

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Piedmont Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia

March 13, 2013

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, March 13, 2013, at 12:30 p.m.

Members Present

Julia Bernath	David Johnson	Sheryl Stalvey
Alice Clements	Scott Justus	Bettina Polite Tate
Dr. Penny Elkins	Stephanie Leggett	Dr. Lawrence Walters
Dr. Adrian Epps	Kamila Luigs	Pam Walker
Bill Haskin	Christy McGill	Pam Williams

Members Absent

Valerie Williams	Phil Jacobs
Heath Garrett	

I. WORK SESSION

- a) Dr. David Hill previewed 505-3-.60 Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership Program. Although a decision was made at the February 14, 2013, to hold on presenting Rule 505-3-.60 for initiation at the March 14, 2013, the Commissioners made the decision to initiate Rule 505-3-.60 in order to receive public comment.
- b) Anne Marie Fenton previewed rules for initiation and adoption. The Commission received a rules packet last Thursday and they are on their desktop. On January 10, 2013, the Commission initiated the following 3 rules, which are being brought to them for their consideration of adopting.

Educator Preparation

505-3-.16 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM - amend

It is proposed that Rule 505-3-.16 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM, dated December 15, 2006, be AMENDED. The change updates language to reflect a change in the title of the Reading Endorsement Program.

505-3-.47 READING SPECIALIST EDUCATION PROGRAM – rescind and adopt

It is proposed that Rule 505-3-.47 READING SPECIALIST EDUCATION PROGRAM, dated November 15, 2005, be RESCINDED and that a new rule with the same number and title be ADOPTED. The change involves the adoption of the International Reading Association Standards for Reading Professionals 2010.

505-3-.75 READING ENDORSEMENT: CLASSROOM TEACHER OF READING – rescind and adopt with new name (Reading Endorsement Program)

It is proposed that Rule 505-3-.75, READING ENDORSEMENT: CLASSROOM TEACHER OF READING, dated November 15, 2005, be RESCINDED and that a new rule with the same number be ADOPTED. The change involves the adoption of the International Reading Association Standards for Reading Professionals 2010 and includes a rule title change for consistency with other endorsement program titles.

INITIATION

The following 6 rules are being brought to the Commission for their consideration in initiating:

Certification:

505-2-.02 CLASSIFICATION – CATEGORY, TITLE, TYPE, FIELD, LEVEL

It is proposed this rule be AMENDED to include the newly proposed Educational Interpreter License and to revise language for consistency.

505-2-.25 ADD A FIELD TO AN EXISTING CERTIFICATE

It is proposed this rule be AMENDED to limit the fields in which educators can add a field to an existing certificate by passing the state-approved content assessment and to revise how teaching fields can be added to service field certificates.

505-2-.43 EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETER LICENSE

It is proposed this new rule be INITIATED to provide guidance and outline requirements for the issuance of the Educational Interpreter License which is a type of certification document for individuals who serve as sign language interpreters in Georgia schools.

505-2-.44 GEORGIA EDUCATOR ASSESSMENT

It is proposed this new rule be INITIATED to outline assessment requirements for educators seeking renewable and non-renewable certification in Georgia. This rule provides clarification regarding the criteria for the Georgia Professional Standards Commission's (GaPSC) acceptance of the state-approved Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators (GACE), previous state-approved assessment programs, and assessments for fields in which a GACE does not exist. Reference information for assessment requirements to be considered highly qualified is provided.

Educator Preparation

505-3-.26 MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION PROGRAM

It is proposed that 505-3-.26 MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION PROGRAM, dated November 15, 2005, be RESCINDED, and that a new rule with the same name and number be INITIATED. An area of Substantive change for Middle Grades Reading is the adoption of new standards by the International Reading Association for Reading Professionals, 2010. The area of substantive change for Middle Grades Science is the adoption of the National Science Teacher Association Standards 2011.

