



## Commission on Teacher Credentialing

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*Office of the Executive Director*

April 23, 2019

Mr. Adam Carter  
Chief Academic Officer  
Summit Preparatory Charter High School  
Summit Public Schools  
780 Broadway  
Redwood City, CA 94063

Dear Mr. Carter,

At its April 11-12, 2019 meeting, the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission) heard Summit Preparatory Charter High School's (Summit) appeal of the Committee on Accreditation's (COA) January 2019 accreditation decision. The Commission resolved the appellate issues and ordered the following:

1. The COA was not arbitrary or without legal basis in not permitting Summit to operate a residency program. There is no clear law that authorizes a local education agency to operate a student teaching residency program without a relationship with an institution of higher education.
2. The COA did not act contrary to the Handbook by imposing stipulations that the Summit intern program be closed even though the Handbook indicates that a site review team may determine that program be closed only when more than half the standards are not met. The COA went beyond the authority that is clearly defined in the Handbook for the site review team because the COA has such discretionary authority to do so.
3. The COA's interpretation of precondition number 11 and imposition of that precondition on Summit was contrary to the plain language of the precondition. The language indicates that intern programs designed to meet shortage must indicate such, however Summit was not denied for this purpose. Furthermore, this requirement does not apply to programs but rather applies to districts that employ interns pursuant to Education Code Section 44225.7. The Commission directed staff to modify this precondition to comply with statute.
4. The COA did not act contrary to the Handbook in reviewing a precondition at the January 31<sup>st</sup> hearing and in basing part of its decision on noncompliance with such precondition. Both the accreditation Framework and accreditation Handbook clearly delineate that programs must adhere to preconditions at all times.
5. The COA did not act arbitrarily or without legal basis when determining that Summit intern candidates must pass CSET prior to admission to the intern program. This is clearly delineated in Education Code Section 44453, subdivision (a).
6. The COA did not act unfairly in penalizing Summit in inquiring interns to be employed as teachers of record as this is clearly delineated in Education Code Section 44325, subdivision (a).

The Commission further determined to set aside the decision of COA regarding Summit and assigned *Accreditation with Major Stipulations* as Summit's accreditation status. The Commission accredited Summit's preliminary teacher preparation program as a residency model with the following stipulations:

1. That Summit, within **six months**, either:
  - a. Contract with a regionally accredited institution of higher education with a Commission-approved teacher preparation program. This means that there would be meaningful evaluation and feedback on how Summit is addressing the Commission's Preconditions, Common Standards, and Preliminary Single Subject Program Standards as part of the partnership; or
  - b. Submit a proposal to be accredited as an experimental residency program pursuant to Education Code Section 44273 and be compliant with the experimental program standards adopted by the Commission in March 2008.
2. That Summit, within **twelve months**, host a revisit to confirm that Summit's preliminary teacher residency program is meeting all preconditions, common standards, and program standards for the preliminary teacher preparation program.

Sincerely,



Mary Vixie Sandy  
Executive Director

cc: Kevin M. Troy, Esq

MVS/VCW/kt

**PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL**

I declare that I am a resident of or employed in the County of Sacramento, California.

I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within entitled cause. The name and address of my residence or business is:

California Commission on Teacher Credentialing  
1900 Capitol Avenue  
Sacramento, CA 95811

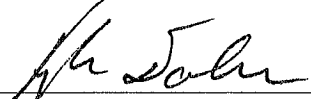
I am readily familiar with the ordinary practice of the business of collecting, processing and depositing correspondence in the United States Postal Service and that the correspondence will be deposited the same day with postage thereon fully prepaid.

On April 23, 2019, I served the letter containing the Commission's final action on the parties listed below by placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope for collection and mailing in the United States Postal Service following ordinary business practices at Sacramento, California addressed as follows:

Mr. Adam Carter  
Chief Academic Officer  
Summit Preparatory Charter High School  
Summit Public Schools  
780 Broadway  
Redwood City, CA 94063

Kevin M. Troy, Esq  
Young, Minney & Corr, LLP.  
655 University Ave., Ste. 150  
Sacramento, CA. 95825

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed in Sacramento, California.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kyle Tabler