Subcommittee for the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development
Room 102, Central High School
359 N. West Street, Jackson, MS 39201
April 22, 2021

In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 37-3-2(10) and 25-41-5, a subcommittee of the members of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development ("Commission") met at 9:00 a.m. on April 22, 2021, in Room 102, Central High School, 359 N. West Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

Members in Attendance: Etta Taplin, Rebecca Gray, Jamie Creel
Commission Counsel: Erin Meyer, Special Assistant Attorney General
OEM Counsel: David Minton, Special Assistant Attorney General

Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Personnel Attending:
Brian McGairty, Director for Safe and Orderly Schools
Scott Dejong, Director for Office of Educator Misconduct (OEM)

Matters before the Subcommittee:

I. Agreed Orders

Etta Taplin, serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at 9:04 a.m.

Tilla Tate, Investigator in the Office of Educator Misconduct, presented seven proposed Agreed Orders for ratification by the Commission Hearing Subcommittee:

A. Geri Herod (220963) Std. 10 and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(12)(a)
B. Kiona Walker (310466) Std. 10 and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(12)(a)
C. Kedric Collier (269874) Stds. 1, 2, 3, and 4
D. Larry Pigford (228842) Std 1 and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(13)(a) (probation)
E. Tommy Searight, Jr. (206630) Std. 4
F. Rosemary Collins (242622) Std. 4 Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(12)(f)

Following the presentation by OEM, Rebecca Gray moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee accept and ratify the proposed Agreed Orders. Jamie Creel seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to accept and ratify the above listed matters.

This matter concluded at 9:15 a.m.

II. Case of Tietti Chandler, Educator License No. 217899

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Etta Taplin, serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at 9:16 a.m.

After all exhibits were received into evidence and testimony heard, Jamie Creel moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into closed session to determine the necessity to go into executive session. Rebecca Gray seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into closed session.

Jamie Creel moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session for deliberation and findings concerning the license of the above identified Educator. Rebecca Gray seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following individuals remained in the room: Etta Taplin, Rebecca Gray, Jamie Creel, and Erin Meyer.

During Executive Session, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee took the following action:

Jamie Creel moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee approve the processing and issuance of Mississippi Educator License No. 217899. Rebecca Gray seconded this motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously approved the processing and issuance of Mississippi Educator License No. 217899.

On a motion by Rebecca Gray, seconded by Jamie Creel, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

In open session, counsel read the decision of the Commission Hearing Subcommittee to the participants.

The presiding officer pronounced the conclusion of the hearing at 10:11 a.m.

III. Case of Kathryn Bryan, Educator License No. 200998

Etta Taplin, serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at approximately 10:22 a.m.

After all exhibits were received into evidence and testimony heard, Jamie Creel moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into closed session to determine the necessity to go into executive session. Rebecca Gray seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into closed session.

Jamie Creel moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session for deliberation and findings concerning the license of the above identified Educator. Rebecca Gray seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following
individuals remained in the room: Etta Taplin, Rebecca Gray, Jamie Creel, and Erin Meyer.

During Executive Session, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee took the following action:

Jamie Creel moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee deny the Petitioner’s request for reinstatement of educator License No. 200998 currently suspended and previously issued. However, if the Petitioner seeks and actively participates in counseling or treatment with a licensed therapist to address anger management, and provides documentation to the Office of Educator Misconduct of sessions which includes (1) a statement from the treating practitioner/facility regarding current diagnosis and prognosis, including the Petitioner’s ability to resume the practice as an educator and (2) an original, executed release to each practitioner or facility where the Petitioner has had treatment to have treatment records submitted directly to the Office of Educator Misconduct. Treatment records must include the Intake, Admission, Diagnosis, Plan of Treatment, Discharge Summary, Discharge Diagnosis and Recommendation, and if this is completed by December 31, 2021, the Petitioner’s suspension shall be terminated, and Petitioner’s license shall be automatically reinstated without the necessity of a hearing on January 1, 2022. Rebecca Gray seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to deny the processing and issuance of Educator License No. 200998

On a motion by Jamie Creel, seconded by Rebecca Gray, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

In open session, counsel read the decision of the Commission Hearing Subcommittee to the participants.

The presiding officer pronounced the conclusion of the hearing at 12:02 p.m.

IV. Adjournment.

On a motion by Jamie Creel and seconded by Etta Taplin, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to adjourn for the day at 12:03 p.m.

Approved:

Etta Taplin, Subcommittee Chair
Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development

Cory Murphy, Ph.D., Executive Secretary
Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development