

MINUTES
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION
Two Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia
March 12, 2009

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, March 12, 2009, at 9 a.m.

Members Present

Penny Benton	Joy Hawkins	Dr. Ed Smith
Julia Bernath	Stephanie Haynes	Jeannie Tucker
Dr. Maria Bradley	Dr. Mary Outlaw	Dr. Hester Vasconcelos
Sallie Bullock	Rose Powell	Dr. Debbie Wilkes
Stephen Dartt	Dr. Craig Smith	

Members Absent

Dr. Louisa Moffitt	Pamela Greenway
Emily Jennette	Al George

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. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Wilkes called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Bradley / Vasconcelos) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Wilkes called for approval of the minutes from the February 12, 2009, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION: **Approved**

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Chair Wilkes recognized the visitors.

- Samantha Trevitt, GaTAPP Ambassador
- Melanie Moore, GaTAPP Ambassador
- Susan Barclay, GaTAPP Ambassador
- Andre Mountain, GaTAPP Ambassador
- Jennifer Bohler, GaTAPP Ambassador
- Steve Smith, GaTAPP Ambassador
- Louis Brown
- Debrae Kennedy
- Bill Ware, GACTE
- John Hooper, Georgia School Superintendents Association
- Margaret Elliott, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Rosie Shellman
- Lois Carlisle

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V. EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

Chair Wilkes presented Langston Jackson with a 5 Year Service Award and Kelly said the following: Langston is often referred to as Langston Hughes (the noted poet and author) by so many of our customers/Educators, currently works as an In-Take Technician with the Application side of the Ethics Department. (Side Note: His name was inspired by Langston Hughes, as Mr. Hughes was the favorite poet of his mother and grandmother, both educators.)

Langston's career as a public servant began while attending college. From 1999 to 2003, he worked for the United States Department of Education. In 2004, he began his career with the state of Georgia as a Program Assistant with the Department of Administrative Services (DOAS). After a year with DOAS, he was hired with the PSC as an Evaluation and Information Specialist.

Langston has been with the Ethics Department for a year. Coming from the Certification Department, he has bridged the gap between the Investigative Department and the Certification Department.

He speaks certification as well as several other languages. Given the fact that he is a Millennium Baby in a Department full of Baby Boomers, he speaks computers (which are a God send to some of us). He speaks popular culture, meaning he has the ability to help Investigators with interviewing students and 20 something educators. Finally, in his free time, he helps some of us Boomers with our I-PODs and other such gadgets we can't operate.

VI. COMMISSIONER SERVICE AWARDS

Chair Wilkes presented Maria Miller with pictures of the Georgia State Capitol and her framed photograph. Chair Wilkes and Kelly Henson thanked Maria for her service to the Commission and Maria thanked everyone for having had the opportunity to serve on the Commission. Maria served on the Commission from August 30, 2001 to December 11, 2008.

VII. RECOGNITION OF GATAPP AMBASSADORS

Chair Wilkes introduced the Georgia TAPP Ambassadors. They represent the best of non-traditionally prepared teachers in Georgia's classrooms. GaTAPP Ambassadors, among other responsibilities:

- Serve as representatives of and ambassadors for the GA TAPP program.
- Share personal teaching experiences at professional conferences, community forums, and various service organization meetings to publicize the GA TAPP program locally, regionally and statewide.
- Positively impact the teaching profession by serving as role models for the non-traditional preparation program.

Kelly introduced the GaTAPP Ambassadors:

Steve Smith - He completed the GA TAPP Program at the Heart of Georgia RESA

- Taught math, technology, journalism and economics at his alma mater, Bleckley County High School, where he was named Teacher of the Year in 2006 and served as teacher representative on the School Council.
- Last year, his Economics EOCT scores were the highest of any school in the Heart of Georgia RESA district.
- Steve was recently named Superintendent-elect for Wilcox County and will begin serving July 1, 2009

Andre Mountain – He completed Wesleyan/Bibb College GaTAPP Program

- He received the *Exemplary Teachers Scholarship for Graduate Studies, 9/03* awarded to teachers who provide innovative learning experiences for elementary students.
- Mountain is a 5th grade language arts teacher at Monte Sano Elementary, and the only male teacher at the school.
- In 2008 he was the Teacher of the Year for Monte Sano and went on to become a Teacher of the Year finalist for Richmond County.

Both Steve and Andre spoke briefly about their GA TAPP experience.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Ethics and Professional Conduct --Recommendations and Actions on Cases

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

1. Ms. Miller reported that the Committee reviewed 37 *Probable Cause* cases during its March 11, 2009, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

#	CASE #	Applicant	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
1	08-7-98	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report	REPRIMAND
2	08-7-105	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	NPC
3	08-8-194	APPLICANT	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	REPRIMAND
4	08-10-479	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	EXTEND PENDING OUTCOME OF CRIMINAL CASE
5	08-11-560	APPLICANT	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	DENIAL
6	08-12-625	APPLICANT	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	DENIAL

#	CASE #	Applicant	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
7	08-12-649	APPLICANT	Misrepresentation or Falsification Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct Action Taken In Another State	REPRIMAND
8	09-1-721	APPLICANT	Criminal Acts	REPRIMAND
9	09-1-728	APPLICANT	Criminal Acts	REPRIMAND
10	09-1-730	APPLICANT	Misrepresentation or Falsification Action Taken In Another State	DENIAL
11	09-1-766	APPLICANT	Criminal Acts	REPRIMAND
12	08-9-290	Property Rights	Misrepresentation or Falsification Public Funds and Property	NPC
13	08-9-291	Property Rights	Misrepresentation or Falsification Public Funds and Property	NPC
14	08-9-295	Property Rights	Misrepresentation or Falsification Public Funds and Property Improper Remunerative Conduct	NPC
15	08-10-385	Property Rights	Public Funds and Property Improper Remunerative Conduct Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 20 CONTRACT DAYS
16	08-10-402	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 5 CONTRACT DAYS
17	08-10-405	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	REPRIMAND
18	08-10-410	Property Rights	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 90 CONTRACT DAYS
19	08-10-411	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 1 YEAR
20	08-10-456	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	REPRIMAND
21	08-10-468	Property Rights	Criminal Acts	EXTEND PENDING OUTCOME OF CRIMINAL CASE
22	08-10-494	Property Rights	Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 2 YEARS
23	08-11-515	Property Rights	Abandonment of Contract Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 90 CONTRACT DAYS
24	08-11-580	Property Rights	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	NPC
25	08-11-597	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	NPC
26	08-11-598	Property Rights	Professional Conduct 20-2-204 – Parapro. & permitted personnel	EXTEND PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION UNTIL MAY 14, 2009
27	08-11-599	Property Rights	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 3 CONTRACT DAYS
28	08-11-601	Property Rights	Misrepresentation or Falsification Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 1 YEAR

#	CASE #	Applicant	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
29	08-11-602	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make A Required Report Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 90 CONTRACT DAYS
30	08-11-603	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make A Required Report Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 90 CONTRACT DAYS
31	08-11-604	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make A Required Report Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 90 CONTRACT DAYS
32	08-12-621	Property Rights	Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct Other Good and Sufficient Cause	SUSPEND - 1 YEAR
33	08-12-627	Property Rights	Public Funds and Property Confidential Information Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 10 CONTRACT DAYS
34	08-12-630	Property Rights	Misrepresentation or Falsification	SUSPEND - 20 CONTRACT DAYS
35	08-12-642	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct Other Good and Sufficient Cause	SUSPEND - 2 YEARS
36	08-12-643	Property Rights	Abuse of Students	NPC
37	09-1-739	Property Rights	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	SUSPEND - 20 CONTRACT DAYS

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

CASE #	STANDARDS VIOLATED	PROBABLE CAUSE SANCTION	ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE SANCTION	RECOMMENDATION
07-10-297	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension - 30 Contract Days	Suspension - 5 Contract Days	Accept
08-4-1096	Professional Conduct	Suspension - 45 Contract Days	Suspension - 15 Contract Days	Accept

3. Mr. Dartt reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 1 *Petitions Issue* and brought the following recommendation on behalf of the Committee:

CASE NUMBER	REQUEST	PREVIOUS SANCTION	PREVIOUS VIOLATION	RECOMMENDATION
09-1-764	Right to Reapply	Revoked: 1996	Ms. Conrad was involved in an inappropriate, romantic and physical relationship with a student.	Deny

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4. Mr. Dartt reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 8 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

#	CASE NUMBER	SANCTION	RECOMMENDATION
1	08-5-1251	Suspension - 5 Contract Days (May 1, 2008 - May 7, 2008)	Accept
2	08-5-1361	Suspension - 10 Contract Days (April 13, 2009 - April 24, 2009)	Accept
3	08-9-287	Suspension - 1 Year (March 30, 2009 - March 30, 2010)	Accept
4	08-9-321	Reprimand	Accept
5	08-9-333	Reprimand	Accept
6	08-10-415	Suspension - 5 Contract Days (Retroactive) (Sept. 25, 2008 – Oct. 2, 2008)	Accept
7	08-10-449	Reprimand	Accept
8	08-11-568	Reprimand	Accept

5. Mr. Dartt reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 16 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

CASE #	STANDARDS VIOLATED	PROBABLE CAUSE SANCTION	NEGOTIATED SANCTION	RECOMMENDATION
06-6-1343	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Revocation	Revocation Effective Date Feb. 12, 2009	Accept
06-9-264	Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct	Suspend - 1 Year	Suspension - 45 Contract Days (March 23, 2009 - May 29, 2009)	Accept
06-10-380	Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	Reprimand	Reprimand	Accept
06-10-409	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension - 20 Contract Days	Suspension - 20 Contract Days (March 30, 2009 - May 1, 2009)	Accept
06-12-667	Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct Action Taken in Another State	Suspend - 1 Year	Suspension - 2 Months (6/5/09 - 07/31/09)	Reject
07-1-861	Professional Conduct	Suspension - 20 Contract Days	Suspension - 7 Contract Days (2 days credit - system suspension) (March 30, 2009 - April 3, 2009)	Accept
07-5-1275	Abuse of Students Improper Remunerative Conduct Professional Conduct	Reprimand	No Probable Cause	Accept
08-1-720	Abuse of Students	Suspend - 1 Year	Suspension - 5 Contract Days	Accept

CASE #	STANDARDS VIOLATED	PROBABLE CAUSE SANCTION	NEGOTIATED SANCTION	RECOMMENDATION
	Professional Conduct		(March 30, 2009 - April 3, 2009)	
08-1-731	Professional Conduct	Suspension - 90 Contract Days	Suspension - 30 Contract Days (March 30, 2009 - May 15, 2009)	Accept
08-5-1253	Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	Suspend - 1 Year	Suspension - 1 Year (Part Retroactive) (July 1, 2008 - July 1, 2009)	Accept
08-5-1279	Professional Conduct	Reprimand	No Probable Cause	Accept
08-5-1315	Abuse of Students Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	Suspend - 1 Year	Suspension - 15 Contract Days (Retroactive) (Sept. 22, 2008 - Oct. 10, 2008)	Reject
08-6-1410	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspend - 1 Year	Suspension - 1 Year (Part Retroactive) (May 29, 2008 - May 29, 2009)	Accept
08-6-1501	Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct Action Taken in Another State	Revocation	Suspension - 9 Months (3 Months Retro-Unemployment 5/5/08 - 07/31/08) (Next 6 months - 6/1/09 - 12/1/09)	Reject
08-6-1559	Confidential Information	Suspension - 90 Contract Days	Suspension - 10 Contract Days (2 days credit - system suspension) (April 15, 2009 - April 24, 2009)	Reject
08-7-81	Criminal Acts	Revocation	No Probable Cause	Reject

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the ***Preliminary Investigative Determination Report*** consisting of 71 new complaints received during the months of February and March 2009.

7. **EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 33 Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations consisting of the following:

#	CASE #	Complaint Received	#	CASE #	Complaint Received
1	09-2-846	1/23/2009	18	09-2-863	2/4/2009
2	09-2-847	1/29/2009	19	09-2-864	2/4/2009
3	09-2-848	1/29/2009	20	09-2-865	2/4/2009
4	09-2-849	1/30/2009	21	09-2-866	2/5/2009
5	09-2-850	1/30/2009	22	09-2-867	2/2/2009
6	09-2-851	1/30/2009	23	09-2-868	2/5/2009
7	09-2-852	2/2/2009	24	09-2-869	2/5/2009
8	09-2-853	2/2/2009	25	09-2-870	2/5/2009
9	09-2-854	2/3/2009	26	09-2-871	2/5/2009
10	09-2-855	2/3/2009	27	09-2-872	2/5/2009
11	09-2-856	2/3/2009	28	09-2-873	2/5/2009
12	09-2-857	2/3/2009	29	09-2-874	2/6/2009
13	09-2-858	2/3/2009	30	09-2-875	2/9/2009
14	09-2-859	2/3/2009	31	09-2-876	2/9/2009
15	09-2-860	2/3/2009	32	09-2-877	2/9/2009
16	09-2-861	2/4/2009	33	09-2-878	2/9/2009

