

## **Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC)**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**November 21, 2019**

#### **1. Call to order**

Dr. Christine Hypolite called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the TCAC at 9:12 am on November 21, 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, Dr. Verjanis Peoples, and Ms. Billie Smith. Representing the Department of Education (DOE) were Paula Bell, Christy Bellue, Felicia Jackson, Rachel Normand, Laila Perry, and Yshauna Sanders.

#### **3. Appellants in attendance**

Paula Burke, Nicole Cane, Kacie Carruth, Ronisha Coppage, Shantell Coulon, Sarah Couvillon, Melissa Curtis, Aimee Faist, Stephanie Harris, Lindsey Hernandez, Jessica Jackson, Denise Juluke, Tonya Lane, Candace Maiden, Denise Matherne, Carolina Morris, Elizabeth Rhodes, Tammy Tassin, Daryl Thomas, and Yancy Wilmot

#### **4. Actions**

A. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council denied **Kacie Carruth**'s request to add on the Middle School Science endorsement as she did not have the required middle school science Praxis exam score and was deficient eight semester hours of the required thirty semester hours.

B. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, with Dr. Dustin Hebert and Dr. Verjanis Peoples noted as opposing the vote, the Council granted **Kali Glueck** the add-on Middle School Science endorsement using successful exam scores earned on the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) K-6 and PLT 7-12 for the deficient PLT 5-9 exam as she fulfilled all other add-on requirements.

C. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, with Dr. Dustin Hebert and Mr. James Kennedy noted as opposing the vote, the Council granted **Kimberly Martel** the add-on Mild/Moderate 1-5 endorsement using her successful special education teaching experience for the deficient three semester hours in Fundamentals of Instructional Technology.

D. On the motion of Dr. Arthur Joffrion, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted **Elizabeth Rhodes** the add-on Academically Gifted endorsement substituting the three semester hour course "IT 640" which included technology topics including telecommunications and networking generally accepted towards the Educational Technology Leader add-on, for the deficient three semester hours in Educational Technology.

E. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council denied **Tammy Tassin**'s request to add on Provisional Educational Diagnostician. She was deficient the three semester hours of Educational Diagnosis required for the add-on which the Council deemed as necessary to serve in the role of an Educational Diagnostician.

F. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council denied **Kodi Brown**'s appeal for the issuance of the Educational Leader 1 (EDL1) eligibility letter as she holds an Ancillary School Counseling certificate and a Career and Technical Trade and Industrial Education (CTTIE) certificate but was deficient a professional level teaching certificate or a comparable out-of-state teaching certificate necessary for educational leadership certification.

G. On the motion of Dr. Verjanis Peoples, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Melissa Curtis**'s appeal for the issuance of the Educational Leader 1 (EDL1) eligibility letter by substituting her effective teaching experience as an itinerant teacher, in conjunction with her Level 1 teaching certificate for the higher Level 2 or 3 teaching certificate required as she has successfully fulfilled all other requirements for the issuance of the EDL1 eligibility letter.

H. On the motion of Dr. Verjanis Peoples, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted Resident (R) teaching certificates to **Rebecca Doles** and **Venus Nears** based upon the recommendation of their teacher preparation program provider's request to accept their master degrees in lieu of the Core Academic Skills for Educators exams in reading, writing, and math as is accepted for post baccalaureate teacher candidates enrolled in alternate certification programs and for

the issuance of the Temporary Authority to Teach (TAT) certificates granted to teachers prior to enrollment into a teacher preparation program.

I. On the motion of Dr. Arthur Joffrion, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council granted **Daryl Thomas** a one-year extension on his Practitioner's License (PL2) to allow time for successful completion of the Principles of Learning and Teaching exam required for the issuance of his initial Level 1 teaching certificate.

J. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Kamekia Frazier** a one-year extension on her Practitioner's License (PL2) to allow time for her to successfully complete her teacher preparation program at University of Louisiana Lafayette (ULL) required for the recommendation and issuance of her initial Level 1 teaching certificate.

K. On the motion of Dr. Arthur Joffrion, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, with Ms. Billie Smith and Dr. Rhea Kiper abstaining from the vote, the Council granted **Stephanie Harris** a one-year extension on her Practitioner's License (PL2) contingent upon providing documentation verifying her current enrollment in the iTeach certification-only program to allow time for successful completion of the program as required for the issuance of her initial Level 1 teaching certificate.

L. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Ronisha Coppage** a final, one-year extension of her Temporary-Authority-to-Teach (TAT) authorization based upon her attempt to pass the exams needed to be admitted into a teacher preparation program, evidence that she is teaching in demonstrated area of need, evidence that she met the standards of effectiveness, and verification that the employing district recommends the appellant and will continue to employ her.

M. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted **Nicole Cane** a final, one-year extension of her Temporary-Authority-to-Teach (TAT) authorization based upon her attempt to pass the exams needed to be admitted into a teacher preparation program, evidence that she is teaching in demonstrated area of need, evidence that she met the standards of effectiveness, and verification that the employing district recommends the appellant and will continue to employ her.

N. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Arthur Joffrion, the Council granted **Paula Burke** a final, one-year extension of her Temporary-

Authority-to-Teach (TAT) authorization based upon her attempt to pass the exams needed to be admitted into a teacher preparation program, evidence that she is teaching in demonstrated area of need, evidence that she met the standards of effectiveness, and verification that the employing district recommends the appellant and will continue to employ her.

O. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Dionne Thomas** a final, one-year extension of her Temporary-Authority-to-Teach (TAT) authorization based upon her attempt to pass the exams needed to be admitted into a teacher preparation program, evidence that she is teaching in demonstrated area of need, evidence that she met the standards of effectiveness, and verification that the employing district recommends the appellant and will continue to employ her.

P. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Yancy Wilmot** a one-year extension of his Temporary-Authority-to-Teach (TAT) authorization based upon his attempt to pass the exams needed to be admitted into a teacher preparation program, evidence that he is teaching in demonstrated area of need, evidence that he met the standards of effectiveness, and verification that the employing district recommends the appellant and will continue to employ him.

Q. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted retroactive non-practicing status for the time not serving in Louisiana school systems where they would have been evaluated via Compass to **Sandra Buteau, Jana Davis, Britney Day, Andrea DeJean, Aimee Faist, Jennifer Foret, Brooke Hagler, Denise Juluke, Rachel Melancon, Ryan McLin, Natalie Spedale, Mariam Stone, and Jennifer Zambrano** for the purpose of preserving certification validity.

R. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted **Lindsey Hernandez** and **Denise Matherne**, two-year extensions of their Ancillary School Counselor certificates. With the same vote, the Council granted **Carolina Morris** a one-year extension of her Ancillary School Counselor certificate. The extensions were granted to permit time to be evaluated for effectiveness in order to be granted the five-year renewable certificate. The certificates expired during breaks from service as Compass-evaluated school counselors.

S. On the motion of Dr. Arthur Joffrion, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council granted **Tonya Lane** 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 via Compass.

T. On the motion of Dr. Verjanis Peoples, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council granted **Wendy Hill** the five-year renewal of her Educational Leader 2 (EDL2) certificate based upon her effective local evaluations completed over the previous three years.

U. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Susan Meche** a one-year extension of her Educational Leader 2 (EDL2) based upon the two effective leader evaluations she earned in order to permit time for a third evaluation to be completed, which would allow for full renewal of the certificate.

V. On the motion of Dr. Arthur Joffrion, seconded by Mr. Scott Devillier, the Council granted **Candace Maiden** a one-year extension of her Educational Leader 2 (EDL2) based upon the two effective leader evaluations she earned in order to permit time for a third evaluation to be completed which would allow for full renewal of the certificate.

W. On the motion of Mr. Scott Devillier, seconded by Dr. Rhea Kiper, the Council granted certification extensions as needed for time to be evaluated for effectiveness to **Erin Allemand, Alaina Black, Tammy Broussard, Shantell Coulon, Misti Cox** (Mr. James Kennedy abstained from vote), **Mary Dance Veatch, Emily Glasscock, Roland Guidry, Daphne LaFosse, Michelle LeBlanc, Kimberly Lemire, John Nix, Christy Oliver, Candice Reed, Megan Wall, and Amy Wyatt** (Mr. James Kennedy abstained from vote). There is no current provision in policy that permits certification extension/renewal for certificates where the educator has experienced periodic breaks in service prior to and during the implementation of Compass and creation of non-practicing status, varying service in public, non-public, and non-traditional school settings, and situations where the educator served partial school years resulting in incomplete evaluations for effectiveness. All appellants are confirmed to be employed in Louisiana school systems where they can be evaluated for effectiveness at this time so as to maintain certification validity.

X. On the motion of Dr. Dustin Hebert, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **April Cullivan, Sarah Couvillon, and Elizabeth Stone** one-year extensions on their Out-of-State (OS) certificates to permit time for successful completion of the Praxis exams required for initial certification.

Y. On the motion of Dr. Arthur Joffrion, seconded by Dr. Verjanis Peoples, the Council granted **Allison Leckelt** 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 as current policy does not permit her using her master's degree to fulfill the Core Academic Skills Exams in reading, writing, and math.

Z. On the motion of Mr. James Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Dustin Hebert, the Council granted **Felicia Jacobs** 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.

AA. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Krista Sansone** 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.

BB. On the motion of Dr. Verjanis Peoples, seconded by Ms. Billie Smith, the Council granted **Jessica Jackson** 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.

CC. On the motion of Ms. Billie Smith, seconded by Mr. James Kennedy, the Council granted **Susanne Geldmacher** a one-year extension on her Out-of-State (OS) certificate to permit time for her to obtain verification of successful teaching experience in Germany to be eligible for Praxis exclusion for issuance of the Level certificate.

5. The Teacher Certification Appeals Council will reconvene in 2020 at dates to be determined.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 A.M.