

**COMMITTEE ON ACCREDITATION  
MINUTES  
March 17, 2022  
Commission on Teacher Credentialing**

**Committee Members Present**

Bob Frelly  
Cheryl Forbes  
Cathy Creasia  
Cynthia Amos  
Gerard Morrison  
J. Kevin Taylor  
Jason Lea  
Jomeline Balatayo  
Katrine Czajkowski  
Lynn Larsen  
Martin Martinez  
Michael Hillis

**Staff Members Present**

David DeGuire, Director  
Cheryl Hickey, Administrator  
Erin Sullivan, Administrator  
Cara Mendoza, Administrator  
Gay Roby, Consultant  
Hart Boyd, Consultant  
Iyore Osamwonyi, Consultant  
Poonam Bedi, Consultant  
Jake Shuler, Consultant  
Michele Williams-George, Consultant  
Timothy Weekes, Consultant  
William Hatrick, Consultant  
Kristina Najarro, Consultant  
Michelle Bernardo, Secretary

**Present Via Technology**

Craig Wiblemo, Escondido Union HSD  
Jannis Wilson, Escondido Union HSD  
Patricia Maricich, Team Lead  
Roxanna Stern, Santa Barbara USD  
Victoria Dye, Sequoia Union HSD  
Catherine Wachtler, Sequoia Union HSD  
Bonnie Hansen, Sequoia Union HSD  
Dr. Amanda Baird, Team Lead  
Emily Brehmer, King-Chavez Neighborhood  
of Schools  
Dr. Jerell Hill, Pacific Oaks College  
Dr. Catherine Walter, Pacific Oaks College  
Dr. Chris Hopper, Team Lead  
Kelly Bikle, Palo Alto USD  
Sharon Ofek, Palo Alto USD  
Riki Belshe, Team Lead  
Kim Ortiz, Pleasanton USD  
Mike Williams, Pleasanton USD  
Julie Twisselmann, Pleasanton USD  
Laura Stange, Pleasanton USD  
Kim Calton, Pleasanton USD  
Sarah Landis, Pleasanton USD  
Samantha Leddel, Palos Verdes Peninsula  
USD  
Kelli Keller, Palos Verdes Peninsula USD  
Dr. Melissa Meetze-Hall, Team Lead  
Karen Costa-Smith, Sanger USD  
Dennis Wiechmann, Sanger USD  
Amy Bettencourt, Team Lead

### Item 1 – Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting of the Committee on Accreditation was called to order by Bob Frely at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 17, 2022. This meeting was conducted entirely electronically, with minimal presence in the Commission offices, due to the COVID 19 pandemic and Governor Newsom’s stay at home order.

### Item 2 – Approval of the Agenda

It was moved, seconded (Czajkowski/Taylor) and carried by roll call vote to approve the March 2022 agenda.

### Item 3 - Approval of the Minutes of the Prior Meeting

It was moved, seconded (Morrison/Balatayo) and carried by roll call vote to approve the February 2022 minutes with no changes.

### Item 4 - Co-Chair and Member Reports

Member Czajkowski provided a report on how enthusiastic schools are with the removal of the mask mandate and granting districts authority on how to keep everyone safe.

### Item 5 – Staff Reports

Administrator Cheryl Hickey announced that the COA’s next meeting will be in person. COA members will come together in person, some staff will be in person and virtual, and institutions will continue to attend virtually. Ms. Hickey reported that there will be 7 institutional approval items at the April Commission meeting. She also updated the Committee on the work to establish the PK3 credential which is being repurposed to help meet the state’s initiative for universal TK and state sponsored preschool. She reported that at its last meeting, the Commission adopted a “one TPA” policy. She also provided an update of staff work around the implementation of SB 488 (Rubio) that will eliminate RICA which will be replaced with a performance assessment.

Member Lea commented on the new ECE credential and brought up some concerns about the staff shortage and providing additional pathways for this credential such as an intern pathway.

Co-Chair Martinez commented that he is optimistic about the new credential and how the institutions of higher education and local education agencies collaborate to create a system that connects.

Administrator Erin Sullivan reported that additional information on travel for the next COA meeting will be forthcoming. Ms. Sullivan reported on the Common Standards reviews. Ms. Sullivan thanked everyone for their support and volunteering to help with the accreditation process. It was announced that Dr. Sarah Solari-Colombini has agreed to step-in to help Ms. Hickey with accreditation work while Ms. Sullivan helps the Commission with legislation work.

Administrator Cara Mendoza provided an update on grant funding. The teacher residency expansion grant was released. Classified grants will be coming soon.

#### Item 6 – Program Approval Recommendations

There were no institutions requesting approval for new programs at this time.

#### Item 7 – Program Change of Status

There were no items for sections A, B and C and D.

Section E: Programs Moving to Inactive Status –This section included 2 program sponsors moving 7 programs to inactive status. No action was required nor taken.

#### **Mills College**

Education Specialist: Added Authorization Autism Spectrum Disorder, effective 07/01/2022

Education Specialist: Added Authorization Autism Emotional Disturbance, effective 07/01/2022

Education Specialist: Early Childhood Special Education, effective 07/01/2022

Preliminary Multiple Subject, effective 07/01/2022

Preliminary Multiple Subject Intern, effective 07/01/2022

Preliminary Administrative Services, effective 07/01/2022

#### **California State University, Fresno**

Specialist Teaching: Early Childhood Education Specialist, effective 03/17/2022

*(Note: a correction was made to the effective date from 9/01/2022 to 03/17/2022)*

#### Item 8– Initial Program Approval for New Program Sponsors

There were no new program approvals.

#### Item 9– Discussion of Institutions Not in Compliance with Accreditation Timelines

Analyst Michelle Bernardo introduced this item. Ms. Bernardo reported that Pasadena Unified School District was late in submitting their Common Standards for review which were due on February 28, 2022. Staff is currently working with the institution to submit and post their common standards for their upcoming review.

#### Item 10 – Report of the Provisional Site Visit Accreditation Team to Escondido Union High School District

Consultant Gay Roby introduced this item. She was joined by team lead Patricia Maricich and institutional representatives Craig Wiblemo, Director, Human Resources Department and Jannis Wilson, Program Coordinator, Human Resources Department.

After discussion, it was moved, seconded (Forbes/Czajkowski: no recusals) and carried by roll call to grant the provisional status of *Accreditation with a 7th Year Report* to Escondido Union High School District and its credential program. The 7<sup>th</sup> year report is to address the issues identified by the accreditation team related to Program Standard 3 which was Met with Concerns.

Item 11 – Discussion of the 1st Quarter Report from Santa Barbara Unified School District  
Consultants William Hatrick introduced this item. He was joined by institutional representative Roxanna Stern, Teacher Induction Program Coordinator to answer any questions the COA had about the report.

After discussion, Chair Bob Frelly noted that no action was necessary and accepted the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarterly Report from Santa Barbara Unified School District.

Item 12 – Report of the Accreditation Team to Sequoia Union High School District Analyst  
Consultant Kristina Najarro introduced this item. She was joined by team lead Dr. Amanda Baird and institutional representatives Victoria Dye, Director of Professional Development and Curriculum and Induction; Catherine Wachtler, Lead Induction Coach; and Bonnie Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services.

After discussion, it was moved, seconded (Forbes/Czajkowski: no recusals) and carried by roll call to grant the status of *Accreditation with a 7th Year Report* to Sequoia Union High School District Analyst and its credential program. The 7<sup>th</sup> year report is to address the actions taken by the institution to address the areas identified by the team for the standards less than fully met.

Item 13 – Discussion of the 7th Year Report from King-Chavez Academy of Excellence  
Consultant Gay Roby introduced this item. She was joined today by institutional representative Emily Brehmer, Director of Induction to answer any questions the COA had.

After discussion, the COA accepted the 7<sup>th</sup> Year Report for King-Chavez Academy of Excellence. No action was taken.

Item 14 – Report of the Accreditation Team to Pacific Oaks College  
Consultants Jake Shuler and Tim Weekes introduced this item. They were joined by team lead Dr. Chris Hopper and institutional representatives Dr. Jerell Hill, Dean and Dr. Catherine Walter, Program Director for Teacher Credentialing.

After discussion, it was moved, seconded (Taylor/Amos: no recusals) and carried by roll call vote to grant the status of *Accreditation* to Pacific Oak College and its credential programs.

Item 15 – Report of the Accreditation Team to Palo Alto Unified School District  
Consultant Hart Boyd introduced this item. He was joined by team lead Riki Belshe and institutional representatives Kelly Bikle, Professional Learning and Induction Director, and Sharon Ofek, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services.

After discussion, it was moved, seconded (Czajkowski/Larsen: no recusals) and carried by roll call vote to grant the status of *Accreditation* to Palo Alto Unified School District and its credential program.

Item 16 – Discussion of the Quarter 3 Report from Pleasanton Unified School District

Consultant Poonam Bedi presented this item. She was joined by institutional representatives Kim Ortiz, Director of Human Resources; Mike Williams, Senior Director of Human Resources; Julie Twisselmann, Coordinator of Human Resources; and Laura Stange, Pleasanton New Teacher Project Coach.

After discussion, it was moved, seconded (Frelly/Forbes: no recusals) and carried by roll call to accept the Quarter 3 Report from Pleasanton Unified School District.

Item 17 – Discussion of First Quarterly Report from Palos Verdes Peninsula USD

Consultant Dr. Michelle Williams-George introduced this item. She was joined by institutional representatives Samantha Leddel, Program Leader and Kelli Keller, Executive Director of Human Resources.

After discussion, it was moved, seconded (Balatayo/Creasia: no recusals) and carried by roll call vote to accept the first quarterly report from Palos Verdes Peninsula USD.

Item 18– Report of the Accreditation Team to Sanger Unified School District

Consultant Gay Roby presented this item. She was joined by team lead Amy Bettencourt and institutional representatives Karen Costa-Smith, Induction Coordinator and Dennis Wiechmann, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources.

After discussion, it was moved, seconded (Hillis/Czajkowski: no recusals) and carried by roll call vote to grant the status of *Accreditation* to Sanger Unified School District and its credential program.

Item 19– is the Discussion of Possible Accreditation Handbook Changes Selected Chapters

Administrator Cheryl Hickey introduced this item. This agenda item continued the discussion restarted at the February 2022 COA meeting. The *Accreditation Handbook* must be brought up to date and aspects of the Handbook must be clarified or expanded upon.

No action was taken and this item will be brought back for action at a future meeting with all proposed changes to the *Accreditation Handbook* for future consideration and action.

Item 20 – Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Co-Chair Martin Martinez adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m. The next meeting of the COA will be in person and is scheduled for May 5-6, 2022.