

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Remote Meeting via TEAMS Platform

June 10, 2021

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, June 10, 2021.

Members Present

Jimmy Atkins	Jordan Frobos	Teri Schneider
Jeanine Bunn	Dr. Karla Hull	Dr. Brandon Seigler
Abigail Coggin	Diane McClearn	Beth Townsend
Daniel Dooley	Dr. Franklin Perry	Dr. Jennifer Wade
Derek Easterling	Dr. Holley Roberts	Carol Williams

Members Absent

Brian Sirmans	Barbara Ellingson
Dr. Steve Barker	

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Vice-Chair, Dr. Franklin Perry, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and Commissioners answered roll call for attendance.

II. VISITORS

Vice-Chair, Dr. Perry, welcomed the visitors.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Vice-Chair, Dr. Perry, called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Beth Townsend / Derek Easterling) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice-Chair, Dr. Perry called for approval of the May 13, 2021 minutes.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

We presented three sessions at the recent GASPA (Georgia Association of School Personnel Administrators) conference.

Dr. Kelli Young and Windy Fortenberry, presented Certification Updates. These updates included streamlining application procedures, moving toward a paperless process, automation of certification transactions, and important reminders on various certification related topics. Following the presentation, Kelli and Windy stayed

7/9/2021

Page 2

after to provide individualized assistance to attendees from various school systems.

Dr. Paul Shaw and Anne Marie Fenton, along with a panel of school district HR directors, conducted a session aimed at addressing misuse of social media by educators. Specific situations districts have faced and lessons learned were shared. Participants also received a draft guidance document focused on suggestions for ethical use of social media and in remote learning environments to help educators avoid missteps.

In a separate session, Anne Marie, Paul, and Dr. Penney McRoy shared updates in assessment, educator preparation, and ethics, and provided opportunities for questions. Topics included July 1, 2021, changes to the Educational Leadership Assessment and Program Admission Assessment composite scoring; several coming ethics resources; recently published Educator Preparation reports, program completion data, and reminders regarding upgrade programs and a focus on teacher leadership. I want to take a minute to share with you an email that Penney received from a Walker county Principal who was a participant in the Teacher Leadership Initiative from its inception in 2018.

"Your inviting and allowing us to work with Teacher Leadership was without a doubt the best thing for our school. Prior to the initiative, in a four year span, average teacher retention was 37%. Over the past four years while implementing Teacher Leadership, we ended this year with a 97% retention rate and have not had to hire a new teacher for three years."

This is just one of the several emails that we received from conference attendees thanking our staff for their work and presence at the conference.

We are looking forward to attending the NASDTEC conference this Sunday.

VI. RECOMMENDED REVISIONS TO GaPSC APPROVAL STANDARDS

Dr. Angie Gant, Director of Program Approval, presented the recommended revised GaPSC Approval Standards at the May Commission meeting. She informed the Commissioners that we did not receive any questions or comments and asked Commissioners if they had any questions or comments that they would like for her to address. Hearing none, she stated the proposed motion. is that you adopt these recommended revisions to the program approval standards with an effective date of academic year 2022-2023.

MOTION: (Beth Townsend/Daniel Dooley) To adopt the recommended revisions to the GaPSC Approval Standards as presented by Dr. Angie Gant, with an effective date of academic year 2022-2023.

PSC ACTION: Approved
Abstention: Teri Schneider

VII. RULES PREVIEW

Anne Marie Fenton, Director of Rules Management & Educator Assessment, presented three Educator Preparation rules that will come before the Commission on July 8, 2021, for their consideration to initiate. If initiated, the rules will be brought back to the Commission after a 30 day public comment period for their consideration to adopt in September, and, if adopted, they will become effective October 15, 2021. Anne Marie

asked Dr. Penney McRoy to preview these rules to the Commission. Commissioners were given the opportunity to ask questions.

505-3-.06	Pedagogy-Only Program	Amendments proposed to Rule 505-3-.06 include clarification of coursework eligible for use as evidence of content expertise and the exclusion of the new field of Reading Education (T).
505-3-.27	Mathematics Education Program	Amendments are proposed to Rule 505-3-.27 to update the program content standards.
505-3-.92	K-5 Mathematics Endorsement Program	Amendments proposed to Rule 505-3-.92 include updates to the program content standards and the July 1, 2022, sunset of the process for converting the Early Childhood Education Mathematics Endorsement to the K-5 Mathematics Endorsement.

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 50 *Probable Cause* cases during June 9, 2021, 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>
19-9-383	1, 5a7	NPC	Accept
21-1-615	4,5a7	Deny	Accept
21-2-752	1,4, 5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-2-767	1, 9, 5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-3-875	1, 5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-4-942	1,4,5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-5-1081	1,5a7	Deny	Accept
21-5-1102	1, 5a7	Reprimand	Accept
20-11-438	1, 4,5a7	Reprimand	Accept
19-3-1244	8, 9, 5a7	Revoke	Accept
19-11-752	8, 9, 5a7	NPC	Accept
20-3-1337	1,4,5a7,8,9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
20-6-1620	2, 9, 5a7	Revoke	Accept
20-10-383	1, 2, 9, 5a7	Revoke	Accept
20-11-444	1,4,5a7,8,9	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-1-630	2, 9, 5a7	Revoke	Accept
21-2-658	5, 9, 5a7	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-2-696	5a2, 5a5, 5a7	Suspension 1 year	Accept

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
21-2-715	3, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-2-733	4, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-2-739	1, 4, 8, 9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-2-762	9, 5a7	Suspension 90 days	Accept
21-2-776	4, 9, 5a7	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-2-778	1,2,9,5a7	Suspension 2 years	Accept
21-2-780	3, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-3-799	4, 9, 5a7	Suspension 90 days	Accept
21-3-800	2,4,9,5a7	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-3-801	8, 9, 5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-3-802	8, 9, 5a7	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-3-803	2, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-3-805	8, 9, 5a7	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-3-806	5, 9, 5a7	Suspension 45 days	Accept
21-3-807	5, 9, 5a7	Suspension 30 days	Accept
21-3-809	5a7, 8, 9	NPC	Accept
21-3-823	2, 9, 5a7	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-3-828	2, 9, 5a7	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-3-831	4,9,5a7	Revoke	Accept
21-3-855	4,5,9,5a7	Suspension 45 days	Accept
21-3-856	4,5,9,5a7	Suspension 90 days	Accept
21-3-857	2, 9, 5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-3-861	5,6,9,5a7	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-3-862	9	NPC	Accept
21-3-868	9	Reprimand	Accept
21-3-870	9,10, 5a7	Suspension 90 days	Accept
21-3-871	2, 9, 5a7	Suspension 90 days	Accept
21-3-889	9, 5a7	Suspension 90 days	Accept
21-3-895	4,9,5a7	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-3-897	4,9,5a7	NPC	Accept
21-3-934	1,4,5a7,8,9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-4-959	4,8,5a2,5a5,5a7	Suspension 20 days	Accept

2. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 1 *Petitions Issue* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>PREVIOUS SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
21-2-761	Voluntary Surrender	Deny

3. Chair Townsend 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>
20-9-276	Reprimand	Accept
20-10-356	Reprimand	Accept
20-12-521	Reprimand	Accept
21-1-612	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-2-665	Reprimand	Accept
21-3-816	Reprimand	Accept
21-3-863	Reprimand	Accept
21-3-869	Reprimand	Accept
21-3-880	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-3-899	Reprimand	Accept
21-4-968	Reprimand	Accept

4. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 21 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
17-7-67	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
17-9-415	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
18-12-769	NPC	Accept
19-7-3	Suspension 15 days	Accept
19-7-41	Warning	Accept
19-10-646	NPC	Accept
19-12-871	Suspension 30 days	Accept
19-12-893	NPC	Accept
20-1-1035	NPC	Accept
20-1-1036	NPC	Accept
20-2-1131	Suspension 10 days	Accept
20-2-1134	Reprimand	Accept
20-2-1268	Suspension 2 days	Accept
20-3-1424	Suspension 1 year	Accept
20-5-1518	Suspension 190 days	Accept
20-6-1654	Suspension 1 year	Accept
20-6-1710	Reprimand	Accept
20-8-130	Suspension 20 days	Accept
20-8-187	Reprimand	Accept
20-9-244	Suspension 182 days	Accept
20-9-252	Suspension 60 days	Accept
20-9-290	Reprimand	Accept

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
20-10-349	Reprimand	Accept
20-10-405	Reprimand	Accept
20-11-421	NPC	Accept
20-11-446	Reprimand	Reject

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>
21-4-1005	Expand current investigation	Expand
21-5-1113	Expand current investigation	Expand
19-10-557	Failure to respond	Hold New App
19-10-672	Failure to respond	Hold New App
19-12-851	Failed to provide requested documents	Hold New App
19-12-855	Failure to respond	Hold New App
21-3-784	Failure to respond	Hold New App
21-3-811	Failure to respond	Hold New App
21-3-813	Failure to respond	Hold New App
21-3-845	Failure to respond.	Hold New App
21-3-885	Failed to provide requested documents	Hold New App
21-3-890	Failure to respond	Hold New App
21-3-922	Failed to provide requested documents	Hold New App
21-3-913	Inappropriate relationship with a student	Accept

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 92 new complaints received during the months of May and June 2021.

7. **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of 1 *Voluntary Surrender* 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>
21-4-971	1, 2, 9, 5a7	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:

21-5-1168	21-5-1179	21-5-1184	21-5-1197	21-6-1208	21-6-1213	21-6-1218	21-6-1231
21-5-1169	21-5-1180	21-5-1185	21-5-1198	21-6-1209	21-6-1214	21-6-1224	21-6-1238
21-5-1170	21-5-1181	21-5-1186	21-6-1205	21-6-1210	21-6-1215	21-6-1225	21-6-1239
21-5-1171	21-5-1182	21-5-1195	21-6-1206	21-6-1211	21-6-1216	21-6-1226	
21-5-1178	21-5-1183	21-5-1196	21-6-1207	21-6-1212	21-6-1217	21-6-1227	

9. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 378 cases:

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
19-1-946	19-10-534	20-3-1319	20-5-1588	20-8-119	20-10-404	21-2-695	21-3-887
19-1-963	19-10-545	20-3-1321	20-5-1590	20-8-150	20-10-406	21-2-696	21-3-892
19-2-1106	19-10-564	20-3-1322	20-5-1594	20-8-154	20-11-418	21-2-698	21-3-902
19-3-1244	19-10-570	20-3-1325	20-5-1597	20-8-177	20-11-439	21-2-707	21-3-903
19-3-1277	19-10-589	20-3-1326	20-5-1598	20-8-178	20-11-440	21-2-709	21-3-904
19-3-1287	19-10-596	20-3-1329	20-5-1601	20-8-180	20-11-471	21-2-715	21-3-905
19-4-1402	19-10-609	20-3-1330	20-5-1602	20-8-182	20-11-478	21-2-719	21-3-906
19-5-1613	19-10-657	20-3-1331	20-5-1604	20-8-183	20-11-479	21-2-725	21-3-917
19-5-1616	19-10-661	20-3-1333	20-6-1620	20-8-184	20-11-493	21-2-728	21-3-918
19-5-1620	19-10-674	20-3-1335	20-6-1675	20-8-185	20-11-498	21-2-733	21-3-920
19-5-1695	19-10-683	20-3-1337	20-6-1677	20-8-190	20-11-509	21-2-737	21-3-923
19-5-1700	19-10-689	20-3-1338	20-6-1692	20-8-191	20-11-510	21-2-739	21-3-926
19-6-1814	19-11-752	20-3-1379	20-6-1695	20-8-193	20-12-519	21-2-740	21-3-927
19-6-1818	19-11-800	20-3-1384	20-6-1698	20-8-195	20-12-524	21-2-744	21-3-928
19-6-1875	19-12-857	20-3-1386	20-6-1702	20-8-196	20-12-541	21-2-745	21-3-929
19-6-1887	20-1-939	20-3-1387	20-6-1705	20-8-198	20-12-547	21-2-746	21-3-930
19-6-1889	20-1-940	20-3-1411	20-6-1706	20-8-201	20-12-551	21-2-748	21-3-934
19-6-1890	20-1-1021	20-3-1413	20-6-1707	20-9-259	20-12-552	21-2-751	21-3-935
19-6-1896	20-1-1022	20-3-1417	20-6-1719	20-9-261	20-12-553	21-2-756	21-4-1002
19-6-1897	20-1-1023	20-4-1449	20-6-1722	20-9-284	20-12-558	21-2-761	21-4-1003
19-6-1898	20-1-1047	20-4-1450	20-7-41	20-9-285	21-1-591	21-2-762	21-4-1015
19-6-1906	20-1-1057	20-4-1453	20-7-44	20-9-286	21-1-605	21-2-771	21-4-1021
19-6-1908	20-1-1060	20-4-1454	20-7-45	20-9-287	21-1-610	21-2-773	21-4-1023
19-6-1915	20-1-1061	20-4-1455	20-7-46	20-10-306	21-1-611	21-2-775	21-4-1027
19-6-1931	20-1-1062	20-4-1464	20-7-48	20-10-323	21-1-613	21-2-779	21-4-1031
19-7-90	20-1-1066	20-4-1465	20-7-49	20-10-335	21-1-614	21-3-785	21-4-1032
19-7-92	20-1-1069	20-4-1467	20-7-54	20-10-336	21-1-615	21-3-786	21-4-1033
19-7-94	20-1-1074	20-4-1468	20-7-57	20-10-337	21-1-616	21-3-794	21-4-1034
19-7-95	20-1-1080	20-4-1469	20-7-59	20-10-338	21-1-617	21-3-795	21-4-941
19-7-97	20-1-1081	20-5-1488	20-7-62	20-10-339	21-1-619	21-3-804	21-4-962
19-7-100	20-1-1083	20-5-1534	20-7-66	20-10-340	21-1-629	21-3-808	21-4-963
19-7-107	20-1-1086	20-5-1535	20-7-67	20-10-341	21-1-630	21-3-809	21-4-965
19-7-128	20-1-1089	20-5-1546	20-7-68	20-10-343	21-1-646	21-3-812	21-4-966
19-7-138	20-1-1090	20-5-1551	20-7-69	20-10-344	21-1-653	21-3-815	21-4-967

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
19-7-142	20-1-1091	20-5-1556	20-7-70	20-10-346	21-2-658	21-3-818	21-4-969
19-7-154	20-1-1096	20-5-1557	20-7-71	20-10-347	21-2-661	21-3-822	21-4-981
19-8-213	20-1-1103	20-5-1558	20-7-75	20-10-352	21-2-663	21-3-827	21-4-984
19-8-242	20-1-1105	20-5-1561	20-7-83	20-10-353	21-2-666	21-3-832	21-4-986
19-9-375	20-2-1178	20-5-1562	20-7-89	20-10-357	21-2-670	21-3-833	21-4-988
19-9-376	20-2-1179	20-5-1567	20-7-94	20-10-360	21-2-676	21-3-835	21-4-990
19-9-381	20-2-1245	20-5-1571	20-7-95	20-10-361	21-2-677	21-3-836	21-4-993
19-9-390	20-2-1250	20-5-1572	20-7-97	20-10-364	21-2-679	21-3-837	21-4-995
19-9-400	20-2-1254	20-5-1575	20-7-98	20-10-381	21-2-684	21-3-844	
19-9-461	20-2-1261	20-5-1576	20-7-99	20-10-383	21-2-686	21-3-852	
19-9-464	20-3-1313	20-5-1578	20-7-100	20-10-396	21-2-687	21-3-865	
19-9-488	20-3-1315	20-5-1579	20-7-101	20-10-397	21-2-688	21-3-878	
19-9-499	20-3-1316	20-5-1585	20-7-104	20-10-402	21-2-692	21-3-879	
19-9-502	20-3-1318	20-5-1587	20-8-117	20-10-403	21-2-693	21-3-883	

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 8 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 approve the actions in the *Final Decisions Rendered by Operation of Law* report.

CASE	ORIGINAL SANCTION	ALJ SANCTION	EERC RECOMMENDATION
17-6-1508	Revocation	Reprimand	Accept
19-3-1251	Suspension 1 year	NPC	Accept
19-3-1312	Revocation	Revocation	Accept
19-10-687	Denial	Denial	Accept

Vice-Chair, Dr. Franklin Perry, called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Chair, Beth Townsend.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstentions: Abigail Coggin - NCOs-20-5-1518, 20-10-349, PIDs-21-4-1019, 21-5-1071, Jeanine Bunn - NCOs-20-9-290, 20-6-1654, PCE-20-11-444, PIDs-21-5-1058 thru 1061, Jimmy Atkins - PCE-21-3-799, Dr. Franklin Perry - PID-21-4-1030, Teri Schneider - PIDs-21-4-1035, 21-5-1062, 21-5-1121, Derek Easterling - PIDs-21-5-1084, 21-5-1127, 21-5-1134

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

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

EPP
June 2021 Detailed
Approval Recommendations

Albany State University

The Committee recommends Continuing Approval for the Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) and the fifteen educator preparation programs reviewed during the Spring 2021 Continuing Approval Review that are listed below.

- Educational Leadership Tier I [Certification-only, Master's degree]
- Educational Leadership Tier II [Certification-only, Ed Specialist degree]
- Elementary Education (P-5) [Baccalaureate degree, Certification-only]
- English Education (6-12) [Baccalaureate degree, Certification-only]
- Gifted Endorsement
- Health and Physical Education (P-12) [Baccalaureate degree, Certification-only]
- K-5 Mathematics Endorsement
- Middle Grades (4-8); Language arts, Math, Reading, Science, Social Science [Baccalaureate degree, Certification-only]
- Music (P-12) [Baccalaureate degree, Certification-only]
- Online Teaching Endorsement
- Pedagogy-only Program (4-8, 6-12, P-12) [Certification-only]
- Reading Endorsement
- School Counselor (P-12) [Certification-only, Master's degree]
- Science Education [Baccalaureate degree, Certification-only]
- Special Education Adapted Curriculum (P-12) Consultative [Baccalaureate degree, Certification-only]

Gordon State College

The Committee makes the following recommendations with regard to the March 18, 2021, progress report addressing areas for improvement cited during the Spring 2020 Continuing Approval Review.

The progress report is unsatisfactory in addressing the following areas for improvement (AFIs). The AFIs remain for the Educator Preparation Provider in the following standards.

- Standard 1.1
- Standard 3.5
- Standard 4.1
- Standard 4.4
- Standard 5.1
- Standard 5.3
- Standard 5.4

While incremental progress is evident in the progress report, the AFIs remain for the Educator Preparation Provider in the following standards.

- Standard 2.3
- Standard 4.2
- Standard 4.3

In addition, the areas for improvement remain in Standard 6.4 for the following programs.

- English Education (6-12)
- History Education (6-12)

7/9/2021

Page 10

- Middle Grades Education (4-8); Language Arts, Mathematics, Reading, Science, Social Science
- Secondary Mathematics (6-12)
- Secondary Science (6-12); Biology
- Special Education General Curriculum/Elementary Education (P-5)

A progress report is due January 10, 2022, addressing the remaining areas for improvement.

Griffin RESA

The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for the Alternative Preparation for Tier I and Tier II Educational Leadership Certification-only programs reviewed during the Spring 2021 Developmental Approval Review.

Columbus State University

The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for the Autism Endorsement and the Dyslexia Endorsement.

Thomas University

The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for the ESOL Endorsement.

Vice-Chair, Dr. Franklin Perry, called for approval of the Educator Preparation/Certification Committee report as presented by Chair, Diane McClearen.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Our next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, July 8th, 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, July 7th, at 4:00 pm. Dr. Franklin Perry thanked Commission members and staff for their work and called for the meeting to be adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved