

VIII.B.

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

TO BE PROPOSED:

March 3, 2021

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(3)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full approval for the period March 3, 2021, through November 30, 2025, to Sacred Heart University (SHU), with annual progress monitoring conducted using program data from the Connecticut Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) Data Dashboard until SHU's next Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) visit, for the purpose of certifying graduates from SHU in the following new certification area:

Program	Grade Level	Program Level	Program Type
Music Education	PreK-12	Initial	Graduate

and directs the Acting Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Approved by a vote of _____ this third day of March, Two Thousand Twenty One.

Signed: _____
Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Secretary
State Board of Education

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Acting Commissioner of Education

DATE: March 3, 2021

SUBJECT: Approval of New Educator Preparation Program: Sacred Heart University, Music Education Program

Executive Summary

Introduction

Connecticut educator preparation providers (EPPs) and other organizations must be approved for new educator preparation programs through the Connecticut State Board of Education (CSBE). Those seeking approval for new programs are required to participate in a Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) evaluation process designed to guide and support new program proposals. The proposal then moves forward to the CSDE Review Committee (Attachment A), which makes recommendations to the Commissioner of Education regarding new program approval based on evaluation findings. This report presents a summary of the evaluation process for the Sacred Heart University (SHU) proposal for an education preparation program for music education and includes the Commissioner of Education's recommendation for approval.

History/Background

Located in Fairfield, Connecticut, SHU is a private, coeducational university serving approximately 5,600 full- and part-time undergraduate students and 3,000 graduate students through 70 undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and certificate programs across five colleges. SHU is regionally accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

The SHU Isabelle Farrington College of Education offers initial certification programs in elementary education and various secondary subject areas, including English language arts, social studies/history, science (biology, chemistry, and general science), mathematics, and Spanish. Additionally, SHU offers advanced certification programs in reading, special education, speech/language pathology, intermediate administration, and superintendent of schools. SHU also offers multiple non-certification programs leading to a Master of Education degree. SHU educator preparation programs are currently fully approved by the CSBE and nationally accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).

SHU is now seeking approval through the CSBE for an educator preparation program for music education, PreK-12. The proposed music education program is a 42-credit track that will exist under the SHU's Master of Arts in Teaching umbrella and lead to institutional recommendation

for initial Connecticut certification in music, PreK-12. Program applicants must hold an undergraduate degree in music, or the equivalent coursework.

During the latter part of fall 2020, SHU submitted to the CSDE a proposal describing the music education program, including program syllabi, key assessments, and faculty vitae and resumes. A CSDE-trained evaluation team consisting of content area experts reviewed the proposal to evaluate the quality of the program in the following areas:

- (1) design, scope and sequence, including coursework and fieldwork/clinical experiences;
- (2) candidate assessments, including data collection, analysis, and reporting methods;
- (3) faculty and instructor qualifications; and
- (4) program resources.

CSDE consultants also reviewed the proposal for compliance with Connecticut statutory and regulatory requirements.

The evaluation team identified some areas for improvement (AFI) for the SHU proposal and was unanimous in its decision that the proposal move forward to the CSDE Review Committee for consideration, with the requirement that the AFIs be addressed before the committee meeting. SHU submitted all required revisions to the CSDE during January 2021, to the satisfaction of the evaluation team, with the Review Committee recommending full approval for the program.

Recommendation and Justification

Based upon evaluation team findings and the recommendation of the CSDE Review Committee, I recommend that the SHU educator preparation program for music education be granted full approval for the period March 3, 2021, through November 30, 2025. If approved by the CSBE, the program will begin implementation during fall 2021 and be reviewed during SHU's next Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) visit during spring 2025. In the interim, the Connecticut EPP Data Dashboard will provide program evaluation data on an annual basis for all SHU educator preparation programs, including this new music education program.

Follow-up Activity

If granted full approval by the CSBE, the Dean of the SHU College of Education will be notified immediately so that SHU may start recruiting candidates for fall 2021.

Prepared by: Katie Moirs, Ph.D., EPP Program Approval Coordinator, Talent Office

Approved by: Shuana K. Tucker, Ph.D., Chief Talent Officer, Talent Office

ATTACHMENT A

**CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Educator Preparation Program Approval Review Committee**

Name	Affiliation	Representation	Term Ending
1. Megan Mackey	Central Connecticut State University	Higher Education	March 2, 2022
2. Tamika La Salle	University of Connecticut	Higher Education	June 30, 2023
3. Catherine O'Callaghan	Western Connecticut State University	Higher Education	June 30, 2023
4. Julie Sochacki	University of Hartford	Higher Education	June 30, 2023
5. Stephanie Storms	Fairfield University	Higher Education	March 2, 2022
6. Joseph Bonillo	Waterford Public Schools	K-12	June 30, 2023
7. Thomas Danehy	Area Cooperative Educational Services	K-12	June 30, 2023
8. Sinthia Sone-Moyano	Manchester Public Schools	K-12	June 30, 2023
9. Kevin Walston	Danbury Public Schools	K-12	June 30, 2023
10. Paul Whyte	New Haven Public Schools	K-12	June 30, 2023
11. Michael Livingston	Capitol Region Education Council	Community	March 2, 2022
12. Shannon Marimón	Connecticut Council for Education Reform	Community	March 2, 2022