

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Remote Meeting via TEAMS Platform

October 8, 2020

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, October 8, 2020.

Members Present

Jimmy Atkins	Jordan Frobos	Teri Schneider
Dr. Steve Barker	Scott Hollowell	Dr. Brandon Seigler
Jeanine Bunn	Dr. Karla Hull	Brian Sirmans
Daniel Dooley	Diane McClearen	Beth Townsend
Derek Easterling	Dr. Franklin Perry	Dr. Jennifer Wade
Barbara Ellingson	Dr. Holley Roberts	Carol Williams

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Sirmans called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and Commissioners answered roll call for attendance. All Commissioners were present.

II. VISITORS

Chair Sirmans welcomed the visitors.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Teri Schneider/Beth Townsend) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the minutes from the September 10, 2020, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Matt Arthur welcomed our newest Commissioner, Jordan Frobos. He spoke briefly about the Alternative Preparation for Educational Leaders Program. Julie Beck shared 2015 - 2019 data regarding the five EPPs approved to offer Alternative Preparation for Educational Leader Programs, along with a number of comparisons to traditional preparation programs in the Educator Preparation/Certification committee meeting. As stated in the purpose of rule 505-3-.76, adopted by the Commission in 2015, the number of programs approved by the Commission will be limited until sufficient program effectiveness data are available to determine effectiveness of the alternative preparation model. The committee recommended that Griffin RESA could seek approval as the 6th provider. The November agenda will include further discussion of the topic. Matt

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recognized both the Educator Preparation/Certification committee and the Educator Ethics Review committee and their work. Commissioners have to put in a considerable amount of time in preparing for their committee meeting and it is much appreciated. There was a lot of discussion in both committees on cases and programs that were seeking approval on Wednesday. These discussions are important as they help everyone to make more informed decisions on the work that comes before them.

VI. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Sirmans called upon the Commissioners that were recently appointed by Governor Kemp (Jimmy Atkins, Richmond County Board of Education, Dr. Brandon Seigler, Middle School Social Studies Department Chair at Woodward Academy and Offensive Line Football Coach, Dr. Holley Roberts, Interim Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Director of The Graduate School at Georgia College and State University, Carol Williams, a member of Coldwell Banker Upchurch Realty and a former school board member, Jordan Frobos, Academic Coach at Centennial Arts Academy, Gainesville City Schools) to introduce themselves.

VII. RULES INITIATION

Anne Marie Fenton presented the rules. She asked Commissioners to initiate rules that were previewed during the September 10th work session. There were no changes from your Initiate rules packet that was sent to you last Thursday. There are 11 Certification rules and 8 Educator Preparation Rules. As a reminder, many of the rule changes were due to removal of the words *Program Exit* from the name of the ethics assessment.

If initiated today, the rules will be posted for a 30 day public comment period and then come back to the Commission for adoption consideration at the December 10th Commission meeting, with an effective date of January 1, 2021. Commissioners were given an opportunity for Q&A on the rules that were presented.

MOTION: (Derek Easterling/Dr. Holley Roberts) To (1) amend the current rules in Chapter 505-2-Certification, effective January 1, 2021, as follows: 505-2-.08, 505-2-.10, 505-2-.11, 505-2-.33, 505-2-.42, 505-2-.45, 505-2-.87, 505-2-.90, 505-2-.153, and 505-2-.172; (2) initiate the current rules in Chapter 505-2-Certification, effective January 1, 2021, as follows: 505-2-.150; (3) amend the current rules in Chapter 505-3-Educator Preparation Rules, effective January 1, 2021, as follows: 505-3-.01, 505-3-.05, 505-3-.46, 505-3-.76, and 505-3-.77; (4) repeal the current rules in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective January 1, 2021, as follows: 505-3-.07, 505-3-.64, and 505-3-.95; and (5) initiate the current rules in Chapter 505-3-Educator Preparation Rules, effective January 1, 2021, as follows: 505-3-.64, and 505-3-.95.

PSC ACTION: Approved

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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

1. Chair Townsend reported that the Committee reviewed 39 *Probable Cause* cases during THE October 7,

2020, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

CASE	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
20-1-1050	1,4,5a7	NPC
20-5-1545	1,4,5a7	NPC
20-6-1687	1, 4,5a7	Reprimand
20-8-121	4, 9, 5a7	NPC
19-5-1562	1, 9, 5a7	Revoke
19-5-1670	2, 9, 5a7	NPC
19-9-352	1,2,4,9,5a7	Revoke
19-9-422	2, 9, 5a7	Reprimand
19-10-646	2,9,5a7	Reprimand
19-11-717	9, 5a7	NPC
19-11-729	2, 9	Suspension 10 days
20-2-1137	1, 2, 9, 5a7	Revoke
20-2-1149	1, 5, 9, 5a7	Revoke
20-2-1162	1, 2, 9, 5a7	Revoke
20-2-1164	2, 9, 5a7	Revoke
20-2-1174	5, 9, 5a7	NPC
20-2-1192	2, 9	Suspension 5 days
20-2-1198	9, 5a7	Suspension 20 days
20-4-1484	1,5a7	Revoke
20-6-1671	1, 8, 9, 5a7	Suspension 2 years
20-6-1673	1,4,5a7,8,9	NPC
20-6-1683	2, 9, 5a7	NPC
20-6-1711	1, 9, 5a7,	NPC
20-6-1726	2, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
20-6-1727	7,9,5a7	Suspension 20 days
20-7-8	2,9,5a7	Revoke
20-7-14	5a2, 5a5, 5a7	Suspension 90 days
20-7-18	1, 4, 8, 9, 5a7	Revoke
20-7-24	4, 9	Suspension 90 days
20-7-25	8,9,5a7	NPC
20-7-29	4, 9, 5a7	Suspension 10 days
20-7-30	4, 9, 5a7	Suspension 10 days
20-7-31	4, 9, 5a7	Suspension 20 days
20-7-38	9, 5a7	Suspension 90 days
20-7-42	1,4,5a2,5a7,8,9	Suspension 20 days
20-7-73	1, 4,5, 6, 9	Revoke
20-8-114	9, 5a7	Suspension 60 days
20-8-128	1, 2, 9, 5a7	Revoke
20-8-166	1,4,8,9	Suspension 20 days

2. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 3 *Petitions Issues* and

brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

CASE	PREVIOUS SANCTION	EERC RECOMMENDATION
20-5-1513	Revocation	Deny
20-7-13	Revocation	Deny
20-8-108	Revocation	Deny

3. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 13 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

CASE	SANCTION	EERC RECOMMENDATION
19-8-320	Suspension 90 days	Approve
19-8-321	Suspension 20 days	Approve
19-9-424	Suspension 10 days	Approve
20-1-907	Suspension 1 year	Approve
20-2-1278	Reprimand	Approve
20-3-1320	Suspension 10 days	Approve
20-5-1498	Suspension 10 days	Approve
20-5-1511	Suspension 20 days	Approve
20-5-1608	Suspension 20 days	Approve
20-5-1609	Suspension 1 year	Approve
20-6-1624	Suspension 20 days	Approve
20-6-1629	Suspension 10 days	Approve
20-6-1960	Reprimand	Approve

4. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 13 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

CASE	NEGOTIATED SANCTION	EERC RECOMMENDATION
18-4-1285	Suspension 2 years 70 days	Accept
18-5-1445	Suspension 3 years	Accept
18-8-261	Suspension 20 days	Accept
19-3-1231	Suspension 15 days	Accept
19-4-1426	Reprimand	Accept
19-4-1472	Suspension 30 days	Accept
19-6-1794	Suspension 1 year	Accept
19-8-188	Suspension 90 days	Accept
19-8-279	Reprimand	Accept
19-8-296	Warning	Accept
19-11-709	Suspension 3 days	Accept
20-1-949	Suspension 3 days	Accept
20-3-1358	Suspension 20 days	Accept

5. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 61 new complaints received during the months of September and October 2020.

6. **VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 5 *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.

CASE	STANDARDS VIOLATED	SANCTION	EERC RECOMMENDATIONS
20-4-1435	5a2, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
20-7-8	2, 9, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
20-7-39	2, 9, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
20-8-111	2, 9, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
20-8-124	1, 2, 9, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

7. **EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS**

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

20-9-267	20-9-278	20-9-283	20-9-288	20-9-293	20-9-299	20-10-307	20-10-312
20-9-268	20-9-279	20-9-284	20-9-289	20-9-294	20-9-301	20-10-308	20-10-313
20-9-271	20-9-280	20-9-285	20-9-290	20-9-295	20-9-303	20-10-309	
20-9-272	20-9-281	20-9-286	20-9-291	20-9-296	20-9-304	20-10-310	
20-9-273	20-9-282	20-9-287	20-9-292	20-9-297	20-10-305	20-10-311	

8. **EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 371 cases:

<u>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</u>							
18-11-694	19-6-1922	19-9-450	20-1-1057	20-3-1329	20-5-1506	20-6-1618	20-7-51
19-1-946	19-6-1929	19-9-461	20-1-1060	20-3-1330	20-5-1507	20-6-1620	20-7-54
19-1-961	19-6-1931	19-9-464	20-1-1061	20-3-1331	20-5-1514	20-6-1621	20-7-56
19-1-963	19-6-1934	19-9-488	20-1-1062	20-3-1333	20-5-1519	20-6-1622	20-7-57
19-2-1073	19-7-56	19-9-492	20-1-1064	20-3-1335	20-5-1521	20-6-1636	20-7-58
19-2-1075	19-7-71	19-9-499	20-1-1066	20-3-1337	20-5-1526	20-6-1638	20-7-59
19-2-1106	19-7-72	19-9-502	20-1-1069	20-3-1338	20-5-1531	20-6-1639	20-7-61
19-3-1277	19-7-86	19-10-505	20-1-1074	20-3-1354	20-5-1534	20-6-1661	20-7-62
19-3-1287	19-7-87	19-10-516	20-1-1080	20-3-1356	20-5-1535	20-6-1674	20-7-63
19-3-1291	19-7-90	19-10-517	20-1-1081	20-3-1357	20-5-1539	20-6-1675	20-7-66
19-4-1400	19-7-92	19-10-527	20-1-1083	20-3-1374	20-5-1540	20-6-1676	20-7-67
19-4-1402	19-7-93	19-10-533	20-1-1086	20-3-1375	20-5-1546	20-6-1677	20-7-68

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
19-4-1451	19-7-94	19-10-534	20-1-1089	20-3-1376	20-5-1548	20-6-1678	20-7-69
19-4-1452	19-7-95	19-10-545	20-1-1090	20-3-1379	20-5-1549	20-6-1679	20-7-70
19-4-1545	19-7-97	19-10-557	20-1-1091	20-3-1380	20-5-1551	20-6-1680	20-7-71
19-5-1613	19-7-98	19-10-589	20-1-1096	20-3-1384	20-5-1554	20-6-1681	20-7-75
19-5-1616	19-7-100	19-10-596	20-1-1103	20-3-1386	20-5-1556	20-6-1685	20-7-76
19-5-1620	19-7-102	19-10-597	20-1-1105	20-3-1387	20-5-1557	20-6-1686	20-7-77
19-5-1695	19-7-103	19-10-599	20-1-1107	20-3-1389	20-5-1558	20-6-1688	20-7-79
19-5-1696	19-7-105	19-10-609	20-1-1108	20-3-1401	20-5-1560	20-6-1692	20-7-80
19-5-1700	19-7-106	19-10-618	20-2-1132	20-3-1408	20-5-1561	20-6-1693	20-7-81
19-5-1701	19-7-107	19-10-657	20-2-1134	20-3-1411	20-5-1562	20-6-1695	20-7-82
19-5-1706	19-7-128	19-10-661	20-2-1152	20-3-1413	20-5-1564	20-6-1696	20-7-83
19-6-1787	19-7-138	19-10-672	20-2-1175	20-3-1417	20-5-1567	20-6-1697	20-7-85
19-6-1812	19-7-140	19-10-674	20-2-1178	20-3-1420	20-5-1569	20-6-1698	20-7-87
19-6-1814	19-7-142	19-10-683	20-2-1179	20-3-1424	20-5-1571	20-6-1701	20-7-89
19-6-1815	19-7-144	19-10-689	20-2-1185	20-3-1425	20-5-1572	20-6-1702	20-7-90
19-6-1818	19-7-154	19-11-752	20-2-1234	20-4-1430	20-5-1575	20-6-1703	20-7-91
19-6-1821	19-8-194	19-11-800	20-2-1239	20-4-1434	20-5-1576	20-6-1704	20-7-92
19-6-1872	19-8-213	19-12-851	20-2-1245	20-4-1436	20-5-1577	20-6-1705	20-7-93
19-6-1875	19-8-219	19-12-855	20-2-1249	20-4-1447	20-5-1578	20-6-1706	20-7-94
19-6-1878	19-8-227	19-12-857	20-2-1250	20-4-1448	20-5-1579	20-6-1707	20-7-95
19-6-1885	19-8-242	19-12-867	20-2-1254	20-4-1449	20-5-1580	20-6-1714	20-7-96
19-6-1886	19-8-258	20-1-920	20-2-1261	20-4-1450	20-5-1582	20-6-1715	20-7-97
19-6-1887	19-8-259	20-1-924	20-2-1265	20-4-1453	20-5-1583	20-6-1717	20-7-98
19-6-1889	19-8-261	20-1-931	20-2-1268	20-4-1454	20-5-1585	20-6-1718	20-7-99
19-6-1890	19-8-266	20-1-939	20-2-1293	20-4-1455	20-5-1587	20-6-1719	20-8-109
19-6-1891	19-8-309	20-1-940	20-2-1295	20-4-1464	20-5-1588	20-6-1720	20-7-100
19-6-1896	19-9-375	20-1-977	20-3-1313	20-4-1465	20-5-1590	20-6-1722	20-7-101
19-6-1897	19-9-376	20-1-980	20-3-1315	20-4-1466	20-5-1594	20-7-41	20-7-102
19-6-1898	19-9-381	20-1-991	20-3-1316	20-4-1467	20-5-1597	20-7-44	20-7-104
19-6-1899	19-9-383	20-1-1008	20-3-1318	20-4-1468	20-5-1598	20-7-45	20-7-105
19-6-1900	19-9-390	20-1-1009	20-3-1319	20-4-1469	20-5-1600	20-7-46	
19-6-1903	19-9-392	20-1-1021	20-3-1321	20-4-1472	20-5-1601	20-7-47	
19-6-1906	19-9-400	20-1-1022	20-3-1322	20-4-1473	20-5-1602	20-7-48	
19-6-1908	19-9-407	20-1-1023	20-3-1325	20-5-1488	20-5-1603	20-7-49	
19-6-1915	19-9-447	20-1-1047	20-3-1326	20-5-1496	20-5-1604	20-7-50	

9. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 2 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

10. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 7 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge.

11. FINAL DECISIONS RENDERED BY AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

The Commission reviewed the *Final Decision* report and recommended approval..

CASE	ORIGINAL SANCTION	ALJ SANCTION	EERC RECOMMENDATION
18-6-1644	Suspension 90 days	NPC	Accept
19-6-1869	Suspension 45 days	NPC	Accept
19-10-691	Reprimand	Warning	Accept

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Chair Townsend.

PSC Action: Approved

Abstentions: Derek Easterling-PIDs-20-8-142, 20-8-173, NCO-20-3-1358, PCE-20-7-8, Scott Hollowell-PID-20-8-188, Teri Schneider-PID-20-9-226, NCO-19-3-1231, Jeanine Bunn-PID-20-9-243, NCOs-18-5-1445, 18-8-261, Dr. Franklin Perry-PCE-20-6-1726, Dr. Steve Barker-PCE-20-7-24, Jimmy Atkins-20-8-141, 20-9-212

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

Committee Chair, Diane McClearn, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

The Committee recommends the following approval actions.

	EPP	October 2020 Detailed Approval Recommendations
1.	Bibb County Schools	<p>The Committee recommends Continuing Approval with Conditions for the Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) and the following educator preparation programs reviewed during the Spring 2020 Continuing Approval Review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gifted In-field Endorsement • Reading Endorsement • Teacher Support and Coaching Endorsement <p>The Committee recommends the submission of a progress report on October 7, 2021, addressing the unmet standard and areas for improvement (AFIs).</p>
2.	Paine College	<p>The Committee recommends Revocation of Approval for the Educator Preparation Provider and the Elementary Education Program.</p> <p>In addition, the Committee recommends that candidates currently enrolled in the Elementary Education Program may complete the program, and upon program completion be recommended for certification by the Educator Preparation Provider.</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Educator Preparation Provider may not enroll new candidates effective immediately.</p>
3.	Griffin RESA	<p>The Committee recommends allowing the Educator Preparation Provider to seek approval for the Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership Program.</p> <p>The Committee also recommends tabling the discussion regarding the</p>

	EPP	October 2020 Detailed Approval Recommendations
		current limit on the number of Educator Preparation Providers eligible to offer Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership Programs until the November 2020 EPCC meeting.
4.	West Georgia RESA	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of the Computer Science, Dyslexia, K-5 Mathematics, and Reading Endorsements.
5.	Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) RESA	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of the Dyslexia Endorsement.
6.	North Georgia RESA	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of the Online Teaching Endorsement.
7.	Metropolitan RESA	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of the Dyslexia Endorsement.

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the Educator Preparation/Certification report as presented by Chair Diane McClearen.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Our next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, November 5th, at 4 pm. We will meet remotely and the information will be posted on our website under Commission Information. The Educator Ethics Review Committee and Educator Preparation/Certification Standing Committee meeting will meet on Wednesday, November 4th, at 4:00 pm. Chair Sirmans called for the meeting to be adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved