

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Remote Meeting via TEAMS Platform

February 9, 2023

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, February 9, 2023.

Members Present

Jeanine Bunn	Nathan Lewis	Dr. Jennifer Wade
Abigail Coggin	Dr. Franklin Perry	Carol Williams
Jordan Frobos	Jane Rookard	Dr. Judi Wilson
Kedriane Harris	Dr. Brandon Seigler	Vonda Woodall

Members Absent

Derek Easterling	Jimmy Atkins
Dr. Holley Roberts	Beth Townsend

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Sirmans called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and Commissioners answered roll call for attendance.

II. VISITORS

Chair Sirmans welcomed the visitors.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Jane Rookard / Kedriane Harris) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

- February Birthdays – Vonda Woodall and Abigail Coggin
- I hope that everyone received our Quarterly Report that was emailed to you, School Superintendents, RESA Directors, Deans of the Colleges of Education, and all of our other colleagues on Friday. Please feel free to share it with your colleagues too.
- The Joint Senate Education & Youth and Higher Education committee met for their second hearing on literacy. Chancellor Purdue presented first and mentioned that the University System of Georgia is working with us to ensure teacher preparation program standards include evidence-based practices for the teaching of reading and literacy. The second presentation was given by Dr. Holley Roberts and a

colleague on behalf of the Sandra Dunagan Deal Center for Early Learning and Literacy, which is a part of Georgia College and State University. The Center conducts research, professional learning, and community outreach. They spoke on the gaps in reading in Georgia and agreed with the Chancellor that the teacher preparation program standards for early reading instruction should be reviewed and updated. The Deal Center is focused on reading and literacy research and on cross-sectional collaboration with all education stakeholders.

- The legislature is in session and I have reporting to both the Senate and House committees. I will meet at the Governor's mansion with him and his staff on Tuesday, February 14th.
- The Ethics Division has recently held several Ethics presentations across the State, including at the HR Institute for the Georgia School Superintendents Association. The most recent presentation was last Thursday in Macon to a cohort of approximately 30 new and/or aspiring HR persons. The Ethics Division is also hosting a virtual webinar series. The first was on the Ethics complaint forms and processes and the second was tips and tricks for internal investigations. The webinars have been well-received with over 100 people in attendance for the first one and over 200 people in attendance for the second one. Since the first webinar, I am happy to report that we have seen an increase in systems using our complaint forms.

VI. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Sirmans thanked the GaPSC staff for their work. He did not have a report this month.

VII. RULES PREVIEW

Ann Marie Fenton presented the rules preview. These rules did not require a vote. They will come before the Commission in March for adoption.

Educator Preparation

Purpose: To update the standards related to the teaching of reading to ensure evidence-based practices are fully addressed in teacher preparation programs.

Affected Rules:

1. 505-3-.13 Birth through Kindergarten Program
2. 505-3-.19 Middle Grades Education Program
3. 505-3-.39 Special Education Preschool Program
4. 505-3-.51 Reading Education Program
5. 505-3-.66 Literacy Specialist Program
6. 505-3-.82 Birth through Kindergarten Endorsement
7. 505-3-.96 Reading Endorsement
8. 505-3-.100 Special Education Preschool Endorsement

Certification

Purpose: To create a new endorsement in response to the Ed. Prep. program rule for this field. New Rule with new number: 505-2-.194 Financial Literacy Endorsement

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Vice Chair Kedrione Harris of the Educator Ethics Review Committee (EERC), gave a preliminary review of the cases.

1. Vice Chair Kedrion Harris reported that the Committee reviewed 54 ***Probable Cause*** cases during the February 8, 2023, 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>
22-8-304	1,4,5a7	NPC	Accept
22-10-559	4,5a2,5a7	Deny	Accept
22-11-711	4, 5a2,5a7	Deny	Accept
22-12-728	4,9	Deny	Accept
21-10-411	1,2,9	Suspension 10 days	Accept
21-11-528	1, 9	NPC	Accept
22-2-982	1,4,5a7,8,9	Revoke	Accept
22-3-1080	1,4,5a7,9	Revoke	Accept
22-3-1174	4, 9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
22-3-1214	1,4,5a7,8,9	Revoke	Accept
22-4-1258	1, 4, 5a7	Revoke	Accept
22-4-1272	1,2,9	Suspension 10 days	Accept
22-5-1481	1,4,5a7,8,9	NPC	Accept
22-5-1489	1, 2, 9	Suspension 90 days	Accept
22-5-1500	1,4,5a7,8,9	Reprimand	Accept
22-5-1512	2, 4, 9	Reprimand	Accept
22-6-1588	1, 2, 4, 9	Suspension 30 days	Accept
22-10-488	1,4,5a7,8,9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
22-10-580	2, 9	NPC	Accept
22-10-585	1, 8, 9	Extend pending criminal outcome	Accept
22-10-607	9	Suspension 90 days	Accept
22-10-608	9	Suspension 90 days	Accept
22-10-609	9	Suspension 90 days	Accept
22-10-614	2,9	NPC	Accept
22-10-615	9	Suspension 90 days	Accept
22-11-634	2, 4, 9	Suspension 10 days	Accept
22-11-635	2, 9	Suspension 1 year + 1 year monitoring	Accept
22-11-641	2,9	Suspension 5 days	Accept
22-11-651	4, 8, 9, 5a2, 5a5	Suspension 20 days	Accept
22-11-652	3, 9	Suspension 1 year	Accept
22-11-653	2, 9	NPC	Accept
22-11-658	2, 9	NPC	Accept
22-11-659	2, 9	Suspension 1 year	Accept

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
22-11-661	2, 7, & 9	Suspension 5 days	Accept
22-11-666	2,9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
22-11-671	9	Suspension 90 days	Accept
22-11-674	3, 4, 9	Suspension 1 year	Accept
22-11-675	4, 8, 9	Reprimand	Accept
22-11-676	9	NPC	Accept
22-11-678	9	NPC	Accept
22-11-685	9	Suspension 90 days	Accept
22-11-689	9	Suspension 10 days	Accept
22-11-697	1,4,5a7,8,9	NPC	Accept
22-11-702	1,4,5a7,8,9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
22-11-710	9	Suspension 90 days	Accept
22-11-714	5,9	Suspension 1 year	Accept
22-11-718	2, 9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
22-12-727	4, 5a7,8,9	NPC	Accept
22-12-729	5, 9	Suspension 10 days	Accept
22-12-770	9	Suspension 90 days	Accept
22-12-788	1,4,5a7,8,9	NPC	Accept
22-12-792	2, 9	NPC	Accept
22-12-793	3,9	NPC	Accept
22-12-809	9	Suspension 90 days	Accept

2. Vice Chair Kedrione Harris reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 3 *Petitions Issues* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>PREVIOUS SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
22-8-237	Revocation - 1/5/2018	Grant
22-9-378	Revocation - 11/14/2013	Grant
22-11-722	Revocation - 6/1/2017	Grant

3. Vice Chair Kedrione Harris reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 11 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
22-8-132	Reprimand	Accept
22-8-176	Reprimand	Accept
22-8-245	Reprimand	Accept
22-9-388	Suspension 1 year	Accept
22-9-407	Revocation	Accept

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
22-9-452	Reprimand	Accept
22-9-472	Reprimand	Accept
22-10-484	Reprimand	Accept
22-10-555	Reprimand	Accept
22-11-627	Suspension 1 year	Accept
22-11-683	Reprimand	Accept

4. Vice Chair Kedrion Harris 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>
18-9-387	Reprimand	Accept
19-9-390	Warning	Accept
21-5-1163	Reprimand	Accept
22-1-858	Reprimand	Accept
22-3-1047	Suspension 90 days	Accept
22-5-1523	Reprimand	Accept

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 6 *Other Business Report* as follows:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>FINDINGS OF FACTS</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
PCE 22-12-741	Additional complaint	Investigate
22-8-246	Unable effect service.	Hold New App
22-10-586	Unable effect service.	Hold New App

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 39 new complaints received during the months of January and February 2023.

7. **VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 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>
22-10-584	2, 9	VS	Accept
22-11-633	1, 2, 9	VS	Accept
22-11-655	1, 2, 9	VS	Accept

8. **EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 152 *Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations* consisting of the following:

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
22-1-851	22-5-1421	22-6-1626	22-7-61	22-8-242	22-10-485	22-10-602	22-11-695
22-1-856	22-5-1430	22-6-1627	22-7-82	22-8-244	22-10-489	22-10-617	22-11-696
22-2-996	22-5-1438	22-6-1633	22-7-86	22-8-266	22-10-501	22-10-618	22-11-700
22-3-1059	22-5-1455	22-6-1647	22-7-89	22-8-282	22-10-505	22-10-621	22-11-706
22-3-1146	22-5-1480	22-6-1654	22-8-119	22-8-285	22-10-523	22-11-629	22-11-708
22-3-1172	22-5-1483	22-6-1655	22-8-123	22-8-292	22-10-530	22-11-631	22-11-709
22-3-1196	22-5-1488	22-6-1658	22-8-125	22-8-301	22-10-531	22-11-632	22-12-724
22-3-1197	22-5-1501	22-6-1659	22-8-139	22-9-310	22-10-533	22-11-636	22-12-725
22-4-1223	22-5-1503	22-6-1667	22-8-143	22-9-316	22-10-538	22-11-645	22-12-726
22-4-1225	22-5-1521	22-6-1681	22-8-147	22-9-334	22-10-539	22-11-647	22-12-738
22-4-1263	22-5-1524	22-6-1692	22-8-148	22-9-337	22-10-540	22-11-649	22-12-742
22-4-1274	22-5-1530	22-6-1693	22-8-150	22-9-395	22-10-549	22-11-650	22-12-743
22-4-1276	22-5-1534	22-6-1695	22-8-160	22-9-401	22-10-556	22-11-657	
22-4-1308	22-5-1564	22-7-5	22-8-163	22-9-431	22-10-568	22-11-663	
22-4-1314	22-5-1573	22-7-15	22-8-175	22-9-444	22-10-571	22-11-664	
22-4-1322	22-5-1575	22-7-31	22-8-204	22-9-445	22-10-587	22-11-665	
22-4-1323	22-6-1608	22-7-35	22-8-209	22-9-451	22-10-588	22-11-670	
22-4-1340	22-6-1612	22-7-49	22-8-211	22-9-461	22-10-596	22-11-677	
22-4-1348	22-6-1613	22-7-51	22-8-218	22-9-465	22-10-598	22-11-681	
22-5-1406	22-6-1622	22-7-59	22-8-238	22-10-477	22-10-600	22-11-691	

9. **EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 52 cases:

23-1-889	23-1-896	23-1-903	23-1-911	23-1-918	23-2-965	23-2-973	23-2-980
23-1-890	23-1-897	23-1-904	23-1-912	23-1-919	23-2-966	23-2-974	23-2-981
23-1-891	23-1-898	23-1-905	23-1-913	23-1-920	23-2-967	23-2-975	23-2-982
23-1-892	23-1-899	23-1-907	23-1-914	23-1-921	23-2-968	23-2-976	
23-1-893	23-1-900	23-1-908	23-1-915	23-1-922	23-2-969	23-2-977	
23-1-894	23-1-901	23-1-909	23-1-916	23-1-923	23-2-970	23-2-978	
23-1-895	23-1-902	23-1-910	23-1-917	23-1-924	23-2-972	23-2-979	

10. **APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 7 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

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

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 18 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before

an Administrative Law Judge.

12. FINAL DECISIONS RENDERED BY AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to accept the ALJ's sanction on the following:

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as present by Vice-Chair Kedrione Harris.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstentions: Dr. Jennifer Wade PCE 22-10-614; Dr. Franklin Perry 23-1855; Jordan Frobos 22-11-633; Jane Rookard 22-5-1419

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

Committee Vice-Chair, Dr. Jennifer Wade, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

- Brewton Parker College – As a result of satisfactory progress indicated in the December 9, 2022, Progress Report, the Committee recommends the areas for improvement (AFIs) in Standards 5.1 and 5.3 cited during the Spring 2017 Continuing Approval Review are removed for the Educator Preparation Provider (EPP). As a result of incremental progress evident in the December 9, 2022, Progress Report, the Committee recommends the AFIs in Standard 4.1 and Standard 5.2 remain for the EPP. The Committee recommends the submission of a progress report by November 8, 2023, addressing the remaining AFIs in Standard 4.1 and Standard 5.2. The progress report should include data from multiple measures which demonstrate program completers' impact on P-12 student learning. In addition, the progress report should include data from the implementation of the inter-rater reliability training.
- Gwinnett County Public Schools – As a result of satisfactory progress indicated in the November 29, 2022, Progress Report, the AFIs in Standard 5.2 and Standard 5.3 cited during the Spring 2020 Continuing Approval Review are removed for the EPP. In addition, the Committee recommends removal of the AFIs in the following educator preparation programs cited during the Spring 2020 Continuing Approval review.

ESOL Endorsement

- Standard 1.1 (1)
- Standard 1.1 (2)
- Standard 1.2
- Standard 1.5

Gifted Endorsement

- Standard 1.1
- Standard 1.2
- Standard 1.5

Stem Education Endorsement

- Standard 1.2
- Standard 1.5

- Kennesaw State University – The Committee recommends Continuing Approval for the EPP and the following thirty-eight educator preparation programs reviewed during the Fall 2022 Continuing Approval Review.
 - Art Education P-12 (B.S.) (P-12) [Baccalaureate degree]
 - Autism Education Endorsement
 - Biology Education 6-12 (M.A.T.) (6-12) [Master’s of Arts in Teaching degree]
 - Broad Field Science w/Biology Concentration 6-12 (B.S.Ed.) (6-12) [Baccalaureate degree]
 - Chemistry Concentration 6-12 (B.S.Ed.) (6-12) [Baccalaureate degree]
 - Chemistry Education 6-12 (M.A.T.) (6-12) [Master’s of Arts in Teaching degree]
 - Chinese (P-12) [Baccalaureate degree; Certification-only]
 - Coaching Endorsement
 - Curriculum and Instruction (Ed.S.) (P-12) [Certification only; Education Specialist degree]
 - Early Childhood Education Birth-K (B.S.) (B-K) [Baccalaureate degree]
 - Educational Leadership - Tier I (M.Ed.) (P-12) [Certification-only; Master's degree]
 - Educational Leadership - Tier II (P-12) [Certification-only; Education Specialist degree]
 - Elementary Education P-5 (B.S.) [Baccalaureate degree]
 - English (6-12) [Baccalaureate degree]
 - English - M.A.T. (6-12) [Master’s of Arts in Teaching degree]
 - ESOL Endorsement
 - ESOL P-12 (M.A.T.) (P-12) [Master’s of Arts in Teaching degree]
 - French (P-12) [Baccalaureate degree; Certification-only]
 - German (P-12) [Baccalaureate degree; Certification-only]
 - Gifted In-Field Endorsement
 - Health and Physical Education P-12 (B.S.) (P-12) [Baccalaureate degree]
 - History Education 6-12 (B.S.) (6-12) [Baccalaureate degree]
 - Instructional Technology (M.Ed./Ed.S./Ed.D.) (P-12) [Certification-only; Master's degree; Education Specialist degree; Doctoral degree]
 - Japanese (P-12) [Certification-only]
 - Latin Education (P-12) [Certification only]
 - Mathematics Concentration 6-12 (B.S.Ed.) (6-12) [Baccalaureate degree]
 - Mathematics Education 6-12 (M.A.T.) (6-12)[Master’s of Arts in Teaching degree]
 - Middle Grades Education 4-8 (B.S.) (4-8) -- Language arts, Math, Science, Social science [Baccalaureate degree]
 - Music Education P-12 (B.M.) (P-12) [Baccalaureate degree]
 - Online Teaching Endorsement
 - Personalized Learning Endorsement
 - Physics Concentration 6-12 (B.S.Ed.) (6-12) [Baccalaureate degree]
 - Physics Education 6-12 (M.A.T.) (6-12) [Master’s of Arts in Teaching degree]
 - PreSchool Special Education Endorsement
 - Reading Endorsement

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- Spanish (P-12) [Baccalaureate degree; Certification-only]
- Special ED - General Curriculum (P-12) [Master's of Arts in Teaching degree]
- Teacher Leadership (P-12) [Certification-only; Master's degree; Doctoral degree]

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the Educator Preparation and Certification Committee report as present by Vice-Chair Dr. Jennifer Wade

PSC ACTION: Approved

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Our next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, February 9th, 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 and Certification Committee meeting will meet on Wednesday, February 8th, at 4:00 pm. Chair Sirmans called for the meeting to be adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved