancillary certificate.

M. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Ashley Statham** a three-year extension of her Ancillary School Counselor certificate to permit time to be evaluated for effectiveness in order to be granted the five-year renewable certificate. The appellant's certificate expired after serving only one year, during which she earned an effective evaluation rating.

N. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Weslyn Young** a three-year extension of her Ancillary School Counselor certificate to permit time to be evaluated for effectiveness in order to be granted the five-year renewable certificate. The certificate expired while she was serving as a mental health counselor, not evaluated per R.S. 17:3902.

O. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Jacob Allen's** Level 1 certificate from his Out-of-State (OS) certificate based upon his successfully completing Praxis content exam #5091 Physical Education: Content Knowledge in addition to the other required Praxis for issuance.

P. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Amber Landry** a final two-year extension on her Type C teaching certificate in order to teach two additional years in her area of certification or to complete the add-on requirements for Early Intervention which would permit the issuance of the renewable Level 2 teaching certificate. Ms. Landry has been teaching outside of her certification area for the last few years and, per policy, must have three years of experience in her certification area.

Q. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, with Dr. Rhea Kiper and Ms. Billie Smith abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Felicia Nelson** a one-year extension of her Level 1 teaching certificate to permit time to earn a third effective evaluation rating while teaching in her area(s) of certification in order to move to the renewable Level 2 certificate. Ms. Nelson was not being evaluated for one year and received an incomplete evaluation a separate year; therefore, she was lacking the evaluations required for certification advancement.

R. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, with Dr. Rhea Kiper and Ms. Billie Smith abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Billy Washington** a one-year extension of his Level 1 teaching certificate to permit time to earn a third effective evaluation rating while teaching in his area(s) of certification in order to move to the renewable Level 2 certificate. Mr. Washington's employing school system did not report his evaluation ratings thus preventing issuance of the Level 2 certificate.

S. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, with Dr. Rhea Kiper and Ms. Billie Smith abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Ann Taha** a one-year extension of her Level 1 teaching certificate to permit time to earn a third effective evaluation rating while teaching in her area(s) of certification in order to move to the renewable Level 2 certificate. Ms. Taha was teaching in private schools during part of her time on the Level 1 certificate and, therefore, needed additional time for effective evaluations now that she is in the public school system.

T. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Lagenia Bradford** a three-year extension of her Level 1 teaching certificate to permit time to teach in her area(s) of certification in order to move to the renewable Level 2 certificate, as she has already obtained the required effective evaluations. Ms. Bradford has been teaching out of her certification area.

U. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, with Mr. James Kennedy abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Allyson Havens** a three-year extension of her Level 1 teaching certificate to permit time to teach in her area(s) of certification or fulfill the requirements to add the Significant Disabilities endorsement to her certificate in order to move to the renewable Level 2 certificate as she has already obtained the required effective evaluations. Ms. Havens has been teaching out of her certification area.

V. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Lara Meredith** a one-year extension of her Level 1 teaching certificate to permit time to teach in her area(s) of certification in order to move to the renewable Level 2 certificate as she has already obtained the required effective evaluation. Ms. Meredith has been teaching out of her certification area.

W. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Ashley Roubique** a two-year extension of her Level 1 teaching certificate,

contingent upon employment verification, to permit time to teach in her area(s) of certification at the same nonpublic school for two additional years in order to be evaluated and move to the renewable Level 2* certificate. Due to changing service from public school to non-public school, Ms. Roubique does not have enough effective evaluations to move to the Level 2 certificate, nor does she have the required three consecutive years at the same nonpublic school for the issuance of the Level 2*.

X. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council granted **Ashlee Wilson** a three-year extension of her Level 2 teaching certificate, which expired due to having taken a break from teaching and now returning to serve in the public school setting. The extension will permit time to be evaluated for effectiveness in order to be granted the five-year renewal of the Level 2 certificate.

Y. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted **Kelly Michot** a three-year extension of her Level 2 teaching certificate which expired due to having taken a break from teaching, teaching the last six years in a private pre-school setting, and now returning to serve in the public school setting. The extension will permit time to be evaluated for effectiveness in order to be granted the five-year renewal of the Level 2 certificate.

Z. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Kimberly Edwards** a three-year extension of her Level 2 teaching certificate, which expired due to a break in service and now returning to teach. The extension will permit time to be evaluated for effectiveness in order to be granted the five-year renewal of the Level 2 certificate.

AA. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Caitlin Karl** a one-year extension on the Out-of-Field-Authority-to-Teach (OFAT) held in the area of Middle School Math so she may have additional time to fulfill add-on requirements.

BB. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Sara Overmier** a one-year extension of her Level 1 in conjunction with a one-year extension of the Out-of-Field-Authority-to-Teach (OFAT) held in the area of Middle School Math and Middle School Science so he may have additional time to fulfill add-on requirements and move to the Level 2 certificate.

CC. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Elizabeth Swinney** a one-year extension on the Out-of-Field-Authority-to-Teach (OFAT) held in the area of Elementary 1-5 so she may have additional time to fulfill add-on requirements.

DD. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Sandra Rodrigue** a final one-year extension on the Out-of-Field-Authority-to-Teach (OFAT) held in the area of Mild/Moderate 6-12 so she may have additional time to fulfill add-on requirements.

EE. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted **Ieshia Strong** a one-year extension on the Out-of-Field-Authority-to-Teach (OFAT) held in the area of Mild/Moderate 1-5 so she may have additional time to fulfill add-on requirements.

FF. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted **Vera Dunnaway** a final, 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.

GG. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Talora Gross** 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.

HH. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Cheryl Smith** 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. The extension will be placed on her certificate at the time the OS expires in January 2020.

II. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **April Sams** 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.

JJ. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Tammy Bradley** 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.

KK. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council granted **Cindy King** 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.

LL. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Angel Melancon** a final, 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.

MM. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted **Sandra Lusk** a final, 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.

NN. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Elizabeth McArthur** 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.

OO. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, with Mr. James Kennedy abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Kristina Smith** a final, 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.

PP. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council granted **Joseph Guyton** a one-year extension on his Out-of-State (OS) certificate to permit time for his successful completion of the Praxis exams required for initial certification.

QQ. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council granted **Ronald Jarden** a one-year extension on his Out-of-State (OS) certificate to permit time for his successful completion of the Praxis exams required for initial certification.

RR. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted **Angela Douglas** 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.

SS. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council granted **Sherry Couvillion** 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.

TT. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted **Renee Kimble** a one-year extension on her Practitioner's License (PL2) to allow her time to complete all requirements within the certification-only teacher preparation program at University of Louisiana Lafayette (ULL). Her prescribed coursework was not offered during the summer session due to low enrollment, as verified by ULL.

5. The Council recommended a replacement co-chair due to Dr. Christine Hypolite vacating her place as co-chair to serve as chair, decided by unanimous vote at the previous meeting. It was decided by a unanimous vote of the Council that Dr. Arthur Joffrion would serve as co-chair.

6. The Teacher Certification Appeals Council is scheduled to meet again in a regularly scheduled appeals meeting November 21, 2019.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 P.M.