505-3-.60 ALTERNATIVE PREPARATION FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

It is proposed this new rule be INITIATED to outline educator preparation program requirements for alternative preparation for school leaders.

c) Tom Higgins gave the Commission an update on Race to the Top. All Commissioners received a hand-out with a brief recap on the following topics: Induction Support for Teachers and Principals, Career Ladder, Teacher and Leader Preparation Program Effectiveness Measures, Alternative Preparation for Principals (Building Leaders), Tiered Certification for Teachers).

d) Kristina Stroede provided a legislative summary, highlighting the status of the following House education-related bills: 35, 512, 123, 211, 244, 245, 283, 327, and 354.

e) Paul Shaw, Director of Educator Ethics, advised the Commission that he sent several investigators to a class on detecting lies on written statements.

f) Chair Elkins congratulated Paul Shaw for receiving the Distinguished Service Award by the American Association of School Administrators. He was recognized for bringing honor to himself, his colleagues and his

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profession; rendering exemplary service to their state or national professional association; and contributing to the education field through writing, public advocacy, or other activities.

g) Chair Elkins also mentioned that she will not be able to attend the April Commission meeting. Julia Bernath will Chair that meeting.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Elkins called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and a moment of silence.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Dr. Elkins called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Pam Williams / Lawrence Walters) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Elkins called for approval of the minutes from the February 14, 2013, Commission meeting.

MOTION: (Pam Williams / Lawrence Walters) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. VISITORS

Chair Dr. Elkins welcomed the visitors.

- Margaret Elliott, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Linda Fortson, Warren Fortson Law Office
- Tayia Donald, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Chair Pam Walker of the Educator Ethics Review Committee (EERC), gave a preliminary review of the Cases.

1. Ms. Walker reported that the Committee reviewed 35 **Probable Cause** cases during its March 14, 2013, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-10-450	1	Deny
12-10-451	10	Reprimand
12-10-462	1	Deny
12-10-468	1, 4, 9	Reprimand
12-10-472	1	Deny
11-9-360	4,7,9,10,DOE	Revoke
11-9-423	4,7,9,10,DOE	Revoke
11-11-552	2,10	Revoke
12-1-725	3,10	Suspension - 1 year
12-1-747	1, 4, 5, 10	Suspension - 20 days
12-2-888	2, 10	Revoke
12-3-1064	5, 10	Suspension - 20 days
12-3-1065	5, 10	Suspension - 20 days
12-4-1138	4, 10, 11	Suspension - 1 year
12-4-1149	9,10	Suspension - 90 days
12-5-1250	2, 10	Suspension - 90 days
12-5-1263	7,10,11,DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-6-1286	4,5,10	Suspension - 10 days
12-6-1287	4, 10, 11	Suspension - 2 years
12-7-065	4, 10	Reprimand
12-7-066	4, 10	Suspension - 5 days
12-7-069	9,10	NPC
12-7-070	9, 10	Suspension - 90 days
12-9-376	10	NPC
12-9-380	7, 10	Suspension - 5 days
12-10-452	1, 4, 9	Revoke
12-10-454	1	Criminal Ext
12-10-484	2,10	Criminal Ext
12-11-491	1,4,9	Reprimand
12-11-498	10, 11	Reprimand
12-11-520	5, 10	Suspension - 1 year
12-11-543	2,10	Revoke
12-11-559	10	Suspension - 90 days
12-12-564	1, 2, 10, Other	Revoke
12-12-601	1,2,10	Revoke

2. Ms. Walker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 3 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-8-297	Reprimand	Accept
12-9-384	Suspension - 10 days	Accept
12-10-435	Suspension - 5 days	Accept

3. Ms. Walker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 6 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
11-10-522	Suspension - 10 days	Accept
11-11-554	No Probable Cause	Accept
11-12-691 & 12-01-744	Suspension - 1 year (combined)	Accept
12-2-841	Suspension - 5 days	Accept
12-5-1199	No Probable Cause	Accept
12-5-1247	Warning	Accept

4. OTHER BUSINESS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Other Business Report* as follows:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>FINDINGS OF FACT FROM THE ORIGINAL CASE</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
PCE 12-2-831	Hold New App - Close case due to non-service on educator.	Accept
PID 12-12-612	Expand investigation	Expand
12-9-375	Requesting a (1) year suspension to begin on May 28, 2013 at the conclusion of the 2012 school year.	Accept
PID 13-3-825	Inappropriate relationship and alcohol to student.	Investigate
PID 12-11-541	Expand investigation	Expand
PCE 12-7-163	Set aside current Final Order and reopen case to grant educator a hearing.	Accept

5. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 59 new complaints received during the months of February and March

2013.

6. VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of 3 Voluntary Surrenders listed below in which an Educator/Applicant voluntarily accepted a sanction of Revocation or Denial prior to the submission of an investigative case summary for a Probable Cause Determination.

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-12-630	2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
13-1-715	1, 2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
13-2-751	2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

7. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of 76 Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations listed below:

13-1-716	13-2-726	13-2-752	13-2-762	13-3-828	13-3-838	13-3-848	13-3-858
13-1-717	13-2-727	13-2-753	13-2-763	13-3-829	13-3-839	13-3-849	13-3-859
13-1-718	13-2-734	13-2-754	13-2-764	13-3-830	13-3-840	13-3-850	13-3-860
13-1-719	13-2-737	13-2-755	13-2-765	13-3-831	13-3-841	13-3-851	13-3-861
13-1-720	13-2-738	13-2-756	13-2-766	13-3-832	13-3-842	13-3-852	13-3-862
13-2-721	13-2-739	13-2-757	13-2-767	13-3-833	13-3-843	13-3-853	13-3-863
13-2-722	13-2-740	13-2-758	13-2-801	13-3-834	13-3-844	13-3-854	
13-2-723	13-2-742	13-2-759	13-2-802	13-3-835	13-3-845	13-3-855	
13-2-724	13-2-746	13-2-760	13-3-826	13-3-836	13-3-846	13-3-856	
13-2-725	13-2-747	13-2-761	13-3-827	13-3-837	13-3-847	13-3-857	

8. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 259 cases:

10-9-331	11-9-456	12-3-1031	12-6-1295	12-7-167	12-9-382	12-11-523	12-12-586
10-12-553	11-9-457	12-3-1032	12-6-1301	12-7-207	12-9-383	12-11-524	12-12-590
10-12-562	11-9-458	12-3-1044	12-6-1305	12-7-211	12-10-413	12-11-525	12-12-591
11-6-1192	11-9-459	12-3-1049	12-6-1328	12-7-216	12-10-419	12-11-529	12-12-592
11-6-1227	11-11-561	12-4-1120	12-6-1329	12-7-218	12-10-425	12-11-530	12-12-593
11-7-97	11-11-589	12-4-1133	12-6-1330	12-8-227	12-10-429	12-11-531	12-12-594
11-8-119	11-11-598	12-4-1137	12-6-1331	12-8-228	12-10-430	12-11-536	12-12-595
11-8-130	11-11-600	12-4-1140	12-7-7	12-8-238	12-10-432	12-11-537	12-12-597
11-8-142	11-11-603	12-4-1141	12-7-11	12-8-239	12-10-433	12-11-538	12-12-599
11-8-200	11-12-702	12-4-1144	12-7-12	12-8-240	12-10-434	12-11-539	12-12-600
11-9-284	11-12-710	12-4-1147	12-7-38	12-8-243	12-10-441	12-11-540	12-12-603
11-9-298	12-1-733	12-4-1150	12-7-48	12-8-259	12-10-444	12-11-541	12-12-606

11-9-304	12-1-738	12-4-1151	12-7-71	12-8-260	12-10-446	12-11-542	12-12-607
11-9-337	12-1-749	12-4-1159	12-7-72	12-8-261	12-10-465	12-11-545	12-12-608
11-9-343	12-1-764	12-5-1178	12-7-74	12-8-263	12-10-467	12-11-547	12-12-610
11-9-355	12-2-827	12-5-1203	12-7-75	12-8-264	12-10-475	12-11-548	12-12-612
11-9-358	12-2-831	12-5-1210	12-7-76	12-8-266	12-10-477	12-11-549	12-12-613
11-9-359	12-2-837	12-5-1216	12-7-77	12-8-267	12-10-478	12-11-552	12-12-614
11-9-391	12-2-838	12-5-1232	12-7-79	12-8-269	12-10-480	12-11-554	12-12-617
11-9-392	12-2-843	12-5-1237	12-7-80	12-8-278	12-10-482	12-11-555	12-12-621
11-9-394	12-2-854	12-5-1241	12-7-81	12-8-294	12-11-487	12-11-556	12-12-622
11-9-396	12-2-856	12-5-1244	12-7-86	12-8-296	12-11-493	12-11-557	12-12-623
11-9-397	12-2-885	12-5-1246	12-7-89	12-8-299	12-11-503	12-12-561	12-12-626
11-9-398	12-2-891	12-5-1251	12-7-96	12-8-302	12-11-505	12-12-565	12-12-627
11-9-399	12-2-894	12-5-1259	12-7-98	12-8-304	12-11-507	12-12-566	12-12-628
11-9-401	12-2-896	12-5-1261	12-7-111	12-9-336	12-11-508	12-12-567	13-1-664
11-9-402	12-2-901	12-5-1266	12-7-112	12-9-343	12-11-510	12-12-570	13-1-665
11-9-418	12-3-942	12-5-1270	12-7-121	12-9-346	12-11-512	12-12-573	13-1-668
11-9-419	12-3-972	12-5-1278	12-7-129	12-9-357	12-11-514	12-12-575	
11-9-420	12-3-974	12-5-1280	12-7-131	12-9-358	12-11-515	12-12-578	
11-9-421	12-3-978	12-6-1288	12-7-144	12-9-359	12-11-516	12-12-582	
11-9-424	12-3-1019	12-6-1289	12-7-153	12-9-363	12-11-518	12-12-583	
11-9-455	12-3-1026	12-6-1290	12-7-155	12-9-374	12-11-519	12-12-584	

9. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 16 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

10. STUDENT LOAN SUSPENSION / REINSTATEMENTS

The Commission reviewed the report, which indicated that there were no certificates suspended from February 14, 2013 through March 14, 2013. There were no certificates that had been *reinstated* because restitution is now being made on those student loans.

11. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 8 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. The report also advised that there were 6 cases closed without an appeal for a review hearing before the Commission.

Chair Elkins called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Pam Walkerilliams excluding case # 12-3-953.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Kami Luigs – 11-9-360, 11-9-233, 11-8-423, Pam Williams – 13-2-777, Lawrence Walters – 13-2-791

Probable Cause Case # 12-9-376

MOTION: (Scott Justus / Dr. Adrian Epps) To change the EERC's recommendation of a No Probable Cause to a Warning.

PSC ACTION: Approved

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Opposed: Bettina Tate

Probable Cause Case # 12-11-559

MOTION: (Julia Bernath / Christy McGill) To accept the EERC's recommendation of a 90 Day Suspension.

PSC ACTION: Approved

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

Committee Chair, Dr. Adrian Epps, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

EPP	Approval Decisions	Additional Action Required
Spelman College	The Commission grants Developmental Approval for the Education Program Provider (Initial).	No additional action requested.
The Commission grants Developmental Approval for Early Childhood Education, English Education, Foreign Language Education-Spanish, History Education, Mathematics Education, Science Education-Chemistry, Science Education-Physics, and Political Science Education Programs.	A Progress Report is due in 3 months showing the alignment to the English Education Standards and the Foreign Language-Spanish Education Standards.	
Bartow County School System	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for the ESOL Endorsement Program and the K-5 Mathematics Endorsement Program.	No additional action requested.
North Georgia RESA	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for the ESOL Endorsement Program.	No additional action requested.
Northeast Georgia RESA	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for the Teacher Leader Endorsement Program.	No additional action requested.
Middle Georgia RESA	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for the Coaching Endorsement Program and the Teacher Leader Endorsement Program.	No additional action requested.

<p>Reinhardt University</p>	<p>The Committee recommends that the Progress Report submitted November 19, 2012, indicates that progress is satisfactory in addressing the Standard 1 areas for improvement cited for the Middle Grades Education Program and English Education Program.</p>	<p>The Standard 1 areas for improvement listed below should be removed. Areas for Improvement: Standard 1 (Element a): Eighty percent of program completers in the Middle Grades Education program have not passed the academic content examinations required by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission for certification. Standard 1 (Element a): Eighty percent of program completers in the English Education program have not passed the academic content examinations required by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission for certification.</p>
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Chair Elkins called for approval of the Educator Preparation Committee report as presented by Chair Epps.

PSC ACTION: Approved

VII. RULES

Anne Marie Fenton presented the rules:

MOTION: (Dr. Adrian Epps / Sheryl Stalvey) To 1) amend the current rule in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective April 15, 2013, as follows: 505-3-.16; 2) rescind the current rules in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective April 15, 2013, as follows: 505-3-.47, and 505-3-.75; and 3) adopt the current rules in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective April 15, 2013, as follows: 505-3-.47, and 505-3-.75.

PSC ACTION: Approved

MOTION: (Pam Walker / Julia Bernath) To (1) amend the current rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective June 15, 2013, follows: 505-2-.25, and 505-2-.02; (2) initiating the current rule in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective June 15, 2013, follows: 505-2-.43, and 505-2-.44; (3) rescinding the current rule in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective June 15, 2013, as follows: 505-3-.26; and (4) initiating the current rules in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective June 15, 2013, as follows: 505-3-.26, and 505-3-.60.

PSC ACTION: Approved

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dr. Elkins called for the meeting to be adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved