

MINUTES

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION
In Person Meeting & Virtual via TEAMS Platform
200 Piedmont Avenue, SE, Suite 1716, Atlanta, GA 30334
October 13, 2022, 10:00 am**

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, October 13, 2022.

Members Present

Abigail Coggin	Dr. Brandon Seigler	Dr. Judith Wilson
Kedriane Harris	Brian Sirmans	Carol Williams
Nathan Lewis	Beth Townsend	Vonda Woodall
Dr. Franklin Perry	Dr. Jennifer Wade	

Members Absent

Derek Easterling	Jordan Frobos
Jimmy Atkins	Jeanine Bunn
Dr. Holley Roberts	

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL-CALL

Chair Sirmans called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag, and observed a moment of silence. Commissioners answered roll-call for attendance.

II. VISITORS

Chair Sirmans welcomed visitors who attended virtually and Georgia House Representative Will Wade who attended in person.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Beth Townsend / Jane Rookard) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the September 8, 2022 minutes.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Matt welcomed Dr. Judi Wilson who serves as Dean of the College of Education for Augusta University and Vonda Williams who is a social studies teacher at North Oconee High School to the Commission

Daniel Dooley was sworn in on October 24, 2019, and has served his full term. He will not be reappointed as he

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will be serving on another board. He served on the Educator Preparation and Certification committee. We appreciate and thank him for his service.

Matt discussed the importance of each committee and their work.

VI. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Sirmans welcomed our newest members Dr. Judi Wilson and Vonda Williams and asked them to introduce themselves.

VII. RULES INITIATION

Anne Marie Fenton presented the Certification, Educator Preparation, and Professional Practices/Ethics rules for initiation. These rules were previewed during the September 8th Commission meeting. 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 8th Commission meeting, with an effective date of January 1, 2022. She asked Commissioners if they had any questions. Hearing none, she presented the motion.

MOTION: (Beth Townsend / Kedrione Harris) To (1) repeal the current rules in Chapter 505-2- Certification, effective January 1, 2023, as follows: 505-2-.191, and 505-2-.193; (2) initiate the current rules in Chapter 505-2- Certification, effective January 1, 2023, as follows: 505-2-.191, and 505-2-.193; (3) amend the current rule in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective January 1, 2023, as follows: 505-3-.02, 505-3-.23; and 505-3-.27; (4) repeal the current rule in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective January 1, 2023, as follows: 505-3-.34, 505-3-.35, 505-3-.36, 505-3-.37, 505-3-.38, 505-3-.39, 505-3-.40, 505-3-.41, 505-3-.86, 505-3-.88; 5) initiate the current rule in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective January 1, 2023, as follows: 505-3-.34, 505-3-.35, 505-3-.36, 505-3-.37, 505-3-.38, 505-3-.39, 505-3-.40, 505-3-.41, 505-3-.86, 505-3-.88; (6) repeal the current rule in Chapter 505-6- Professional Practices, effective January 1, 2023, as follows: 505-6-.01; and (7) initiate the current rule in Chapter 505-6- Professional Practices, effective January 1, 2023, as follows: 505-6-.01.

PSC ACTION: Approved
Abstention: Nathan Lewis

VIII. PARAPRO TO TEACHER PROGRAM

Dr. Penney McRoy gave a presentation on the Parapro to Teacher Program.

IX. CROSS FUNCTIONAL COLLABORATION

Dr. Kelli Young and Laurin Vonada gave a presentation on Cross Functional Collaboration between the Certification and Educator Ethics divisions.

X. 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 71 **Probable Cause** cases during the October 12, 2022, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
22-2-1010	9	Deny	Accept
22-5-1427	1, 4, 5a7	Reprimand	Accept
22-7-13	1, 4, 5a7	Reprimand	Accept
22-7-84	1,5a7	Reprimand	Accept
22-8-131	1,4,5a7	NPC	Accept
22-8-154	5a2,5a7	Reprimand	Accept
22-8-165	1, 5a7	Deny	Accept
22-8-194	1,5a7	NPC	Accept
22-8-201	1,5a7	Reprimand	Accept
22-8-217	1,4,5a7	Deny	Accept
22-8-253	5a2,5a7	Reprimand	Accept
22-8-283	1,4,5a7	NPC	Accept
22-8-287	1,5a7	NPC	Accept
22-9-369	1,5a7	NPC	Accept
21-2-745	1, 4, 8, 9	Revoke	Accept
21-3-903	1, 4, 8, 9	Revoke	Accept
21-5-1087	1,4,5a7,8,9	NPC	Accept
21-5-1185	5, 5a7, 9	Suspend 1 year	Accept
21-6-1241	4, 5a7, 8, 9	Suspend 20 days	Accept
21-6-1292	1,4,5a7,8,9	NPC	Accept
21-6-1341	4, 5a7	Revoke	Accept
21-7-46	1, 4, 9, 5a7	Revoke	Accept
21-8-104	1,4,5a7, 9 (2015), 10(2015)	Revoke	Accept
21-8-237	4, 9, 5a5, 5a7	Revoke	Accept
21-10-384	3, 9, 5a7	Suspend 1 year	Accept
21-11-596	1,4, 8, 9, 5a7	Suspend 1 year	Accept
21-12-657	4, 8, 9, 5a2, 5a5, 5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-12-681	1, 2, 9	Extend pending criminal outcome	Accept
22-2-904	2, 9	Suspend 10 days	Accept
22-2-910	2, 9	Suspend 5 days	Accept
22-2-934	2, 9	NPC	Accept
22-2-965	2, 9	Reprimand	Accept
22-2-972	9	Suspend 90 days	Accept
22-3-1042	9	Suspend 90 days	Accept
22-4-1228	1,4,5a7,8,9	Reprimand	Accept
22-5-1372	1,4,5a7,8,9, 9(2012)	Reprimand	Accept
22-5-1544	3,9	Suspend 1 year	Accept

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
22-5-1548	5, 6, 9	Reprimand	Accept
22-6-1675	4, 9	Suspend 20 days	Accept
22-6-1676	2,4,9	Suspend 10 days	Accept
22-6-1684	2,9	Suspend 10 days	Accept
22-6-1689	2, 9	Suspend 2 years	Accept
22-6-1698	9	Reprimand	Accept
22-6-1701	4, 9	Suspend 5 days	Accept
22-6-1703	3,9	Suspend 1 year	Accept
22-7-2	2, 9	Suspend 10 days	Accept
22-7-18	8, 9	Suspend 1 year	Accept
22-7-19	4, 9	Suspend 1 year	Accept
22-7-20	2,9	NPC	Accept
22-7-21	2, 9	Suspend 10 days	Accept
22-7-38	1,4,8,9	Revoke	Accept
22-7-40	4, 9	Suspend 1 year	Accept
22-7-55	2, 9	Reprimand	Accept
22-7-76	1,4,8,9	Reprimand	Accept
22-7-77	1,4,8,9	Reprimand	Accept
22-7-90	1,4,5a7,8,9	Reprimand	Accept
22-7-107	2, 9	NPC	Accept
22-7-115	9	Suspend 90 days	Accept
22-7-117	9	Suspend 90 days	Accept
22-7-118	9	Suspend 90 days	Accept
22-8-126	2, 9	NPC	Accept
22-8-138	4, 9	Reprimand	Accept
22-8-158	1,4,5a7,8,9	NPC	Accept
22-8-168	1,4,5a7,8,9	Reprimand	Accept
22-8-173	1,4,5a7,8,9	Reprimand	Accept
22-8-186	9	Suspend 90 days	Accept
22-8-198	1,4,5a7,8,9	Reprimand	Accept
22-8-224	3, 9	Reprimand	Accept
22-8-225	1,9	Suspend 90 days	Accept
22-8-230	2, 9	NPC	Accept
22-8-233	2, 9	Reprimand	Accept

2. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 2 *Petitions Issues* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>PREVIOUS SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
22-3-1032	Voluntary Surrender	Deny
22-7-74	Voluntary Surrender	Deny

3. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 10 *Settlement Agreements*

and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
22-1-742	Reprimand	Accept
22-5-1407	Suspend 1 year	Accept
22-5-1444	Reprimand	Accept
22-5-1451	Suspend 10 days	Accept
22-5-1567	Reprimand	Accept
22-5-1582	Suspend 10 days	Accept
22-6-1603	Reprimand	Accept
22-6-1611	Suspend 10 days	Accept
22-6-1672	Suspend 1 year	Accept
22-7-10	Reprimand	Accept

4. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 18 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
18-8-233	Warning	Accept
19-2-1058	Suspension 44 days	Accept
19-5-1563	Warning	Accept
19-5-1721	Reprimand	Accept
19-7-71	Suspension 90 days	Accept
19-11-774	Suspension 90 days	Accept
20-2-1211	Suspension 60 days	Accept
20-7-16	Warning	Accept
20-9-228	Suspension 80 days	Accept
21-7-26	Reprimand	Accept
21-7-65	NPC	Accept
21-8-160	Reprimand	Accept
21-8-186	Suspension 3 days	Accept
21-10-435	Reprimand	Accept
22-2-902	Reprimand	Accept
22-2-962	Reprimand	Accept
22-3-1183	NPC	Accept
22-4-1325	Suspension 7 days	Accept

5. OTHER BUSINESS

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

<u>CASE</u>	<u>FINDINGS OF FACTS</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
22-8-190	Additional complaint	Investigate

<u>CASE</u>	<u>FINDINGS OF FACTS</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
21-10-411	Additional complaint	Investigate
21-3-928	Unable effect service.	Hold New App
21-4-969	Unable effect service.	Hold New App
21-8-190	Unable effect service.	Hold New App
22-3-1132	Failed to provide requested docs.	Hold New App
22-3-1151	Failure to respond.	Hold New App
22-6-1703	Failure to respond.	Hold New App

6. **PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATION REPORT** - The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 107 new complaints received during the months of October and November 2022.

7. **VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of 1 the *Voluntary Surrender* listed below in which an Educator/Applicant voluntarily accepted a sanction of Revocation 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>
22-8-223	1, 8, 9	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

8. **EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS**

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

22-9-326	22-9-345	22-9-353	22-9-472	22-10-480	22-10-491	22-10-514	22-10-528
22-9-327	22-9-346	22-9-354	22-9-473	22-10-481	22-10-492	22-10-515	22-10-529
22-9-339	22-9-347	22-9-355	22-9-474	22-10-482	22-10-494	22-10-516	22-10-530
22-9-340	22-9-348	22-9-356	22-9-475	22-10-483	22-10-496	22-10-517	22-10-531
22-9-341	22-9-349	22-9-357	22-10-476	22-10-484	22-10-497	22-10-518	22-10-532
22-9-342	22-9-350	22-9-358	22-10-477	22-10-486	22-10-500	22-10-519	
22-9-343	22-9-351	22-9-470	22-10-478	22-10-487	22-10-506	22-10-520	
22-9-344	22-9-352	22-9-471	22-10-479	22-10-490	22-10-513	22-10-527	

9. **EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 178 cases:

<u>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</u>							
21-1-646	22-1-740	22-3-1194	22-5-1425	22-5-1573	22-6-1688	22-7-68	22-8-149
21-3-904	22-1-792	22-3-1196	22-5-1426	22-5-1575	22-6-1692	22-7-72	22-8-150
21-3-920	22-1-797	22-3-1197	22-5-1428	22-6-1608	22-6-1693	22-7-80	22-8-151
21-4-966	22-1-850	22-3-1214	22-5-1430	22-6-1610	22-6-1694	22-7-81	22-8-153

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
21-5-1111	22-1-851	22-4-1223	22-5-1438	22-6-1612	22-6-1695	22-7-82	22-8-155
21-5-1113	22-1-856	22-4-1225	22-5-1455	22-6-1613	22-7-3	22-7-86	22-8-156
21-5-1117	22-2-889	22-4-1258	22-5-1480	22-6-1618	22-7-5	22-7-87	22-8-160
21-5-1124	22-2-920	22-4-1263	22-5-1481	22-6-1621	22-7-15	22-7-88	22-8-161
21-5-1174	22-2-963	22-4-1266	22-5-1483	22-6-1622	22-7-27	22-7-89	22-8-162
21-5-1188	22-2-982	22-4-1272	22-5-1488	22-6-1626	22-7-31	22-7-94	22-8-163
21-6-1235	22-2-996	22-4-1274	22-5-1489	22-6-1627	22-7-35	22-7-97	22-8-167
21-6-1316	22-3-1059	22-4-1276	22-5-1500	22-6-1633	22-7-39	22-8-119	22-8-169
21-6-1326	22-3-1080	22-4-1291	22-5-1501	22-6-1640	22-7-43	22-8-120	22-8-170
21-6-1333	22-3-1088	22-4-1308	22-5-1503	22-6-1647	22-7-44	22-8-121	22-8-171
21-7-71	22-3-1093	22-4-1314	22-5-1512	22-6-1654	22-7-47	22-8-123	22-8-175
21-9-308	22-3-1097	22-4-1322	22-5-1521	22-6-1655	22-7-49	22-8-124	22-8-176
21-10-411	22-3-1134	22-4-1323	22-5-1524	22-6-1658	22-7-51	22-8-125	22-8-178
21-10-444	22-3-1146	22-4-1340	22-5-1529	22-6-1659	22-7-52	22-8-132	
21-11-545	22-3-1152	22-4-1348	22-5-1530	22-6-1660	22-7-56	22-8-139	
21-12-625	22-3-1172	22-5-1374	22-5-1531	22-6-1667	22-7-59	22-8-143	
21-12-626	22-3-1174	22-5-1406	22-5-1534	22-6-1679	22-7-61	22-8-146	
21-12-663	22-3-1178	22-5-1419	22-5-1564	22-6-1680	22-7-63	22-8-147	
21-12-680	22-3-1186	22-5-1421	22-5-1571	22-6-1681	22-7-64	22-8-148	

10. **APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 24 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

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

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 14 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge.

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

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstentions: Brian Sirmans-PID 22-9-317, Dr. Jennifer Wade-PID 22-9-420, Dr. Franklin Perry-PID 22-8-243, 22-9-407, Abigail Coggin-PID 22-9-403, 22-9-409, Jane Rookard-PID 22-9-385, Beth Townsend-PID 22-9-388, NCO 19-5-1721

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

Our next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, November 10th, 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 9th, at 4:00 pm. Chair Sirmans called for the meeting to be adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved