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## Action

### *Professional Services Committee*

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## Selection of a New Member of the Committee on Accreditation

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**Executive Summary:** This agenda item provides information about the individuals from the Accreditation Study Work Group who have applied to fill the K-12 vacancy on the Committee on Accreditation (COA).

**Recommended Action:** That the Commission take action to fill the vacancy on the COA.

**Presenter:** Teri Clark, Administrator,  
Professional Services Division

#### **Strategic Plan Goal: 1**

#### **Promote educational excellence through the preparation and certification of professional educators**

- ◆ Sustain high quality standards for the preparation of professional educators.
- ◆ Assess and monitor the efficacy of the Accreditation System, Examination System, and State and Federal Funded Programs.



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## **Selection of a New Member of the Committee on Accreditation**

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### **Introduction**

At the May/June 2006 Commission meeting, the Commission directed staff to survey the K-12 members of the Accreditation Study Work Group (Work Group) for interest in filling the K-12 vacancy on the Committee on Accreditation (COA) for the 2006-2007 year. Staff was then asked to return to the July/August 2006 Commission meeting with information from the interested individuals that the Commission could use to select a new member of the COA. After reviewing the information, the Commission would select a new member of the COA from among the interested individuals.

### **Background**

Education Code Section 44373 (a) sets forth that the Commission selects the members of the COA. The COA is composed of 12 members; six must be from postsecondary education and six must be certificated professionals in public schools, school districts, or county offices of education in California.

Currently there is one vacancy on the COA, a K-12 member. Individuals serving on the Work Group have been reviewing the accreditation system since June 2004 and have an understanding of the accreditation system. Therefore, the Commission elected to fill the current vacancy on the COA with a K-12 member of the Work Group. Interested individuals were nominated and asked to submit a current resume and a letter up to two pages in length, describing why he or she would like to serve on the COA and including his or her qualifications for membership on the COA.

### **Applications for Membership to the COA**

Two K-12 individuals from the Work Group have submitted applications for membership on the COA. Their resumes and letters of interest are attached as Appendices A and B.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommendation is that the Commission review the materials submitted by the K-12 members of the Accreditation Study Work Group who are interested in serving on the COA and appoint one new K-12 member of the COA and take action to fill the COA vacancy.

Appendix A

Resume

Letter of Interest

**Linda Childress**

*Linda J. Childress*  
*Riverside County Office of Education*  
*3939 Thirteenth Street*  
*Riverside, CA 92501*

**Education**

B.S.                                      California State Polytechnic University  
Pomona, CA - Honor Graduate

**Graduate Work**

30 Credits (M.S.)                      California State University  
Fullerton, CA

10 Credits                                University of California/Los Angeles  
Fernald Institute of Reading

Certified                                 Yale University, New Haven, CT  
(1 year program)                      Gesell Institute of Child Development

**Credentials**

- Standard (K-9) Elementary Teaching Credential (Life)
- Clear Administrative/Supervisory Credential
- Community College Credential
- Vocational, Designated Subject Credential

**Work Experience**

1998-Present                      **Director**

Teacher Support Center, Riverside County Office of Education. Supervise and direct the Riverside, Inyo, Mono, San Bernardino - Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (RIMS-BTSA) Program. Supervise and coordinate thirty-eight assessment and support team personnel in the delivering of assessment and support services to 1,800 teachers. Train and support 700 support providers within 61 school districts in a four-county area.

Director of Riverside County Office of Education and California State University, San Bernardino Intern Program, serving 392 intern teachers.

Director of RAPPORT Program (NCLB Transition to Teaching Grant)  
Director of Copernicus Project (NCLB Teacher Enhancement Grant)

1995-1998

**Project Director:**

School Leadership Center, Riverside County Office of Education. Supervised and directed four CSLA strands of Professional Development for a total of 500 district administrators and teacher leaders within 23 school districts Riverside County.

Inland Empire - Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (IE-BTSA) Program. Supervised and directed the Inland Empire - Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (IE-BTSA) Program. Supervised and coordinated twelve assessment and support team personnel in the delivering of assessment and support services to 277 beginning teachers. Trained and supported 180 mentors within 25 school districts in a two-county area.