#	CASE #	Complaint Received	#	CASE #	Complaint Received
17	09-2-862	2/4/2009			

8. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting and *Investigative Extension* to the following 40 Written Complaint cases and 19 Application Extension cases:

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS:

07-11-383	07-12-607	08-7-31	08-10-397	08-11-522	08-12-641	08-10-459	08-12-664
08-3-1050	08-3-847	08-8-217	08-10-398	08-11-578	08-12-670	08-10-463	08-12-693
08-6-1550	08-12-634	08-10-387	08-10-460	08-11-600	08-12-671	08-11-574	08-11-523
08-10-471	08-12-681	08-10-395	08-11-520	08-12-628	08-9-312	08-11-596	08-11-592
08-12-655	08-12-682	08-10-396	08-11-521	08-12-629	08-10-453	08-12-624	08-12-620

APPLICATION CASE EXTENSIONS:

08-9-317	08-11-540	08-11-575	09-1-779	09-1-815	09-1-822	09-1-833
08-9-336	08-11-555	08-12-652	09-1-780	09-1-818	09-1-823	
08-10-425	08-11-562	09-1-776	09-1-781	09-1-821	09-1-831	

9. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 29 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

10. REVIEW HEARING EXTENSIONS

The Commission reviewed the *Review Hearing Extensions Report* concerning 2 hearing cases. An Administrative Law Judge rendered Initial Decisions on each case referenced in the report. The report indicates Orders were issued.

11. STUDENT LOAN SUSPENSION / REINSTATEMENTS

The Committee reviewed the Student Finance Commission Report concerning educators in which notification has been received to suspend certificates for default on repayment of student loans. The report indicated that there were 8 certificates suspended from February 12, 2009 through March 12, 2009.

The Committee was also advised that there were 10 certificates that had been reinstated because restitution is now being made on those student loans.

The Committee was also advised that there were 5 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.

12. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Committee reviewed the report, which advised of 19 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. The report also advised the Committee that there were 1 cases closed without an appeal for a review hearing before the Commission.

Chair Wilkes called for approval of the report as presented excluding the following Preliminary Investigative Determination Case #09-2-871 and 09-2-914:

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Julia Bernath-Preliminary Investigative Determinations Case # 09-2-874, 09-2-910, Probable Cause Case # 08-10-385/Jeanne Tucker-Initial Decision Case # 07-10-297

CASE # 09-2-871

MOTION: (Powell / Bradley) To change the PSC staff recommendation from Investigate to No Probable Cause.

ACTION: Approved

Case #09-2-914

MOTION: (Bradley / Tucker) To change the language to “The educator, a school system superintendent, has allegedly failed to enforce Georgia Law and the regulations and rules of the Professional Standards Commission and the local board of education” and to investigate this case.

ACTION: Approved

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

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

Agency/Institution	Approval Recommendation
Gordon College	The Commission determined that progress is satisfactory on Standards 4, 5 and 6; areas for improvement remain and are to be addressed in the Preparation Approval Annual Report (PAAR) by November 15, 2009.
Agency/Institution	Approval Recommendation
University System of Georgia Collaborative	The Commission granted Developmental Approval for the online Math and Science Education M.A.T. programs for each institution listed below. Areas for improvement remain and are to be addressed in the Preparation Approval Annual Report (PAAR) by November 15, 2009. Columbus State University Georgia Southern University Kennesaw State University University of West Georgia Valdosta State University
Spelman College	The Commission granted an extension of one year of the PSC/NCATE Continuing Approval Review from Fall 2010 to Fall 2011. (Spelman College is also requesting an extension from NCATE.)

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Chair Wilkes Called for approval of the Educator Preparation Report as presented by Dr. Craig Smith.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IX. REVIEW HEARINGS

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Rosie Shellman | - Educator (Case # 06-8-56) |
| Joan Roach | - Hearing Officer |
| Debrae Kennedy | - PSC Attorney |

MOTION: (C. Smith / Vasconcelos) To go into Executive Session and allow PSC staff and Attorney (Gary Walker, Tanis Miller, Lisa Hartzler and Penny Hannah) to remain.

ACTION: Approved

MOTION: (Tucker / Benton) To come out of Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Session.

ACTION: Approved

MOTION: (Powell / Tucker) To adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law reached by the Administrative Law Judge. The Decision of the Administrative Law Judge as indicated in the Initial Decision was hereby adopted and incorporated by reference herein and made the Final Decision of the Commission with the following specification. The Commission hereby ORDERED that the Georgia educator certificate held by ROSIE SHELLAN be Revoked effective March 12, 2009.

PSC ACTION: Approved

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2. Lois Carlisle | - Educator (Case # 07-12-478) |
| Joan Roach | - Hearing Officer |
| Penny Hannah | - PSC Attorney |

MOTION: (Powell / Bernath) To go into Executive Session and allow PSC staff (Gary Walker, Tanis Miller and Lisa Hartzler) to remain.

ACTION: Approved

MOTION: (E. Smith / Benton) To come out of Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Session.

ACTION: Approved

MOTION: (Vasconcelos / Bradley) To adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law reached by the Administrative Law Judge. The decision of the Administrative Law Judge to Deny the application filed by Lois Carlisle as indicated in the Initial Decision was hereby adopted with the following language deletion:

~~Notwithstanding, the undersigned finds that based on all the facts and circumstances presented, the time period for re-application prescribed by Rule 505-6-.02(1)(b) should be shortened to 3 months from the date of the Final Decision in this matter. Any decision on a new application for certification shall rest in the discretion of the PSC; provided, however, that such discretion shall not be abused. Should the PSC deny Petitioner's subsequent application, Petitioner may request a hearing to contest that decision.~~

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The Commission hereby ORDERED that the application filed by LOIS CARLISLE for a Georgia educator certificate be DENIED effective March 12, 2009. All requirements prescribed by Rule 505-6-.02(1)(b) shall apply. Ms. Carlisle will become eligible to Petition for the Right to Reapply for a Georgia educator certificate two years from the effective date of this Final Order. If the Respondent decides to appeal this decision, he/she must file a petition within 30 days after service of this Final Decision pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-13-19.

PSC ACTION: Approved

X. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

The Executive Secretary presented the following:

A. Legislative Review – Kelly gave the commissioners a “Bill Status Chart” and spoke briefly on the House Bills and their status.

B. Master Teacher-Ethics Cases - We had agreed that PSC staff would make determinations on whether or not an educator with a warning or reprimand would be allowed to apply for Master Teacher. We also agreed that educators with revocations would not be allowed to apply, and that educators with suspensions would be brought to the Commission for a decision. The 5 educators listed below would like to apply for Master Teacher:

Educator A – All three cases involved student loans and all three were resolved within a matter of a few days after the educator was notified. If the procedures we use today were applied to this educator’s cases, no sanction would be given.

Recommendation: Allow educator to apply for Master Teacher.

Educator B – The case was a student loan. This was resolved the same day the educator was notified. If the procedures we use today were applied to this educator’s case no sanction would be given.

Recommendation: Allow educator to apply for Master Teacher.

Educator C – This educator has a pending ethics case.

Recommendation: Do not allow this educator to apply for Master Teacher at this time

Educator D – This case involved Abandonment of Contract. The educator left a private school for employment in a public school. The educator felt that she had been granted a verbal release by the principal, but the head of school and governing board denied the release. The educator has an exemplary record in the public school system since this case was seen by the Commission in 2001.

Recommendation: Allow educator to apply for Master Teacher.

Educator E – This was a testing case. The educator developed an ITBS practice sheet that mirrored the actual test. The practice test questions were developed from notes from a previous test (these notes were based on student recall). There was no test administration training provided (This case came from school year 2000-2001). The study sheet did not appear to have helped students (based on a comparison of scores) but it did violate the “mirror items” testing protocol. The school district informs us that this is an excellent educator.

Recommendation: Allow educator to apply for Master Teacher.

MOTION: (Bernath / Tucker) To accept the PSC staff recommendations regarding allowing the 5 educators presented to us to apply for Master Teacher.

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ACTION: Approved

C. Phil Blackwell introduced the certification rules for initiation:

MOTION: (Hawkins / C. Smith) To amend the current rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective June 15, 2009, as follows: 505-2-.96.

ACTION: Approved

Gary Walker introduced the educator ethics rules for initiation:

MOTION: (Vasconcelos / Bradley) To amend the current rules for Chapter 505-6 Educator Ethics, effective June 15, 2009, as follows: 505-6-.01.

ACTION: Approved

XI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Wilkes presented the following announced that the next Commission meeting will be held on April 9, 2009 at 9 am at Two Peachtree Street, 5th floor boardroom, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wilkes called for the meeting to be adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved