

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Peachtree Street

Atlanta, Georgia

April 9, 2009

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

Members Present

Sallie Bullock

Al George

Joy Hawkins

Stephanie Haynes

Emily Jennette

Dr. Louisa Moffitt

Dr. Mary Outlaw

Rose Powell

Dr. Craig Smith

Dr. Hester Vasconcelos

Dr. Debbie Wilkes

Members Absent

Stephen Dartt

Maria Bradley

Dr. Ed Smith

Penny Benton

Jeanne Tucker

Julia Bernath

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: (Vasconcelos / Jennette) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Chair Wilkes recognized the visitors.

- Margaret Elliott, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Paul Elliott, Student
- Beth Roberts, Oglethorpe University
- Phyllis Johnson, Georgia Department of Education
- Michelle Tarbutton, Georgia Department of Education
- Curt Thompson, Attorney

5/20/2009

Page 2

V. IN HONOR OF PAMELA GREENWAY

Chair Debbie Wilkes, Sallie Bullock, Dr. Mary Outlaw, Rose Powell and Dr. Holly Robinson, former Commissioner spoke briefly about Pam Greenway. Chair Wilkes and Sallie Bullock's comments are listed below:

Debbie Wilkes - I want to thank Kelly for the opportunity to honor Pam.

I remember the first time I met Pam. She came to her first PSC meeting at the Atlanta area RESA. She parked next to me in her silver BMW SUV and as she opened her car door the first thing I noticed was her captivating smile. Her entire face was aglow.

That was my first impression of Pam, but my respect and admiration for her grew over the time I knew her. Not only did her smile disarm you, but her ability to analyze difficult situations meant so much to me as a Commissioner and later as the Commission's Chairperson.

I, also, enjoyed having her participate on the Education Preparation Review Committee. Her perspectives as a local board member helped those of us who look at Ed Prep Programs from either a business or educational perspective.

She asked great questions and always kept us focused on the task at hand. If there were particular issues from her community, she made sure we knew about them.

In the commission meetings and especially in executive sessions when we deliberated ethics cases she was always measured, providing the lawyer and judge perspective. She understood the court proceedings and always encouraged us to look at the situation from various perspectives by using logical reasoning to help guide our decisions.

I always felt that if I needed a different perspective, I could call or email her. She was indeed one of the leaders of our Commission.

I remember the out of town trips (that we used to take). Pam, Holly, and I would "hang out", shop, and talk about our grown children. We shared the proud moments and the issues that we had with our kids. And, since her oldest was a little older than mine, she was able to share some very good advice about what to expect next!

Pam also talked about her 2 adorable grandchildren and her poodles.

She always remembered even the smallest detail that I shared with her and never failed to ask about it when I next saw her.

I remember when she told me she had breast cancer. Her determination and what I call grit helped me to understand her strength and zest for life and her belief that she could beat this disease.

I remember the last time I saw Pam. Kelly and I drove down to have lunch with her. As we sat down, before we ordered, she asked a question about a memo Kelly had emailed. She was very focused on doing what was good for children and teachers even though she was going through chemotherapy.

5/20/2009

Page 3

She loved her job, her community and her family. I will miss seeing her smiling face and her contribution to the Commission but I will never forget Pam.

Sallie Bullock- I was proud that she was the first woman lawyer in Houston County and of all 34 years she had practiced law and of her service to others which included many avenues. It gave me comfort to read what others wrote of her---of the woman's divorce she won with a smile and of her composure and wisdom as a Judge and of her wonderful family that others know, but that I have not had the pleasure of meeting. She was a fine Commissioner. Sallie spoke of the fun she had with Pam, her great style, and the contributions she made as we worked to provide the best for Georgia schools and students. Sallie confessed to the group that she emailed her during those months she was ill and could not attend our meetings with "pertinent" Commission news. She tried to make her smile with funny stories of mishaps and outfits and refreshments and sometimes embellished, but always with good intentions. It was an honor to have known her.

VI. EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARD

Chair Wilkes presented Windy Fortenberry with a 10 Year Service Award and thanked her for her service. Kelly Henson said the following:

Windy began her work career in 1996 as a student employee with the Georgia Department of Administrative Services (DOAS). In 1997 she moved over to the Professional Standards Commission (PSC) as a temporary Receptionist and Information Specialist, and in 1999 she became a permanent PSC Information Specialist employee. In 2002 Windy was promoted to an Evaluator Trainee. Two years later she was promoted to an Evaluator II and then in 2006 she was promoted to Certification Specialist, which is the position she currently holds. She achieved all of this while attending night classes at Georgia State University where she completed a Bachelor's of Business Administration degree in Risk Management and Insurance in August 2006.

Windy is highly competent, extremely resourceful, always willing to take-on the most difficult certification cases, always eager to assist with any special projects we might have, and she ALWAYS does everything in a cheerful and friendly way. Ten years is just a beginning; she has a long and bright career ahead of her in the PSC.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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

1. Ms. Powell reported that the Committee reviewed 38 *Probable Cause* cases during its April 8, 2009, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

#	CASE #	Applicant	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
1	08-9-317	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Revocation
2	09-1-779	Applicant	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification	Denial
3	09-1-780	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Action Taken In Another State	Revocation
4	09-1-781	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct Other Good and Sufficient Cause	Revocation
5	09-1-805	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	Suspend – 1 Year
6	09-1-815	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Reprimand
7	09-1-833	Applicant	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct O.C.G.A. §16-13-111 Other Good and Sufficient Cause	Denial
8	09-2-884	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report Action Taken In Another State	Suspend – 20 Days
9	09-2-885	Applicant	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct O.C.G.A. §16-13-111 Other Good and Sufficient Cause	Denial
10	06-2-933	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Reprimand
11	06-3-1104	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation
12	08-7-31	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Professional Conduct Other Good and Sufficient Cause	Revocation
13	08-10-387	Property Rights	Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Suspend – 5 Days

#	CASE #	Applicant	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
14	08-10-395	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Abandonment of Contract Professional Conduct	Suspend – 90 Days
15	08-10-459	Property Rights	Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Suspend – 1 Year
16	08-10-471	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Revocation
17	08-11-520	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
18	08-11-521	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
19	08-11-522	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
20	08-11-523	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Failure to File a Required Report Professional Conduct Other Good and Sufficient Cause	Revocation
21	08-11-596	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
22	08-11-598	Property Rights	20-2-204. Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
23	08-12-620	Property Rights	Misrepresentation or Falsification Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Revocation
24	08-12-634	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspend – 1 Year
25	08-12-641	Property Rights	Professional Conduct	Warning
26	08-12-681	Property Rights	Confidential Information Professional Conduct	Suspend – 90 Days
27	08-12-682	Property Rights	Confidential Information Professional Conduct	Suspend – 30 Days
28	09-1-736	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation
29	09-1-737	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation
30	09-1-744	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspend – 20 Days
31	09-1-746	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation
32	09-1-765	Property Rights	Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Suspend – 90 Days
33	09-1-787	Property Rights	Professional Conduct	Suspend – 20 Days
34	09-1-793	Property Rights	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspend – 1 Year
35	09-1-800	Property Rights	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspend – 20 Days

#	CASE #	Applicant	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
36	09-1-801	Property Rights	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspend – 1 Year
37	09-1-810	Property Rights	Professional Conduct Other Good and Sufficient Cause	Revocation
38	09-1-814	Property Rights	Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Professional Conduct Other Good and Sufficient Cause	Revocation

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

CASE #	STANDARDS VIOLATED	PROBABLE CAUSE SANCTION	ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE SANCTION
06-5-1296	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct Misrepresentation or Falsification	Suspend - 10 Contract Days	Suspend - 10 Contract Days
06-11-542	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspend - 2 years	Suspend - 2 Years Retroactive- 10/1/06 - 10/1/08 (No proof of Unemployment)
07-12-552	Criminal Acts Other Good and Sufficient Cause	Denial	No Probable Cause

3. Ms. Powell 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	RECOMMENDATION
04-7-89	Early Reinstatement of a Suspended Certificate	Currently Suspended until Nov. 4, 2009	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	DENY
08-6-1418	Early Reinstatement of a Suspended Certificate	Case #1: Currently Suspended until Oct. 2, 2009 Case #2: Currently Suspended until Dec. 1, 2009	Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	DENY
09-2-867	Right to Reapply	REVOKED: Dec. 19, 2003	Abuse of Students Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct	GRANT
08-8-141	Right to Reapply	REVOKED: Aug. 14, 2003	Criminal Acts	GRANT

4. Ms. Powell 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	06-2-907	Reprimand	Accept
2	08-5-1316	Suspension - 3 Contract Days April 27, 2009 - April 28, 2009	Accept
3	08-5-1369	Suspension - 10 Contract Days (7 days credit - system suspension) April 27, 2009 - April 29, 2009	Accept
4	08-8-134	Reprimand	Accept
5	08-8-194	Reprimand	Accept
6	08-9-305	Revocation	Accept
7	08-10-405	Reprimand	Accept
8	08-10-414	Suspension - 3 Contract Days (3 days credit - system suspension) Sept. 25, 2008 - Oct. 1, 2008	Accept
9	08-10-431	Reprimand	Accept
10	08-11-532	Reprimand	Accept
11	08-11-595	Reprimand	Accept
12	08-12-630	Suspension - 20 Contract Days April 27, 2009 - May 22, 2009	Accept

5. Ms. Powell reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 14 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

CASE #	STANDARDS VIOLATED	PROBABLE CAUSE SANCTION	NEGOTIATED SANCTION
06-10-379	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension - 20 Contract Days	Suspension - 2 Contract Days (Retroactive) Oct. 11, 2006 - Oct. 12, 2006
06-10-417	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension - 20 Contract Days	No Probable Cause
07-1-717	Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Suspension - 20 Contract Days	Suspension - 20 Contract Days (Retroactive) Aug. 4, 2008 - Aug. 28, 2008
07-8-124	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension - 1 Year	Suspension - 3 Months (Summer Months & 3 weeks in Aug) May 29, 2009 - Aug. 26, 2009
08-4-1100	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension - 2 Years	Suspension - 2 Years (Part Retro) April 2, 2008 - April 2, 2010
08-4-1143	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension - 20 Contract Days	Suspension - 5 Contract Days (Retroactive) Feb. 21, 2008 - Feb. 27, 2008
08-4-1201	Misrepresentation or Falsification Confidential Information Professional Conduct	Suspension - 45 Contract Days	Suspension - 19 Contract Days (Retroactive) July 29, 2008 - Aug. 19, 2008
08-5-1230	Misrepresentation or Falsification	Suspension - 90 Contract Days	Suspension - 5 Contract Days

CASE #	STANDARDS VIOLATED	PROBABLE CAUSE SANCTION	NEGOTIATED SANCTION
	Confidential Information Professional Conduct		(Year of Suspension not specified) (Days not Consecutive) March 11, April 13, April 27, May 25 & May 26
08-5-1248	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Reprimand	Warning
08-5-1296	Confidential Information Professional Conduct	Suspension - 90 Contract Days	Suspension - 30 Contract Days April 27, 2009 - June 5, 2009
08-6-1501	Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct Action Taken in Another State	Revocation	Suspension - 1 Year June 1, 2009 - June 1, 2010
08-6-1518	Confidential Information Professional Conduct	Suspension - 20 Contract Days	Reprimand
08-7-66	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension - 5 Contract Days	Suspension - 1 Contract Day (Retroactive) May 28, 2008 - May 28, 2008
08-8-142	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct Action Taken in Another State Other Good and Sufficient Cause	Denial	No Probable Cause

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 81 new complaints received during the months of March and April 2009.

7. VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS/VOLUNTARY DENIALS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of 3 Voluntary Surrender / Voluntary Denial Report as follows:

CASE NUMBER	SANCTION	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMM.
08-11-592	Revocation	Professional Conduct	Accept
08-12-655	Revocation	Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Accept
09-3-982	Revocation	Criminal Acts Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct	Accept

8. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 28 Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations consisting of the following:

#	CASE #	Complaint Received	#	CASE #	Complaint Received
1	09-3-938	2/26/2009	18	09-3-955	3/2/2009

2	09-3-939	2/26/2009	19	09-3-956	3/2/2009
3	09-3-940	2/26/2009	20	09-3-957	3/2/2009
4	09-3-941	2/26/2009	21	09-3-958	3/3/2009
5	09-3-942	2/26/2009	22	09-3-959	3/4/2009
6	09-3-943	2/27/2009	23	09-3-960	3/4/2009
7	09-3-944	2/27/2009	24	09-3-961	3/4/2009
8	09-3-945	2/27/2009	25	09-3-962	3/5/2009
9	09-3-946	2/27/2009	26	09-3-963	3/5/2009
10	09-3-947	2/27/2009	27	09-3-978	3/9/2009
11	09-3-948	2/27/2009	28	09-3-1008	3/9/2009
12	09-3-949	2/27/2009			
13	09-3-950	3/2/2009			
14	09-3-951	3/2/2009			
15	09-3-952	3/2/2009			
16	09-3-953	3/2/2009			
17	09-3-954	3/2/2009			

9. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting and *Investigative Extension* to the following 40 Written Complaints and 15 Application cases:

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS:

07-11-383	09-1-747	08-10-397	08-12-628	09-1-754	08-9-312	08-12-664	09-1-762
08-3-1050	09-1-748	08-10-398	08-12-629	09-1-761	08-10-453	08-12-693	09-1-799
08-6-1550	09-1-758	08-10-460	08-12-670	09-1-790	08-10-463	09-1-735	09-1-808
07-12-607	08-8-217	08-11-578	08-12-671	09-1-794	08-11-574	09-1-757	09-1-809
08-3-847	08-10-396	08-11-600	09-1-733	09-1-807	08-12-624	09-1-759	09-1-734

APPLICATION CASE EXTENSIONS:

08-11-540	09-1-818	09-1-823	09-2-882	09-2-891
08-11-555	09-1-821	09-1-831	09-2-887	09-2-894
08-11-575	09-1-822	09-2-881	09-2-888	09-2-896

10. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 17 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

11. REVIEW HEARING EXTENSIONS

The Commission reviewed the *Review Hearing Extensions Report* concerning 4 hearing cases. An Administrative Law Judge rendered Initial Decisions on each case referenced in the report. The report indicates Orders were issued.

12. STUDENT LOAN SUSPENSION / REINSTATEMENTS

The Commission reviewed the report, which indicated that there were no certificates suspended from March 12, 2009 through April 9, 2009. There were 3 certificates that had been *reinstated* because restitution is now being

made on those student loans.

13. 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 was 1 case 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 #09-3-982.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Dr. Mary Outlaw-Voluntary Surrender Case # 09-3-982, Emily Jennette and Stephanie Haynes-Probable Cause Case # 08-12-620

Preliminary Investigative Determination CASE # 09-3-982

MOTION: (Powell / Bradley) To investigate case #09-3-982.

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
<p style="text-align: center;">Truett-McConnell College</p>	<p>Truett-McConnell College submitted a Progress Report in December 2008 to address areas for improvement cited on Standards 2 and 4 in conjunction with the April 2008 PSC Developmental Approval Review.</p> <p>The committee reviewed the Truett-McConnell College Progress Report, the recommendations of the Evaluation Review Panel, and the Exception to the ERP recommendations submitted by the College, and agrees with the following ERP recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress is satisfactory in addressing the area for improvement cited for Standard 2; the area for improvement may be removed. • Progress is unsatisfactory in addressing the areas for improvement cited for Standard 4; the areas for improvement shall remain and are to be addressed in the Preparation Approval Annual Report (PAAR) due by November 15, 2009. The Annual Report is to include a detailed plan for addressing the areas for improvement.

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

PSC ACTION: Approved

Committee members discussed the public comments submitted regarding the proposed GaTAPP Rule and

possible solutions for providing access to non-traditional pathways to clear renewable certification for private school teachers. Three suggestions were discussed and presented to the Commission for consideration:

- PSC staff will encourage The Cottage School and other private school providers to work collaboratively with the appropriate state-wide private school organizations to seek professional education unit approval as a consortium capable of offering all GaTAPP pathways to private school teachers.
- Because the process of becoming an approved unit can last approximately 18 months, PSC staff will ask RESAs to consider accepting private school teachers that do not have other viable options for gaining clear renewable certification during that time period.
- If Metro RESA is unable to serve additional program participants in The Cottage School service area, PSC staff will allow The Cottage School to offer the One-Year Supervised Practicum program to teachers in their school and to private school teachers employed outside their school for the 2009-2010 academic year and to complete the program for candidates presently in the program. PSC staff will develop the guidelines for this agreement with The Cottage School to include the Commission's expectation that all applicable standards are met.

The Commission encouraged the staff to take action on the three considerations presented to them.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

The Executive Secretary presented the following:

A. Kelly gave the Commissioners a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Georgia Department of Education and The Georgia Professional Standards Commission. He thanked Michelle Tarbutton and Phil Blackwell for their hard work. Because the educational system in the United States is different than the educational system in many other countries, it is sometimes difficult to make a direct comparison of credentials using rules solely predicated on our system. The PSC and DOE recognize the need to create a vehicle to be used in a limited and targeted manner to provide flexibility, when needed, in making determinations regarding foreign teachers' access to Georgia classrooms. The vehicle that we have chosen is a joint MOU which must be recommended by the State Superintendent and approved by the SBOE, and recommended by the Executive Secretary and approved by the Commission. The necessary change in our rules allowing this was made several months ago by the Commission.

The first such MOU brought for your consideration is to approve an agreement between the Vienna Board of Education and the Georgia DOE. This MOU was approved by the SBOE in their meeting this month. The credentials and requirements are set forth in the MOU. In order to be considered for this program a teacher must be:

- 1) Licensed in Austria
- 2) Pass the Austrian Teacher Certification exam
- 3) Have a minimum of 3 years teaching experience

The documentation that is required is acceptable to both our certification division and DOE staff.

Teachers successfully meeting the requirements of the MOU will be eligible for an International Exchange Certificate that is valid for 1 year. If the teacher passes the required GACE tests within this year, two additional years may be added to the certificate and, at the request of an employing system, two additional years may be added.

5/20/2009

Page 12

MOTION: (Smith / Powell) To approve the MOU as presented.

ACTION: Approved

B. Penney McRoy introduced the Educator Preparation Rules and Phil Blackwell introduced the Certification Rules to be voted on.

MOTION: (Jennette / Vasconcelos) To a) rescind the current rules in Chapter 505-3 Educator preparation, effective May 15, 2009, as follows: 505-3-.05 and 505-3-.06; b) amend the current rules in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation, effective May 15, 2009, as follows: 505-3-.01 and 505-3-.32; and c) adopt new rules in Chapter 505-3 Educator preparation, effective May 15, 2009, as follows: 505-3-.05 and 505-3-.86.

ACTION: Approved

MOTION: (Vasconcelos / Hawkins) To amend the current rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective may 15, 2009, as follows: 505-2-.01, 505-2-.02, 505-2-.04, 505-2-.05, 505-2-.06, 505-2-.24, 505-2-.25, 505-2-.50, 505-2-.51, 505-2-.52, 505-2-.53, 505-2-.54, 505-2-.55, 505-2-.57, 505-2-.58, 505-2-.59, 505-2-.60, 505-2-.61, 505-2-.62, 505-2-.63, 505-2-.64, 505-2-.66, 505-2-.69, 505-2-.70, 505-2-.71, 505-2-.74, 505-2-.81, 505-2-.82, 505-2-.84, 505-2-.85, 505-2-.87, 505-2-.88, 505-2-.89, 505-2-.91, 505-2-.94, 505-2-.95, 505-2-.97, 505-2-.104, 505-2-.105, 505-2-.106, 505-2-.107, 505-2-.108, 505-2-.109, 505-2-.110, 505-2-.111, 505-2-.112, 505-2-.116, 505-2-.117, 505-2-.125, 505-2-.126, 505-2-.127, 505-2-.128, 505-2-.129, 505-2-.130, 505-2-.131, 505-2-.132, 505-2-.133, 505-2-.134, 505-2-.135, 505-2-.136, 505-2-.137, 505-2-.138, 505-2-.139, 505-2-.140, 505-2-.141, 505-2-.142, 505-2-.143, 505-2-.200, 505-2-.201, 505-2-.202, 505-2-.204, 505-2-.205, and 505-2-.206; and adopt new rules for Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective May 15, 2009, as follows: 505-2-.27, 505-2-.28, 505-2-.29, 505-2-.30 and 505-2-.40

ACTION: Approved

MOTION: (Hawkins / Vasconcelos) To amend the current rules in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective July 15, 2009, as follows: 505-3-.22 and 505-3-.40..

ACTION: Approved

MOTION: (Jennette / Moffitt) To a) repeal the current rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective July 15, 2009, as follows: 505-2-.70; b) amend the current rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective July 15, 2009, as follows: 505-2-.08 and 505-2-.203; and c) adopt new rules for Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective July 15, 2009 as follows: 505-2-.70.

ACTION: Approved

C. Legislative update from Kelly Henson – House Bill 280 was passed. It will start new fully-certified math and science teachers at the same salary as a fifth year teacher. Under the legislation, math and science teachers with less than five years experience will be brought up to the fifth year pay level. This bill will also encourage elementary teachers to increase their competency in math and science.

House Bill 455 was passed. This gives school systems an extra month to offer teacher contracts for next school year. Many systems are facing tight financial constraints because of the economic downturn, and the extra month will provide additional time to determine the number of teachers needed for the upcoming year. School districts now have until May 15, rather than April 15, to extend contracts and teachers have until June

5/20/2009

Page 13

1, rather than May 1, to accept their contracts. The law also extends the sunset on the Master Teacher program, and ends the additional supplement to teachers who have leadership degrees that are not in leadership positions. Current teachers with these degrees will continue receiving the supplement. Teachers currently enrolled in a leadership degree program must receive the degree by July 1, 2010, to receive the supplement until they begin a leadership position.

Senate Bill 231 (Promise Scholarship) will be alive for the next legislative session beginning in January 2010. It will be actively considered in the next session.

Senate Resolution 466 (Performance Based Principal Certification Renewal Design Team) will be alive for the next legislative session beginning in January 2010. It will be actively considered in the next session

House Bill 243 refers to the National Board Certified Teachers which eliminates the 10 percent pay supplement for any teacher not currently receiving the supplement and not currently enrolled in the National Board program. The funding allotted is approximately ½ of the current funding level.

RESA Funding – A decision was made not to incorporate RESA funding into the QBE formula funding but to maintain the current RESA funding mechanism. RESA funds were cut 3%.

The information provided to you is the best information that we have to date but there is a possibility that some of this information is incomplete. I will keep you updated on information as it becomes available to me.

IX. REVIEW HEARINGS

Attorney, Curt Thompson, requested a continuance on Case # 07-6-1542 because of the absence of a court reporter. This case will be heard at the May 14th Commission meeting.

X. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Wilkes announced that the next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, May 14th at 9 a.m. at Two Peachtree Street in our 5th floor boardroom.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wilkes called for the meeting to be adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved