

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION 2 Peachtree Street 5th Floor, PSC Boardroom Atlanta, Georgia January 11, 2007

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, January 11, 2007, at 9 a.m.

Members Present

Maria Bradley	Maria Miller	Dr. Holly Robinson
Sallie Bullock	Dr. Louisa Moffitt	Dr. Craig Smith
Stephen Dartt	Lee Muns	Jeannie Tucker
Jean Ebron	Dr. Mary Outlaw	Hester Vasconcelos
Pamela Greenway	Rose Powell	Dr. Debbie Wilkes

Members Absent

Gary Bechtel	Dr. Wanda West
Mary Gomez	

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wilkes called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and a moment of silence.

II. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Chair Wilkes recognized the visitors.

- Margaret Elliott, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Gayle Wooten, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Anne Hancock, US Department of Education
- John Hooper, Georgia School Superintendents Association
- Michael Gray, Pike County Schools
- Ann Duffy, Georgia Leadership Institute for School Improvement
- Theodore Pikes, Georgia Department of Education

III. GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. Toth introduced Anne Hancock, Regional Representative for the United States Department of Education. She covers the largest region in the United States. She was formerly with the Board of Regents. She spoke briefly on her role and thanked the commission for their hard and valuable work.

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Wilkes called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Muns / Greenway) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Wilkes called for approval of the minutes from the December 13, 2006, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION: Approved

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**A. Ethics and Professional Conduct --Recommendations and Actions on Cases**

Commissioner Maria Miller of the Educator Ethics Review Committee (EERC), gave a preliminary review of the Cases.

- Ms. Miller reported that the Committee reviewed 10 *Probable Cause Determination Written Application* cases during its January 10, 2007, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

#	CASE NUMBER	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION	Z
1	06-8-65	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Reprimand	
2	06-8-103	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Reprimand	
3	06-9-235	Criminal Acts	Revocation	
4	06-9-244	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Reprimand	
5	06-9-251	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause	
6	06-9-398	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Reprimand	
7	06-11-552	Criminal Acts	Reprimand	
8	06-10-329	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Reprimand	
9	06-10-349	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Denial	
10	06-10-397	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Reprimand	

- Ms. Miller reported that the Committee reviewed 32 *Probable Cause Determination Written Complaint*

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cases during its January 10, 2007, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

#	CASE NUMBER	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION	Z
1	06-8-145	Abuse of Students Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Revocation	
2	06-9-205	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Reprimand	
3	06-9-259	Abuse of Students Criminal Acts Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Revocation	
4	06-9-262	Abuse of Students Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Suspension - 90 Contract Days	
5	06-10-364	Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct	Revocation	
6	06-10-366	Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct	Revocation	
7	06-6-1493	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Revocation	
8	06-8-186	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause	
9	06-10-408	Misrepresentation or Falsification Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Revocation	
10	06-11-433	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Denial	
11	06-11-445	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Revocation	
12	06-8-187	Public Funds and Property Misrepresentation or Falsification Confidential Information Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause	
13	06-9-265	Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Administrative Dismissal (Educator Deceased)	
14	06-10-416	Public Funds and Property Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation	
15	06-6-1380	Confidential Information Professional Conduct	Reprimand	

#	CASE NUMBER	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION	Z
16	06-10-339	Confidential Information Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension - 90 Contract Days	
17	06-5-1282	Abandonment of Contract Professional Conduct	Suspension - 90 Contract Days	
18	06-5-1300	Abandonment of Contract Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause	
19	06-10-380	Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	Reprimand	
20	06-5-1303	Professional Conduct Abandonment of Contract	Suspension - 90 Contract Days	
21	06-6-1371	Professional Conduct Criminal Acts	Extend Probable Cause Determination Pending Criminal Case	
22	06-8-148	Professional Conduct	Reprimand	
23	06-9-310	Professional Conduct	Reprimand	
24	06-10-316	Professional Conduct Criminal Acts	Reprimand	
25	06-10-322	Professional Conduct	Reprimand	
26	06-10-347	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause	
27	06-10-351	Professional Conduct	Reprimand	
28	06-10-358	Professional Conduct	Suspension for 20 Days	
29	06-10-387	Professional Conduct	Suspension for 20 Days	
30	06-11-441	Professional Conduct	Suspension for 5 Days	
31	06-11-442	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause	
32	06-10-352	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension for 5 Days	

ACTION: Approved

2. Ms. Miller reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 3 *Initial Decisions* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

CASE NUMBER	STANDARDS VIOLATED	PROBABLE CAUSE SANCTION	ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE SANCTION	RECOMM.
03-10-552	Professional Conduct	Suspension for 3 Months	Suspension for 3 Month	Accept
05-11-589	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Denial	Denial	Accept
05-6-1882	Misrepresentation or Falsification Confidential Information Professional Conduct	Suspension for 20 Contract Days	Suspension for 20 Contract Days	Accept

ACTION: Approved

3. Ms. Miller reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 4 *Petitions Issues* and brought the

following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

CASE NUMBER	REQUEST	PREVIOUS SANCTION	PREVIOUS VIOLATION	RECOMM
06-8-138	Right to Reapply	Denial - Sept. 18, 2003	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Grant
06-9-309	Right to Reapply	Denial - March 19, 2004	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Deny
06-5-1249	Extend Time to Request Hearing	Revocation - Dec. 14, 2006	Failure to Make a Required Report Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Misrepresentation or Falsification Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Grant
04-10-550	Right to Petition Earlier than Required Waiting Period	Revocation - March 18, 2005	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Deny

ACTION: Approved

4. Ms. Miller reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 12 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

#	CASE NUMBER	SANCTION	RECOMMENDATION
1	06-4-1204	Revocation	Accept
2	06-5-1251	Reprimand	Accept
3	06-6-1479	Suspension - 20 Contract Days Jan. 26, 2007 - Feb. 23, 2007	Accept
4	06-6-1480	Suspension - 90 Contract Days Jan. 24, 2007 - August 10, 2007	Accept
5	06-7-47	Reprimand	Accept
6	06-8-94	Reprimand	Accept
7	06-8-108	Reprimand	Accept
8	06-8-176	Revocation	Accept
9	06-9-211	Reprimand	Accept
10	06-9-223	Reprimand	Accept
11	06-9-281	Suspension - 20 Contract Days Jan. 26, 2007 - Feb. 23, 2007	Accept
12	06-9-291	Reprimand	Accept

ACTION: Approved

5. Ms. Miller reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 12 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

#	CASE NUMBER	STANDARDS VIOLATED	PROBABLE CAUSE SANCTION	NEGOTIATED SANCTION	RECOMM.
1.	05-8-271	Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Warning	Warning	Accept
2.	06-8-95	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Warning	No Probable Cause	Accept
3.	04-10-443	Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation	Revocation (Language Changes)	Accept
4.	06-2-876	Professional Conduct	Suspend - 20 Contract Days	Reprimand	Reject
5.	04-11-696	Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation	Suspend - 20 Contract Days	Accept
6.	06-4-1208	Misrepresentation or Falsification Confidential Information Professional Conduct	Suspend - 20 Contract Days	Suspend - 20 Contract Days (Language Changes)	Accept
7.	05-8-279	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Denial	Reprimand	Accept
8.	05-2-1291	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Revocation	Suspend - 1 Year	Accept
9.	05-9-328	Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Suspend - 3 Months	Suspend - 2 Months (Not Contract Days)	Accept
10.	06-1-802	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspend - 20 Contract Days	Suspend - 20 Contract Days	Accept
11.	05-9-396	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspend - 5 Contract Days	Warning	Reject
12.	05-1-1030	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Warning	No Probable Cause	Accept

ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Pamela Greenway

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 41 new complaints received during the months of December 2006 and January 2007.

ACTION: Approved

7. **EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 12 Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations consisting of the following:

06-12-635, 06-12-636, 06-12-637, 06-12-638, 06-12-639, 06-12-640, 06-12-641, 06-12-642, 06-12-643, 06-12-644, 06-12-645, 06-12-646

ACTION: Approved

8. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting and *Investigative Extension* to the following 82 Written Complaints and 35 Application cases:

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS:

06-1-769	06-11-439	06-8-168	06-10-405	06-8-170	06-10-324	06-11-438	06-10-407	06-10-413
06-4-1152	06-11-447	06-9-209	06-10-414	06-8-171	06-10-325	06-8-135	06-10-409	06-11-440
06-5-1229	06-11-448	06-9-258	06-10-415	06-8-180	06-10-326	06-10-331	06-10-417	
06-5-1243	06-4-1178	06-9-312	06-11-443	06-8-192	06-10-328	06-10-333	06-11-431	
06-5-1296	06-5-1253	06-10-321	06-5-1261	06-8-193	06-10-376	06-10-335	06-11-444	
06-6-1331	06-5-1254	06-10-330	06-6-1343	06-9-264	06-10-379	06-10-353	06-8-203	
06-6-1386	06-5-1255	06-10-334	06-6-1390	06-9-269	06-10-403	06-10-354	06-9-314	
06-8-200	06-7-29	06-10-348	06-6-1485	06-9-274	06-10-410	06-10-355	06-9-315	
06-8-201	06-7-31	06-10-367	06-8-151	06-10-318	06-10-411	06-10-391	06-10-350	
06-10-337	06-8-164	06-10-389	06-8-152	06-10-323	06-11-432	06-10-404	06-10-368	

APPLICATION CASE EXTENSIONS:

06-8-75	06-9-292	06-11-481	06-11-547	06-11-557
06-8-96	06-9-298	06-11-486	06-11-548	06-11-560
06-9-216	06-10-371	06-11-487	06-11-549	06-11-561
06-9-217	06-10-372	06-11-495	06-11-553	06-11-562
06-9-220	06-10-394	06-11-524	06-11-554	06-11-564
06-9-227	06-11-477	06-11-545	06-11-555	06-11-568
06-9-240	06-11-480	06-11-546	06-11-556	06-11-586

ACTION: Approved

10. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 18 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

ACTION: Approved

11. REVIEW HEARING EXTENSIONS

The Commission reviewed the *Review Hearing Extensions Report* concerning 3 hearing cases. An Administrative Law Judge rendered Initial Decisions on each case referenced in the report and the EERC recommend extending each case by an additional 30 days.

ACTION: Approved

12. **STUDENT LOAN SUSPENSION / REINSTATEMENTS**

The Commission reviewed the report, which indicated that there were 20 certificates suspended from December 14, 2006 through January 11, 2007. There were 8 certificates that had been *reinstated* because restitution is now being made on those student loans. The Committee was also advised that there were 7 issues where notification had been received to suspend but releases were received prior to the actual suspension being implemented. Restitution is now being made on those student loans.

13. **FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW**

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 5 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. The report also advised that there were 3 cases closed without an appeal for a review hearing before the Commission.

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

Committee Chair, Dr. Craig Smith, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

Bibb County Schools - Bibb County Schools request removal of areas for improvement cited for the Teacher Support Specialist (TSS) Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the Bibb County Schools TSS Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory; areas for improvement may be removed.