**Coordinator:** Statewide Mentor Program Evaluation, coordinating California Department of Education Grant for evaluation of 1,006 district mentor programs statewide.

**Chair:** to Commission on Teacher Credentialing, RIMS Network, for implementation of SB1422 (Restructuring of Teacher Credentialing process, K-12).

**Coordinator:** Beginning Teacher Induction Network, coordinated the effort to bring together individuals from schools, districts, county offices of education, colleges, universities, and professional organizations from the RIMS Region to contribute to designing a well-planned, informed support system for all new teachers in California.

1991-1995

**Coordinator:** New Teacher Support, Riverside County Office of Education. Responsible for Mentor Training and follow through with first and Second year teachers within Special Programs, Vocational Education and Correctional Education.

**Staff to the Commission on Education for Riverside County Office of Education:** Staff to a 16 member commission of private, civic, and business leaders, addressing the Status of Education in Riverside County. Direct appointment and report to Superintendent of County Office of the Riverside Education.

**Coordinator:** Early Primary Education. Responsible for RIMS Early Primary Grant within Riverside, Inyo, Mono and San Bernardino counties.

1989-1991

**Coordinator:** California New Teacher Project (CNTTP) for Riverside/San Bernardino Counties. Responsible for identification of 200 new teachers to be involved in program. Responsible for development and

implementation of each of five models utilized by project. Responsible for supervision of all support staff involved in delivery of models. Liaison with the State Department of Education and local agencies. Responsible for development and administration of budget for the project.

- 1987-1989      **Training Coordinator:** Riverside Administrator Training Center. Responsible for training CSLA modules for school site administrators, coordination of adjunct trainers, master scheduling of groups for training, follow-through support for trainers and participants. Consultation with districts and schools regarding topics around instructional strategies, mission and goals, and curriculum alignment.
- 1985-1987      **Administrator:** Riverside Unified School District. Responsible for the coordination of the Bilingual Individualized Learning Program housed in three schools consisting of 220 students and 30 staff members.
- 1985              **Teacher:** Riverside Unified School District. First grade teacher.
- 1978-1985      **Consultant:** Riverside County Office of Education. Initiated and developed several projects for the County. These projects included; creating a 35mm slide presentation for inservice training, editing and publishing a bi-monthly newsletter for Children's Services, writing procedural manuals, applying for and obtaining state grants to support school age parent training, developing and organizing office flow systems.
- 1975-1977      **Instructor:** Regional Occupational Program, Riverside County Office of Education. Responsible for curriculum development and instructional delivery of an Instructional Aide Program (pre-school through grade three). Training sites were established, as well as advisory committees to guide job placement for program participants.
- 1969-1972      **Lead Teacher:** Fullerton Unified School District. Administered Gesell Developmental Level Program. Responsible for testing and child placement within the program. Assisted in curriculum coordination and articulation K-3. Taught a pre-first level.
- 1967-1969      **Teacher:** Buena Park Unified School District. Fourth grade teacher.

<b>Additional Professional Recognition</b>
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2004-2006            Committee on Accreditation Workgroup – Group designated to help design the new accreditation process for universities and induction programs in the state of California.

1997-1999            AB 1620 Task Force Member – Group organized by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to review other states' preparation standards/requirements to deem comparability to California.

#### Other Work Related Experience

1975-1977            **Instructor:** Riverside Community College – Early Childhood Studies.

#### Professional Presentations

- "Eight Year Partnership", Childress, Linda; Scott Hendrick, Linda; AERA, 2002, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Childress, Linda; Riggs, Iris; Sandlin, Ruth, "Connecting the Dots . . . Teacher Preparation in the RIMS Region", Cal Council, October 2001, San Diego, California.
- Childress, Linda; Panel Presentation, "Partnerships in Education", Cal Council, March 1999.
- Childress, Linda; Strategies for Creative Leadership, University of California, Riverside, February, 1998.
- Childress, Linda; Looney, Jennifer; Teachers for the New Millennium, Reactors at the California Council on the Education for Teachers Conference, San Diego, California, October, 1997.
- Childress, Linda; Hendrick, Irv; Mitchell, Doug; Sandlin, Ruth; Scott, Linda; Regional Collaboration to Address the Teacher Reform Agenda, presented at the Commission on Teacher Credentialing Session, Sacramento, California, May, 1995.
- Childress, Linda; LaLonde, John; Transfer Trauma, presented at the Statewide Mentor Teacher Conference, Sacramento, California, March, 1993.
- Garmston, Sue; Gless, Janet; and Childress, Linda; Supporting New Teachers, presented at the National Staff Development Council Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., December, 1992.
- McLevie, John G.; Pearson, Mary Jane; Childress, Linda J.; Scott, Linda; Building a Beginning Teacher Support Framework, presented at Association of Teacher Educators, New Orleans, Louisiana, February 16-20, 1991.

- Anderson, Chris; Baker, Jan; Brough, Laura; Childress, Linda; McCuan, Jackie; Uelbelhart, Kim; School Site Mentor/Assisting Teacher Partnerships (CNTF), presented at the Statewide Mentor Teacher Program Conference, Long Beach, California, December, 1990.
- Childress, Linda J.; Scott, Linda; Young, Beverly; A Window on First Year Teachers' Needs: Five Models of Support and Training, presented at Advanced Leadership Academy on Planning and Implementing Induction, Internships, Mentoring and Beginning Teacher Programs, Irvine, California, June, 1990.

### Community Involvement

Member, Junior League of Riverside  
Member, National Charity League



RIMS is one of eleven regions  
of the California County  
Superintendents  
Educational Services  
Association

## RIMS Superintendents

### ❖ Riverside

David Long, Ph.D.  
Riverside County  
Superintendent of Schools  
3939 13th Street  
P.O. Box 868  
Riverside, CA 92502

### ❖ Inyo

George Lozito  
Inyo County  
Superintendent of Schools  
P.O. Drawer G  
Independence, CA 93526

### ❖ Mono

Richard McAteer  
Mono County  
Superintendent of Schools  
P.O. Box 477  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

### ❖ San Bernardino

Herbert R. Fischer, Ph.D.  
San Bernardino County  
Superintendent of Schools  
601 North E Street  
San Bernardino, CA 92410

July 6, 2006

Dear Members of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing:

I respectfully submit my name as a possible candidate, representing the K-12 constituency, for membership on the Committee on Accreditation (COA). As a current member of the COA workgroup, I have appreciated the opportunity to contribute to discussions and possible future directions of the accreditation process for both post-secondary and K-12 institutions in California. Based on my experience, over the last 19 years as director of the RIMS-BTSA Induction Program which includes four counties (Riverside, Inyo, Mono, and San Bernardino); 61 individual school districts; two Institutions of Higher Education (University of California, Riverside, and California State University, San Bernardino); and over 1,800 teachers, working toward a California professional clear credential, I understand the importance of a seamless and accountable accreditation process for the K-12 community and Institutions of Higher Education across the state. The articulation between all credentialing agencies is critical to the success of teachers and students in California.

I have 38 years of experience, within the K-12 setting, having taught at the elementary, high school, and community college level. I have been active in the area of new teacher support since 1989 when I directed the California New Teacher Project for the RIMS Region, and collaborated with two Institutions of Higher Education to write the original Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment Program for this region.

I understand the importance of a well-defined and thought-out accreditation process and the urgency to put this process in place. Thank you for any consideration the Commission on Teacher Credentialing would give to my appointment to the Committee on Accreditation. I feel I could contribute to this group in a very positive way. If you have any questions, please call me at (951) 826-6632.

Sincerely,

Linda Childress, Director  
Teacher Support Center  
Division of Educational Services  
(951) 826-6632 / FAX: [951] 826-6950

LC:sms

Appendix B

Resume

Letter of Interest

**Joyce Abrams**

## Joyce Singer Abrams

P. O. Box 786  
La Jolla, California 92038  
858-459-5370

April 2005	UCSD Extension Instructor—The Gifted Learner and Literature
March 2005	Chula Vista ESD newly-formed Health-Nutrition Council teacher representative
March 2005	City of San Diego Human Relations Commission
April 2004-Present	CCTC/COA Accreditation Work Study Group on Accreditation
January 2002-Present	CCTC AB2042 Institutional Reviewer for Accreditation
November 2000-2003	CVESD PAR Advisory Board Panel
September 2000-Present	BTSA Support Provider
September 1998-2003	San Diego State University School of Teacher Education Faculty Member- Student Teacher Field Supervisor California State Department of Education CCR Field Colleague, GATE Department
October 1997-1999	LEAD, San Diego Fellows Member, Gang Prevention for Pre-Adolescents
April 1997	Chula Vista Hills Teacher of the Year
July 1994-June 1995	San Diego County Grand Jury Chair, Health and Social Services Committee
1994-1997	President, Large La Jolla Homeowner's Association, in litigation
1991-1993	Congregation Beth El, Board Member
September 1989-June 1990	LEAD, San Diego, Graduate
1986-2001	Voices for Children CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocate)
September 1967-Present	School Teacher, Grades EAK- 9 Chula Vista Elementary School District The Palm Valley School, Palm Springs, CA Cedar Drive Public School, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada--Fulbright Scholar Program Teacher San Diego Unified School District Burbank Unified School District

### **Current Memberships on Boards of Directors**

Association of San Diego Educators of the Gifted, president  
CTA State Council, Representative (1996-2005)  
Chula Vista Educators Association  
La Jolla High School Scholarship Foundation  
McKinley Elementary School Foundation, secretary

### **Educational Background**

1976 MA, Special Education, GATE Emphasis San Diego State University  
1974 California Administrative Credential  
1967 BA, English, San Diego State University Standard Elementary Life Credential  
SB1969 Credential

June 30, 2006

It is with excitement, anxiety and respect that I submit this letter of application for the open K-12 seat on the Committee on Accreditation (COA). **My credentials: I am ready, willing and able!**

My interest in being an official part of the COA has been germinating for many years, but only since I have been the CTA K-12 representative on the Accreditation Work Study Group, under the auspices of the COA, has it seemed a possibility. Representing CTA at the Work Study Group over the past two years, the issues have been brought to life. A K-12 ear and voice on higher education accreditation matters provides a necessary practical blend between higher education personnel and those working in the real world of the public classroom, working to ensure that there is alignment of learning with the K-12 content standards.

The COA's charge is to oversee the accreditation system. Their task is to decide on the continuing accreditation of educator preparation institutions and programs, to decide on the initial accreditation of programs submitted by eligible institutions, and to determine the comparability of national or alternative program standards with California standards of educator preparation.

Teacher preparation programs must prepare teachers adequately so that our state can ensure the public that high quality teachers are in California's classrooms. Research shows that the most effective support we can furnish our students is to invest in the skill and knowledge of our teachers. Reform and change—we say “monitor and adjust” in the elementary school setting—aligned with the K-12 content standards are the keys to assuring this high level of consistent quality.

Why do I desire to serve on the COA as a K-12 representative? I believe I am well-trained and offer a multi-faceted array of skills. My wide base of experience allows me to hear, understand and question. Education is my lifelong passion. I have taught Early Admission Kindergarten (EAK) through eighth grade for 39 continuous years.

I have mentored student teachers in my classroom. I have served as a student teacher field supervisor on the SDSU faculty. I have been an instructor at UCSD Extension.

I have been active in both PAR AND BTSA, two teacher support systems in California.

I served on the Credentials and Professional Development Committee of the CTA State Council for nine years. I am a trained and experienced Board of Institutional Reviewers (BIR) participant. And, lastly and maybe most importantly, it seems a natural next step as our Accreditation Work Study Group winds down, I would like to be appointed to the Committee On Accreditation to implement the very policies we've worked so diligently to revise.

I am committed to the cause: "Ensure that those who educate the children of California are academically and professionally prepared." Thank you for considering me for appointment to this esteemed committee.

Sincerely,

Joyce Singer Abrams