

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION DHR Board Room Two Peachtree Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3141 December 12, 2002

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, December 12, 2002, at 9 a.m.

Members Present

Amy Denty	Elizabeth Kidd	Sue Sehgal
Angela Finn	Janet Scott	Pamela Thomas
Joseph Cadray	Maria Miller	Gary Walker
Pamela Hertzog	Pamela Nutt	Terri DeLoach

Members Absent

Gwenda Johnson	Smith Pass
Mary Gomez	Sylvia Hooker
Tony Natson	Dottie McClain

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Denty called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and a moment of silence.

II. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Chair Denty recognized the visitors.

- Margaret Elliott, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Gayle Wooten, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Mary Thompson
- Edie Belden, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Jody Grogan, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Mike McGouigle, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Denty called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Hertzog / Walker) To approve agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Denty called for approval of the minutes from the November 14, 2002, Commission meeting.

MOTION: (Miller / Thomas) To approve the minutes.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Commissioner Janet Scott, Chair of the Educator Ethics Review Committee (EERC), gave a preliminary review of the Cases.

- Ms. Scott reported that the Committee reviewed 51 *Probable Cause* cases during its December 11, 2002, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee with the exception of case #28 and case #38:

PC #	Case Number	STANDARD(S)	EERC Recommendation
1	02-06-2353	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Extend Probable Cause Determination for Final 30 Days
2	02-08-389 Applicant	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Denial
3	02-08-429 Applicant	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Reprimand
4	02-08-511 Applicant	Criminal Acts	No Probable Cause
5	02-08-583 Applicant	Criminal Acts	No Probable Cause
6	02-08-680 Paraprofessional	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Extend Probable Cause Determination for Initial 60 Days
7	02-09-857 Applicant	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
8	02-09-921	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
9	02-05-2113	Abuse of Students	No Probable Cause
10	02-08-631	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Reprimand
11	02-10-974 Paraprofessional	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation
12	02-08-563	Misrepresentation or Falsification	No Probable Cause
13	02-09-771	Misrepresentation or Falsification	No Probable Cause
14	02-09-964	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Reprimand
15	02-08-512	Public Funds and Property Criminal Acts Failure to Make a Required Report	Reprimand
16	02-08-610	Public Funds and Property Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
17	02-08-505	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for One Year
18	02-08-573	Abandonment of Contract	No Probable Cause
19	02-08-719	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months
20	02-09-868	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months

PC #	Case Number	STANDARD(S)	EERC Recommendation
21	02-09-870	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months
22	02-09-874 Applicant	Abandonment of Contract	Denial
23	02-09-877	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months
24	02-09-920	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months
25	02-09-954	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months
26	02-06-2213	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Reprimand
27	02-07-90	Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	Revocation
28	02-07-286	Failure to Make a Required Report Criminal Acts	Revocation
29	02-08-476	Failure to Make a Required Report	Warning
30	02-08-482	Failure to Make a Required Report	Reprimand
31	02-08-488	Failure to Make a Required Report	Warning
32	02-08-522	Failure to Make a Required Report	Warning
33	02-08-715	Failure to Make a Required Report	Warning
34	02-09-869 Applicant	Failure to Make a Required Report	Warning
35	02-09-905	Failure to Make a Required Report	No Probable Cause
36	02-09-919	Failure to Make a Required Report	No Probable Cause
37	0208-390	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
38	02-08-405 Applicant	Professional Conduct Criminal Acts	Denial
39	02-09-871	Professional Conduct	Warning
40	02-09-872	Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Month
41	02-09-948	Professional Conduct	Reprimand
42	02-07-220	Professional Conduct	Warning
43	02-09-925	Professional Conduct	Reprimand
44	02-10-1007	Professional Conduct	Warning
45	02-09-923	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
46	02-09-924	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
47	02-09-926	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
48	02-09-947	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
49	02-09-949	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
50	02-10-1009	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
51	02-09-922	Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Year

PSC ACTION: Approved

Dr. Gary Walker called for discussion on Case #28. He presented the EERC recommendation of revocation.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Opposed: Janet Scott Case #28

Dr. Joseph Cadray called for discussion on Case #38. Vicky Brantley addressed his concerns.

PSC ACTION: Approved EERC Recommendation for Denial.

2. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 5 *Initial Decisions* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

Case Number	Ethical Violation	ALJ Initial Decision	EERC Recomm.
02-02-1464	Abuse of Students; Professional Conduct	Denial	Accept
01-10-768	Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Week	Accept
99-3-283	Personal Conduct Other Good and Sufficient Cause	Suspension for Three Months	Review
01-8-227	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification	Revocation	Accept
01-11-860	Professional Conduct Abuse of Students	Reprimand	Accept

PSC ACTION: Approved

3. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 3 *Petitions-Certificate Issues* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

Case #	Educator	Nature of Petition	Previous Decision	EERC Recomm.
02-09-897	Micheldron Eppinger	Right to Re-apply	Revocation – 1996 / Abuse of Students Denied Right to Re-apply - 2000	Grant
01-2-1218	Roosevelt Grace, Jr.	Early Reinstatement	Currently Suspended – 7/28/01 – 7/28/03	Deny
02-09-736	Danny Wilson	Right to Re-apply	Revocation – 1995 Violation of GA Controlled Substance Act	Grant

PSC ACTION: Approved

4. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 17 *Settlement Agreements Consent Order/Voluntary Surrenders* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

Case Number	Sanction	Violation	EERC Recommendation (Accept or Reject)
01-11-872	Revocation	Abuse of Students; Professional Conduct; Criminal Acts	Accept
02-6-2514	Warning	Failure to Make a Required Report	Accept
02-07-203	Reprimand	Abuse of Students; Professional Conduct	Accept
02-07-219	Reprimand	Professional Conduct	Accept
02-07-264	Warning	Professional Conduct	Accept
02-07-309	Denial	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Accept
02-07-349	Warning	Professional Conduct	Accept
02-07-357	Reprimand	Professional Conduct	Accept
02-07-358	Warning	Professional Conduct	Accept
02-07-360	Warning	Professional Conduct	Accept
02-08-540	Suspension for Six Months	Abandonment of Contract	Accept

Case Number	Sanction	Violation	EERC Recommendation (Accept or Reject)
02-08-587	Revocation	Public Funds and Property	Accept
02-08-571	Reprimand	Abandonment of Contract	Accept
02-08-718	Warning	Failure to Make a Required Report	Accept
02-09-867	Reprimand	Professional Conduct	Accept
02-09-884	Revocation	Alcohol or Drugs	Accept
02-10-1176	Revocation	Abuse of Students; Professional Conduct; Criminal Acts	Accept

PSC ACTION: Approved

5. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 1 *Negotiated Settlement Agreement* and brought the following recommendation on behalf of the Committee:

Case Number	Commission's Probable Cause Findings Charges	Negotiated Proposal	EERC Recomm.
02-06-2367	Suspension for One Year Alcohol or Drugs; Criminal Acts; Professional Conduct	Suspension for Seven Months	Accept

PSC ACTION: Approved

6. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 1 *Other Business Report* and brought the following recommendation on behalf of the Committee:

Case Number	EDUCATOR	DESCRIPTION	EERC Recomm.
98-8-207	Charlie Smith	~Letter Advising of Denial of Certiorari (FYI) ~ Request for Suspension to Begin at Conclusion of this School Year	Deny Request (Suspension to begin 15 days from December 12, 2002 Meeting)

PSC ACTION: Approved

7. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 109 new complaints and 1 reconsideration received during the months of November and December 2002:

PSC ACTION: Approved

8. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Extensions to Investigations Report* consisting of 123 cases.

Case Number	Case Number	Case Number	Case Number	Case Number	Case Number	Case Number
01-11-892	02-09-946	02-08-638	02-09-765	02-09-902	02-10-995	02-10-1147
01-12-1035	02-10-973	02-08-645	02-09-772	02-09-906	02-10-996	02-10-1148

02-08-506	02-10-992	02-08-648	02-09-776	02-09-907	02-10-1025	02-10-1152
02-10-986	02-10-1008	02-08-659	02-09-809	02-09-908	02-10-1028	02-10-1155
02-08-588	02-08-425	02-08-676	02-09-821	02-09-912	02-10-1030	02-10-1157
02-09-740	02-08-427	02-08-681	02-09-822	02-09-927	02-10-1034	02-10-1177
02-09-769	02-08-487	02-08-692	02-09-827	02-09-930	02-10-1043	02-10-1179
02-09-904	02-08-489	02-08-714	02-09-828	02-09-933	02-10-1045	02-10-1181
02-10-978	02-08-491	02-08-725	02-09-831	02-09-934	02-10-1048	02-10-1183
02-07-352	02-08-513	02-09-735	02-09-836	02-09-938	02-10-1051	02-10-1186
02-09-945	02-08-524	02-09-748	02-09-845	02-09-943	02-10-1052	02-11-1189
02-09-950	02-08-532	02-09-750	02-09-848	02-09-951	02-10-1054	02-11-1205
02-05-2138	02-08-534	02-09-751	02-09-849	02-09-952	02-10-1055	02-11-1206
02-05-2139	02-08-537	02-09-752	02-09-860	02-09-959	02-10-1087	02-11-1212
02-09-886	02-08-552	02-09-757	02-09-861	02-10-975	02-10-1088	02-11-1214
02-10-979	02-08-604	02-09-759	02-09-873	02-10-987	02-10-1097	
02-07-196	02-08-613	02-09-763	02-09-896	02-10-989	02-10-1135	
02-09-903	02-08-621	02-09-764	02-09-900	02-10-994	02-10-1145	

PSC ACTION: Approved

9. **APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of 52 cases on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

PSC ACTION: Approved

10. **STUDENT LOAN SUSPENSION / REINSTATEMENTS**

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 9 *Student Loan Suspensions* and 19 *Student Loan Reinstatements*.

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

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 19 cases closed by Operation of Law.

12. **COLLEGES/UNIVERSITY PREPARATION**

The Commission reviewed the *Colleges/University Preparation Report* which advised of educators who have received a sanction against their certificates and reflected which College or University prepared them.

VI. **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT**

The Executive Secretary presented the following:

1. Announced that there will be three hearings at the January 2003 Commission meeting.
2. Vicky Brantley, Director of Educator Ethics, spoke about the "Educators Guide on Reporting" that she had prepared for the GASPA conference that was held at St. Simons Island on December 4th, 2002.
3. Introduced the "Briefing Book" that was prepared for the Governor's transition team.
4. Introduced "The Georgia Educator Workforce 2002" booklet prepared by the Division for Educator Workforce Research and Development.
5. Announced that he had submitted his resignation to Governor-Elect Perdue's transition team as requested

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and had also re-applied for the position.

6. Spoke about his meeting with State School Superintendent-elect Kathy Cox. He gave her the Briefing Book and The Georgia Educator Workforce 2002 book along with a brief introduction. They discussed the need for teachers, Troops for Teachers and the Georgia TAPP program among other issues and Dr. Toth told her that he was looking forward to working with her.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair, Amy Denty, spoke about the NASDEQ Professional Practices Institute that she attended along with John Grant and Terri DeLoach.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (DeLoach / Walker) To adjourn the meeting.

PSC ACTION: The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.