Bibb County Schools - Bibb County Schools request removal of areas for improvement cited for the Gifted Education Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the Bibb County Schools Gifted Education Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION - Progress is satisfactory; areas for improvement may be removed.

Chattahoochee-Flint RESA - Chattahoochee-Flint RESA requests removal of areas for improvement cited for the Gifted Education Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the Chattahoochee-Flint RESA Gifted Education Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory; areas for improvement may be removed.

Chattahoochee-Flint RESA - Chattahoochee-Flint RESA requests removal of areas for improvement cited for the Reading Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the Chattahoochee-Flint RESA Reading Endorsement program

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and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is unsatisfactory; the area for improvement cited for Standard 1 remains. A Progress Report addressing the area for improvement is due in three months. The Panel suggests the submission of the key assessment instruments the professional education unit will use to assess candidates' dispositions and their impact on student learning, along with the accompanying scoring guides or rubrics.

Chattahoochee-Flint RESA - Chattahoochee-Flint RESA requests removal of areas for improvement cited for the Teaching Support Specialist (TSS) Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the Chattahoochee-Flint RESA Teaching Support Specialist (TSS) Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is unsatisfactory; areas for improvement cited for Standards 1 and 3 remain. A Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement is due in three months. The Panel suggests that the report include the specific dispositions expected of TSS Endorsement program completers and the instrument the unit will use to assess candidate dispositions. The Panel also suggests the report include a description of the methods the unit will use for collaborating with P-12 partners.

Cobb County Schools - The Cobb County School District requests that the status of Standard 4 be changed from Not Met to Met, and requests removal of areas for improvement cited for the Gifted Education Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval with Conditions for the Cobb County Schools Gifted Education Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the unmet standard and areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory in addressing the areas for improvement cited for the conceptual framework and Standard 4; they may be removed. Standard 4 may be changed from Not Met to Met. Progress is unsatisfactory in addressing the areas for improvement cited for Standards 1, 2, 3, and 5. A Progress Report addressing these areas for improvement is due in three months.

Central Savannah River Area RESA - Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) RESA requests that the status of Standard 1 be changed from Not Met to Met, and requests removal of areas for improvement cited for the Reading Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval with Conditions for the CSRA RESA Reading Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the unmet standard and areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory; areas for improvement may be removed. Standard 1 may be changed from Not Met to Met. Approval status may be changed from Continuing Approval with Conditions to Continuing Approval.

DeKalb County Schools - The DeKalb County School District requests removal of areas for improvement cited for the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting,

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the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the DeKalb County Schools ESOL Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory; areas for improvement may be removed.

DeKalb County Schools - The DeKalb County School District requests removal of the area for improvement cited for the Teacher Support Specialist (TSS) Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the DeKalb County Schools TSS Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the area for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory, however further information is requested. A Progress Report addressing the area for improvement cited for Standard 1 is due in three months. The Panel suggests that the report include the instruments the unit will use to assess candidates abilities to help all students learn and a description of how the resulting data will be aggregated.

First District RESA - First District RESA requests removal of areas for improvement cited for the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the First District RESA English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory; areas for improvement may be removed.

Fort Valley State University - Fort Valley State University (FVSU) requests removal of areas for improvement cited for its professional education unit and educator preparation programs. FVSU underwent a PSC Developmental Review of its professional education unit and the educator preparation programs listed below June 24 – 28, 2006.

- Agriculture Education (6-12; Initial)
- Middle Grades Education (4-8; Initial and Advanced)

At its September 14, 2006 meeting, the Professional Standards Commission granted Developmental Approval for the professional education unit and the initial programs in Agriculture Education and Middle Grades Education. The Commission Denied Approval for the advanced program in Middle Grades Education. The Commission requested a progress report by October 23, 2006 addressing the following:

1. Describe the level of involvement/collaboration of Arts & Sciences faculty with the College of Education as it relates to governance and planning.
2. Provide the qualifications (first page of vitae) of all faculty who teach education candidates (including part-time, adjuncts and faculty employed outside the professional education unit).
3. Provide confirmation that plans described in the Rejoinder to the BOE Report are completed; provide a timeline for completion for those that are not completed by the submission of the

Progress Report.

4. Provide the name and qualifications of the new Field Placement Coordinator.
5. Describe the structure in place to ensure that field placement requirements are documented and met.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory, however further clarification is needed regarding the areas for improvement cited for Standards 1 and 5, listed below:

1. Standard 1 cited for all programs

(Initial) The unit cannot obtain specific information about the content knowledge or pedagogical content knowledge of teacher candidates for specific programs.

2. Standard 5 cited for the Middle Grades Education program

Middle level faculty are not actively involved in scholarly activities.

To address the Standard 5 area for improvement, the Panel suggests that a one-page chart be presented, summarizing the scholarly activities of middle grades faculty over the last five years. The chart should include the names of full-time faculty assigned to the middle grades program, their teaching assignments (course name(s) and number(s)), and a sampling of scholarly activities.

3. All other areas for improvement cited for the initial programs in Agriculture Education and Middle Grades Education may be removed.
4. Because approval was denied for the advanced program in Middle Grades Education, the areas for improvement cited for that program are no longer under consideration.
5. A Progress Report addressing the remaining areas for improvement is due in three months.

Fulton County Schools - The Fulton County School District is withdrawing its request for PSC approval for the Teacher Support Specialist (TSS) Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the Fulton County Schools TSS Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the area for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings. The Fulton County School District submitted a letter to PSC staff rather than the Progress Report requested by the Commission. The letter did not make clear the District's intentions regarding the TSS Endorsement program.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is unsatisfactory; further clarification is requested. The Panel suggests that the unit submit a letter in one month clearly indicating its intentions to either continue or discontinue the TSS Endorsement program. If the letter is not received, the program status will change to Denial of Approval.

Fulton County Schools - The Fulton County School District requests removal of the area for improvement cited for the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the Fulton County Schools ESOL Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is unsatisfactory. A Progress Report addressing the area for improvement

cited for Standard 1 is due in three months. The Panel suggests the submission of three to four criteria-based assessment instruments the unit will use to assess candidates' pedagogical content knowledge and professional knowledge and skills, along with the accompanying scoring guides or rubrics.

Georgia Southern University - Georgia Southern University requests Continuing Approval for its educator preparation programs listed below.

- Art Education (P-12; I & A)
- Business Education (6-12; I & A)
- Early Childhood Education (P-5; I & A)
- Educational Leadership (L; I & A)
- English Education (6-5; I & A)
- ESOL Endorsement (P-12)
- Family and Consumer Sciences Education (6-12; I)
- Foreign Language Education – French, German, Spanish (P-12; I & A)
- Health and Physical Education (P-12; I & A)
- Library Media Specialist (Service; I)
- Mathematics Education (6-12; I & A)
- Middle Grades Education (4-8; I & A)
- Music Education (P-12; I)
- Reading Endorsement (P-12)
- Reading Specialist (P-12; I)
- School Counseling (Service; I)
- Science Education (6-12; I & A)
- Social Science Education (6-12; I & A)**
- Special Education Interrelated. (P-12;I)**
- Technology Education (6-12; I & A)

** These programs are being revised to reflect PSC changes in standards and requirements

The University also requests Developmental Approval for the proposed new M.A.T. programs (to replace existing baccalaureate programs) and new advanced programs in special education, listed below.

- Art Education (P-12; I, M.A.T.)
- Business Education (6-12; I, M.A.T.)
- English Education (6-12; I, M.A.T.)
- Mathematics Education (6-12; I, M.A.T.)
- Middle Grades Education (4-8; I, M.A.T.)
- Science Education (6-12; I, M.A.T.)
- Social Science Education (6-12; I, M.A.T.)**
- Spanish Education (P-12; I, M.A.T.)
- Special Ed.–Adapted Curriculum (P-12; A)
- Special Ed.–General Curriculum (P-12; A)

** This program is being revised to reflect PSC changes in standards and requirements

A joint Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) and National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Board of Examiners (BOE) team conducted a continuing on-site review of the professional education unit and the educator preparation programs April 8 - 12, 2006.

The BOE team found all standards met for the professional education unit and the educator preparation programs, cited areas for improvement on Standard 2 at the unit level, and cited areas for improvement on Standards 1 and 2 for several programs. Georgia Southern University filed an Institutional Rejoinder to the BOE Reports for the professional education unit and the educator preparation programs, disagreeing with the BOE team's findings. PSC program approval is contingent upon NCATE approval of the professional education unit. At its October 2006 meeting, the NCATE Unit Accreditation Board (UAB) changed Standard 2 to Not Met for the professional

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education unit at the initial and advanced levels and granted Accreditation with Conditions.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Remove the area for improvement on Standard 1 for the Advanced Health & PE program.
- Continuing Approval for the following programs:
 1. Business Education (initial & advanced)
 2. Early Childhood Education (advanced)
 3. Educational Leadership (initial & advanced)
 4. English Education (advanced)
 5. Family & Consumer Sciences (initial)
 6. Foreign Language Education (advanced)
 7. Health & PE (initial & advanced)
 8. Library Media Specialist (initial)
 9. Mathematics Education (advanced)
 10. Middle Grades Education (advanced)
 11. Music Education (initial)
 12. Reading Endorsement
 13. Reading Specialist (initial)
 14. School Counselor (initial)
 15. School Psychology (initial)
 16. Science Education (advanced)
 17. Social Science Education (advanced)
 18. Special Education – Interrelated (initial)**
 19. Technology Education (advanced)

** These programs are being revised to reflect PSC changes in standards and requirements

- Continuing Approval and submission of a Progress Report in six months addressing the areas for improvement cited in the PSC BOE Report for the following programs:
 1. Art Education (initial & advanced)
 2. Early Childhood Education (initial)
 3. English Education (initial)
 4. ESOL Endorsement
 5. Foreign Language Education – French, German, Spanish (initial)
 6. Mathematics Education (initial)
 7. Middle Grades Education (initial)
 8. Science Education (initial)
 9. Social Science Education (initial)**
 10. Technology Education (initial)

** These programs are being revised to reflect PSC changes in standards and requirements

- Developmental Approval and submission of a Progress Report in six months addressing all areas for

improvement cited in the PSC BOE Report for the following programs:

1. Art Education (initial; M.A.T.)
2. Business Education (initial; M.A.T.)
3. English Education (initial; M.A.T.)
4. Mathematics Education (initial; M.A.T.)
5. Middle Grades Education (initial; M.A.T.)
6. Science Education- Biology, Chemistry, Physics (initial; M.A.T.)
7. Social Science Education – Economics, Geography, History, Political Science (initial; M.A.T.)**
8. Spanish Education (initial; M.A.T.)
9. Special Education – Adapted Curriculum (advanced)
10. Special Education – General Curriculum (advanced)

** These programs are being revised to reflect PSC changes in standards and requirements

Georgia State University - Georgia State University requests Continuing Approval for its educator preparation programs listed below.

- Art Education (P-12; I & A)
- Early Childhood Ed. (P-5; I & A)
- English Education (6-12; I & A)
- ESOL (P-12; I & E)
- Foreign Language Education (P-12; I) French, German, Latin, Spanish
- Health Occupations (6-12; I)
- Health & Physical Education (P-12; I & A)
- Library Media Technology (Service; I)
- Math Education (6-12; I & A)
- Middle Grades Education (4-8; A)
- Music Education (P-12; I & A)
- Reading Education (P-12; I, A & E)
- School Counseling (Service; I & A)
- School Psychology (Service; I)
- Science Education (6-12; I & A)
- Social Science Education (6-12; I & A)**
- Special Ed: BD/Autism (P-12; I)
- Special Ed: Communication Disorders (P-12; I)
- Special Ed: Deaf & Hard of Hearing (P-12; I & A)
- Special Ed: ECE (P-5; I & A)
- Special Ed: Pre-School Endorsement (Ages 3-5)
- Special Ed: Interrelated (P-12; I & A)**
- Special Ed: Mental Retardation (P-12; I & A)**
- Special Ed: Orthopedic Impairments (P-12; I)
- Teaching & Learning (multiple fields; A)
- Teacher Support Specialist Endorsement
- Trade & Industrial Education (6-12; I)

** These programs are being revised to reflect PSC changes in standards and requirements

The University also requests Developmental Approval for the proposed new initial preparation program in Middle Grades Education.

A joint Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) and National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Board of Examiners (BOE) team conducted a continuing on-site review of the professional education unit and the educator preparation programs March 25 - 29, 2006.

The BOE team found Standard 2 not met for the professional education unit at the initial and advanced levels programs; cited areas for improvement on Standards 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 for the professional education unit; found some standards not met for 6 programs, and cited areas for improvement for several programs. Georgia State University filed an Institutional Rejoinder to the BOE Reports for the professional education unit and the educator preparation

programs, disagreeing with the BOE team's findings. PSC program approval is contingent upon NCATE approval of the professional education unit. At its October 2006 Unit Accreditation Board (UAB) meeting, NCATE granted Accreditation with Conditions for the professional education unit and required a focused visit addressing Standard 2 by fall 2008.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Continuing Approval for the educator preparation programs listed below.

- Early Childhood (Initial B.S. & Advanced)
- Health Occupations (Initial)
- Health & PE (Initial & Advanced)
- School Counseling (Initial & Advanced)
- School Psychology (Initial)
- Social Science Education (Initial)
- Special Ed. – ECE (Advanced)
- Special Ed. – Deaf & Hard of Hearing (Adv.)
- Preschool Special Education (Endorsement)
- Special Ed. -- Interrelated (Advanced)**
- Special Ed. -- Mental Retardation (Advanced)**
- Trade & Industrial (Initial)

** These programs are being revised to reflect PSC changes in standards and requirements

2. The Standard 1 area for improvement cited in the NCATE BOE Report, *“In art and English, fewer than 80 percent of initial candidates have passed Praxis II”* shall also be cited for the English Education (initial) program in the PSC BOE Report.

3. Continuing Approval and the submission of a Progress Report in one year addressing the areas for improvement cited in the PSC BOE Report for the educator preparation programs listed below:

- Art (Initial & Advanced)
- Early Childhood (Initial TAPP)
- English (Initial & Advanced)
- ESOL (Initial & Endorsement)
- Foreign Language– French, German, Latin and Spanish (Initial)
- Library Media Technology (Initial)
- Mathematics (Initial)
- Music (Initial & Advanced)
- Reading (Initial, Advanced & Endorsement)
- Science (Initial)
- Social Science (Advanced)**
- Special Ed. – BD/Autism (Initial)
- Special Ed. – Communication Disorders (Initial)
- Special Ed. – Deaf & Hard of Hearing (Initial)
- Special Ed. – Interrelated (Initial)**
- Special Ed. -- Mental Retardation (Initial)**
- Special Ed. – Orthopedic Impairments (Initial)

** These programs are being revised to reflect PSC changes in standards and requirements

4. Continuing Approval with Conditions, Option 1 for the initial program in Special Education - Early Childhood Education and the submission of a Progress Report in six months addressing the unmet standard and areas for improvement cited for this program in the PSC BOE Report.

5. Continuing Approval with Conditions, Option 2, a focused visit on the unmet standards within two years and the submission of a Progress Report in one year addressing the areas for improvement cited for the educator preparation programs listed below.

- Mathematics (Advanced-M.Ed. & M.A.T.)
- Middle Grades (Advanced)
- Science (Advanced)
- Teaching & Learning (Advanced)

6. Continuing Approval with Probation for the TSS Endorsement program, with an on-site review within two years and the submission of Progress Reports every six months addressing the unmet standards and areas for

improvement cited for this program in the PSC BOE Report.

7. Developmental Approval for the initial program in Middle Grades Education.

Griffin RESA - Griffin RESA requests that the status of Standards 1 and 2 be changed from Not Met to Met and requests the removal of areas for improvement cited for the Teacher Alternative Preparation Program (TAPP). The following certification fields are offered in the Griffin RESA TAPP:

- Art Education (P-12)
- Business Education (6-12)
- Early Childhood Education (P-5)
- English Education (6-12)
- Foreign Language Education–French, German & Spanish (P-12)
- Health & Physical Education (P-12)
- Mathematics Education (6-12)
- Middle Grades Education (4-8)
- Music Education (P-12)
- Science Education–Broad Field (6-12)
- Social Science Education–Broad Field (6-12)
- Special Education–General Curriculum (P-12)

A Georgia Professional Standards Commission Board of Examiners (BOE) team conducted an on-site Developmental Review November 1 – 4, 2005. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Professional Standards Commission changed Standards 1 and 2 from Met to Not Met and granted Developmental Provisional Approval, Option 1 for the TAPP program. The Commission requested submission of a Progress Report addressing the unmet standards and areas for improvement cited in the Board of Examiners' Report by October 1, 2006.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Progress is satisfactory in addressing Standard 1 and in addressing one area for improvement for Standard 6.
- Standard 1 may be changed from Not Met to Met.
- The areas for improvement listed below may be removed.

Standard 1

- There is no evidence that candidates are required to systematically report data on the impact of their teaching on student learning.
- The unit does not have in place a consistent method for assessing candidates' content knowledge other than Praxis II.
- There is no plan to ensure that candidates are assessed on their abilities to use technology as an instructional tool.
- (Special Education and Early Childhood Education programs only) The unit does not ensure that the candidates in the fields of special education and early childhood education receive adequate content and pedagogical preparation.

Standard 6

- The unit does not have adequate information technology resources to support faculty and candidates.
- Progress is unsatisfactory in addressing the areas for improvement cited for Standards 2 and 3, and one of the areas for improvement cited for Standard 6. These areas for improvement remain; they are listed below.

Standard 2

- The professional community was not involved in the development of the assessment system.
- There is no system in place for regularly and systematically summarizing and analyzing data on candidate performance, preparation program quality and unit operations.
- The unit does not have an operational information technology program to maintain its assessment system.

Standard 3

- There is no system in place for tracking candidates' field placements across the service area.

Standard 6

- The current TAPP budget does not provide the necessary monetary and personnel resources for the program.

A Progress Report addressing the remaining areas for improvement is due in six months. To address the areas for improvement cited for Standard 2, the Panel suggests the submission of a sample report from the GaSTAR system and a detailed timeline for full implementation of the system. The RESA failed to address the area for improvement cited for Standard 3 in the October 1 Progress Report. To address the remaining area for improvement for Standard 6, the Panel suggests a focus on how the lack of personnel resources will be addressed and requests that the total number of TAPP candidates be included in the report. The Progress Report shall include retention data on program completers.

Gwinnett County Schools - The Gwinnett County School District requests removal of areas for improvement cited for the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the Gwinnett County Schools ESOL Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory; areas for improvement may be removed.

Heart of Georgia RESA - Heart of Georgia RESA requests removal of areas for improvement cited for the Gifted Education Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the Heart of Georgia RESA Gifted Education Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory; areas for improvement may be removed.

McDuffie County Schools - The McDuffie County School District requests removal of areas for improvement cited for the Teacher Support Specialist (TSS) Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the McDuffie County Schools TSS Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory; areas for improvement may be removed.

Metropolitan RESA - Regional Educational Service Agencies (RESAs) and Local Education Agencies (LEAs) with PSC-approved Endorsement programs re-submitted them for approval under the Georgia 2000 Standards. Metropolitan (Metro) RESA requests Continuing Approval of its Gifted Education Endorsement program.

Educator Preparation Division Staff provided two workshops and an application packet to assist the RESAs and LEAs in the conversion process. Per the agreement with the Professional Standards Commission, they submitted applications for paper review, with no on-site reviews required. The agencies were invited to submit their applications for initial review by PSC staff prior to the submission deadline of December 1, 2005. PSC staff reviewed the final applications to determine their readiness for review by Board of Examiners teams. Those applications deemed not ready for BOE review were returned with suggestions for additional documentation or clarification, and an invitation to submit the applications for approval at a later date. The initial Metro RESA Gifted Education Endorsement program was deemed not ready for review by PSC staff.

RECOMMENDATION: Continuing Approval

Middle Georgia RESA - Middle Georgia RESA requests removal of areas for improvement cited for the Teacher Support Specialist (TSS) Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the Middle Georgia RESA TSS Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory; areas for improvement may be removed.

Okefenokee RESA - Okefenokee RESA requests removal of areas for improvement cited for the Gifted Education Endorsement program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval for the Okefenokee RESA Gifted Education Endorsement program and requested an October 1, 2006 submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Summary of Board of Examiners' Findings.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory; areas for improvement may be removed

Paine College - Paine College requests approval for its educator preparation programs. A joint Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) and National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Board of Examiners (BOE) team conducted a developmental on-site review of the professional education unit and a continuing review of the educator preparation programs listed below March 18 - 22, 2006.

- Early Childhood Education (P-5; I)
- Middle Grades Education (4-8; I)
- Secondary Education: Biology, English, History, and Mathematics (6-12; I)

In conjunction with this review, the BOE team conducted a developmental review of the proposed new post-baccalaureate program in early childhood education. The findings for standards 4, 5, and 6 for the unit were taken to apply to all programs. The BOE team found all standards met and cited areas for improvement on Standards 2 and 4. Paine College filed an Institutional Rejoinder to the BOE Reports for the professional education unit and the educator preparation programs, disagreeing with the BOE teams' findings. PSC program

approval is contingent upon NCATE approval of the professional education unit. At its October 2006 Unit Accreditation Board (UAB) meeting, NCATE granted Accreditation for the professional education unit.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Continuing Approval and the submission of a Progress Report in one year addressing the areas for improvement cited in the PSC BOE Report for the educator preparation programs listed below:

- Early Childhood Education (initial)
- Middle Grades Education (initial)
- Biology Education (initial)
- English Education (initial)
- History Education (initial)
- Mathematics Education (initial)

Developmental Approval and the submission of a Progress Report in one year addressing the areas for improvement cited in the PSC BOE Report for the post-baccalaureate program in Early Childhood Education.

Pioneer RESA - Pioneer RESA requests the removal of areas for improvement cited for the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement program. A Georgia Professional Standards Commission Board of Examiners (BOE) team conducted an on-site Developmental Review of the ESOL Endorsement program October 16-18, 2005. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Professional Standards Commission granted Developmental Approval for the ESOL endorsement program. The Commission requested submission of a Progress Report addressing the areas for improvement cited in the Board of Examiners' Report by October 1, 2006.

RECOMMENDATION: Progress is satisfactory; areas for improvement may be removed.

Spelman College - Spelman College requests that Standards 1 and 2 be changed from Not Met to Met and that approval status be changed from Continuing Approval with Conditions to Continuing Approval for its Early Childhood Education program. A joint Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) and National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Board of Examiners (BOE) team conducted a continuing on-site review of the professional education unit and the educator preparation program November 15 – 19, 2003. In March, 2004 the NCATE Unit Accreditation Board granted Accreditation with Conditions with Standards 1 and 2 not met. At its June 2004 meeting, the Professional Standards Commission granted Continuing Approval with Conditions for the Early Childhood Education program.

On February 26-28, 2006 a joint PSC/NCATE Board of Examiners (BOE) team conducted a Focused Review of Standards 1 and 2 for the professional education unit and the Early Childhood Education program. The BOE team found standards 1 and 2 met and continued one area for improvement on Standard 2. At the October 2006 Unit Accreditation Board meeting, NCATE removed the Condition on Standards 1 and 2 and granted Continuing Accreditation for the Spelman College professional education unit.

RECOMMENDATION: Change Standards 1 and 2 from Not Met to Met. Change approval status to Continuing Approval for the Early Childhood Education program. The remaining area for improvement for Standard 2 shall be addressed in the Annual Report.

Spelman College - Spelman College requests that Standard 2 be changed from Not Met to Met; that areas for improvement be removed, and that approval status be changed from Developmental Provisional Approval to Developmental Approval for its P-12 and secondary educator preparation programs. Spelman College

underwent a PSC Board of Examiners' Developmental Review for the P-12 and secondary education programs listed below October 22 - 26, 2005.

- Art Education (P-12; I)
- Chemistry Education (6-12; I)
- Economics Education (6-12; I)
- English Education (6-12; I)
- French Education (P-12; I)
- History Education (6-12; I)
- Mathematics Education (6-12; I)
- Music Education (P-12; I)
- Physics Education (6-12; I)
- Political Science Education (6-12; I)
- Spanish Education (P-12; I)

The BOE team cited areas for improvement on Standards 2, 3 and 6 for all the educator preparation programs and cited an area for improvement on Standard 7 for one program. At its April 13, 2006 meeting, the Commission changed Standard 2 to Not Met and granted Continuing Approval with Conditions for all the programs. The Commission requested the submission of a Progress Report addressing the not met standard and areas for improvement cited in the Board of Examiners' Report by October 1, 2006.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Progress is being made. All areas for improvement may be removed except the two that follow:

- Standard 6 (cited for all programs) - While the Curriculum Materials Center professional books and materials are adequate to begin offering P-12 and secondary education programs, the holdings section located in the general stacks of the Woodruff Library are dated and insufficient to support the proposed P-12 and secondary education programs.
- Standard 7 (cited for the English Education program) - The professional education unit does not ensure that candidates are prepared to implement the appropriate sections of the newly implemented Georgia mandated curriculum, Georgia Performance Standards (GPS).

The remaining areas for improvement shall be addressed in the Annual Report. Standard 2 may be changed from Not Met to Met. Approval status may be changed from Developmental Provisional Approval to Developmental Approval.

Spring Hill College - Spring Hill College requests Developmental Approval for the Instructional Technology Course, EDU 520 Computer-Based Instructional Technologies. PSC staff reviewed the application for completeness and readiness for external review. Spring Hill College was allowed to submit additional documentation addressing deficiencies identified by PSC Staff. Members of the Instructional Technology Application Review Committee reviewed the revised application and recommend that all the Instructional Technology Standards are met, some with areas for improvement.

RECOMMENDATION: Developmental Approval for the course, *EDU 520 Computer Based Instructional Technologies*, and a Progress Report in three months addressing the areas for improvement.

Spring Hill College - Spring Hill College requests Developmental Approval for its One-Year Supervised Practicum program. The College submitted a program application according to the One-Year Supervised Practicum Program Guidelines. PSC Staff reviewed the program application and found one of the ten guidelines not met and cited areas for improvement for six guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION: Denial of Approval

University of West Georgia - The University of West Georgia (UWG) requests that Standard 8 be changed from Not Met to Met and requests that areas for improvement be removed from Standard 8 for the Teacher Support Specialist (TSS) program. UWG underwent a joint PSC/NCATE Board of Examiners' Continuing Review for the professional education unit and educator preparation programs March 13 - 17, 2004.

In its approval letter of March, 2005, the Commission called for a focused visit on the unmet standards for each of the following programs by March 10, 2007:

- Director of Media Centers Endorsement
- Director of Pupil Personnel Endorsement
- Director of Special Education Endorsement
- Health & Physical Education (A)
- Instructional Supervision Endorsement
- Speech-Language Pathology (I & A)
- Teacher Support Specialist Endorsement

In a letter dated May 12, 2006, Dr. Fran Watkins informed the dean of the College of Education that focused reviews on several of these programs were no longer appropriate, for the reasons described below:

1. Health and Physical Education (A): This is an advanced program that does not lead to certification.
2. – 5. Leadership Endorsements: New standards for educational leadership programs are being developed. We are no longer reviewing programs on the existing educational leadership and leadership endorsement standards, since we expect them to be sunsetted during the next academic year.
6. Speech-Language Pathology: ASHA accreditation satisfies the focused visit requirement for this program.

The only remaining program for which a focused visit was required was the Teacher Support Specialist Endorsement, for which Standard 8 was the only unmet standard.

In lieu of an on-site focused visit, Dr Watkins requested that the professional education unit submit documentation by September 30, 2006 providing evidence that the Teacher Support Specialist (TSS) Endorsement Program is aligned with the current Georgia Professional Standards Commission standards.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Progress is satisfactory. All areas for improvement may be removed and Standard 8 may be changed from Not Met to Met for the TSS Endorsement program. Approval status for the TSS Endorsement program may be changed from Continuing Approval with Conditions to Continuing Approval.

West Georgia RESA - Regional Educational Service Agencies (RESAs) and Local Education Agencies (LEAs) with PSC-approved Endorsement programs re-submitted them for approval under the Georgia 2000 Standards. West Georgia RESA requests Continuing Approval of its English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement program.

Educator Preparation Division Staff provided two workshops and an application packet to assist the RESAs and LEAs in the conversion process. Per the agreement with the Professional Standards Commission, they submitted applications for paper review, with no on-site reviews required. The agencies were invited to submit

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their applications for initial review by PSC staff prior to the submission deadline of December 1, 2005. PSC staff reviewed the final applications to determine their readiness for review by Board of Examiners teams. Those applications deemed not ready for BOE review were returned with suggestions for additional documentation or clarification, and an invitation to submit the applications for approval at a later date. The initial West Georgia RESA ESOL Endorsement program was deemed not ready for review by PSC staff.

West Georgia RESA re-submitted the proposal in March 2006. PSC staff reviewed the proposal and suggested further revisions through a letter dated June 12, 2006. Additional documents were submitted in response to the June 12, 2006 letter. A staff on-site visit followed in September 2006 in which proposals were further discussed and a re-submission of the conversion application was received in October 2006. The October 2006 application was reviewed by PSC staff and the Evaluation Review Panel.

RECOMMENDATION: Continuing Approval and the submission of a Progress Report in six months addressing areas for improvement.

West Georgia RESA - Regional Educational Service Agencies (RESAs) and Local Education Agencies (LEAs) with PSC-approved Endorsement programs re-submitted them for approval under the Georgia 2000 Standards. West Georgia RESA requests Continuing Approval of its Gifted Education Endorsement program.

Educator Preparation Division Staff provided two workshops and an application packet to assist the RESAs and LEAs in the conversion process. Per the agreement with the Professional Standards Commission, they submitted applications for paper review, with no on-site reviews required. The agencies were invited to submit their applications for initial review by PSC staff prior to the submission deadline of December 1, 2005. PSC staff reviewed the final applications to determine their readiness for review by Board of Examiners teams. Those applications deemed not ready for BOE review were returned with suggestions for additional documentation or clarification, and an invitation to submit the applications for approval at a later date. The initial West Georgia RESA Gifted Education Endorsement program was deemed not ready for review by PSC staff.

West Georgia RESA re-submitted the proposal in March 2006. PSC staff reviewed the proposal and suggested further revisions through a letter dated June 12, 2006. Additional documents were submitted in response to the June 12, 2006 letter. A staff on-site visit followed in September 2006 in which proposals were further discussed and a re-submission of the conversion application was received in October 2006. The October, 2006 application was reviewed by PSC staff and the Evaluation Review Panel.

RECOMMENDATION: Continuing Approval and the submission of a Progress Report in six months addressing areas for improvement.

Certification Appeal - Mr. Michael Bankston, on behalf of Ms. Janie Downer, appealed the decisions of the PSC Certification Division and Executive Secretary, Dr. F.D. Toth, regarding his request for certification by completion of an educator preparation program at Breyer State University. Breyer State University is not approved by the Professional Standards Commission nor is it accredited by any PSC-accepted accrediting agency. The Standing Committee reviewed the letters and Certification Rules and agreed with Dr. Toth's decision.

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RECOMMENDATION: Agree with staff recommendation to deny the appeal.

Chair Wilkes called for approval of the Educator Preparation Report as presented.

PSC ACTION: Approved

LaGrange College

MOTION: (Muns / Miller) To deny the request made by LaGrange College to postpone its currently scheduled onsite review from the fall of 2007 to the fall of 2008.

PSC ACTION: Approved

VII. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

The Executive Secretary presented the following:

A. Initiation of rulemaking for Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation

MOTION: (Greenway / Vasconcelos) To initiate rulemaking procedures in accordance with the Georgia Administrative procedures Act so as to provide for (1) repealing the current rules in Chapter 505-3 (Educator Preparation), effective April 15, 2007, as follows: 505-3-.58 and 505-3-.73; and (2) adopting new rules in Chapter 505-3 (Educator Preparation), effective April 15, 2007, as follows: 505-3-.58 and 505-3-.73..

PSC ACTION: Approved

B. Dr. Fran Watkins, Director of Educator Preparation, presented the “Revisions to Georgia’s Plan for Title II, Part A, Reaching and Maintaining the Goal of 100% Highly Qualified Teachers”.

C. Dr. Toth announced that the Joint Education Boards Liaison Committee (JEBLC) will meet on January 29th in Atlanta. Following the meeting, a reception for all of the members of state education boards, the Governor, all of the education agency heads, and the leadership of the legislative education committees will be held at 6:00 PM and all commissioners are invited to attend.

D. Dr. Fran Watkins introduced two new staff members that have joined her division as Education Staff Specialists. They were Charita Danley and Linda Holloman.

E. Rick Eiserman gave a powerpoint presentation titled “Did you Know” addressing technological and geographical changes impacting education at the December 2006 commission meeting. He informed the commissioners that he was not able to obtain permission to give copies of this presentation to the commissioners.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wilkes called for the meeting to be adjourned at 10:35 am..

PSC ACTION: Approved

