

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

May 10, 2012

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, May 10, 2012, at 12:30 p.m.

Members Present

Julia Bernath	Meredith Hodges	Dr. Lawrence Walters
Marci Cawthon	Phil Jacobs	Pam Walker
Alice Clements	David Johnson	Pam Williams
Penny Elkins	Stephanie Leggett	Valerie Williams
Dr. Adrian Epps	Bettina Polite Tate	

Members Absent

Bill Haskin	Christy McGill
Rose Powell	Heath Garrett

COMMISSION WORK SESSION

Penney McRoy gave a presentation titled, Rule 505-3-.01: Proposed Changes.

Kelly Henson welcomed Phil Jacobs to the Commission. Mr. Jacobs is a founding partner in the Pendleton Consulting Group and a senior consultant for Coxe Curry and Associates. Prior to his current roles, he spent 34 years with BellSouth and AT&T. Kelly congratulated Dr. Penny Elkins on her appointment as Commission Chair. Kelly congratulated Dr. Adrian Epps on his new role as Chair of Educator Preparation. He announced that Julia Bernath will continue to serve as Vice Chair of Educator Preparation and Vice Chair of the Commission.

Kelly reminded everyone that the Commission would recognize Dr. Debbie Wilkes tonight and that they would also hear from Teresa MacCartney and Tom Higgins on Race to the Top. He also said that he wanted the retreat to be interactive. All Commissioners were encouraged to ask questions and participate in all upcoming sessions.

Dr. Penny Elkins stated that she was honored to serve the state of Georgia and its children and to be the new Chair of the Commission.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Elkins called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and a moment of silence.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Elkins called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Pam Walker / Dr. Adrian Epps) To approve the agenda after removing Rose Powell's name and adding Pam Walker to present the Educator Ethics Review Committee report

PSC ACTION: Approved

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Elkins called for approval of the minutes from the April 12, 2012, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. VISITORS

Chair Elkins welcomed the visitors.

- Margaret Elliott, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Gayle Wooten, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Pat Watkins, Atlanta Federation of Teachers
- Linda Fortson, Warren Fortson Law Office
- Tayia Donald, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Ron Fowler, Atlanta Federation of Teachers

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**A. Ethics and Professional Conduct --Recommendations and Actions on Cases**

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

1. Ms. Walker reported that the Committee reviewed 48 ***Probable Cause*** cases during its May 10, 2012, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
10-11-478	1, 10	Revoke
10-12-569	1,2,10	Suspension 1 yr
10-12-611	3, 10	Suspension 1 yr
11-02-794	10	Reprimand
11-06-1205	4,10	Suspension 90 days
11-06-1271	5, 10	NPC
11-08-114	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-08-116	4,7,9,10,DOE	Revoke
11-08-143	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 90 days
11-08-145	4,7,9,10,DOE	Revoke
11-08-148	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-08-229	4,7,9,10,DOE	Revoke
11-08-231	4,7,9,10,DOE	Revoke
11-09-361	4,7,9,10,DOE	Revoke
11-09-362	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-367	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-370	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs

11-09-371	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-372	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-373	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-374	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-375	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-376	4,7,9,10,DOE	Revoke
11-09-377	4,7,9,10,DOE	Revoke
11-09-378	4,7,9,10,DOE	Revoke
11-09-379	4,7,9,10,DOE	Revoke
11-09-393	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-403	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-404	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-405	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-406	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-407	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-408	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-409	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-410	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-411	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-412	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-414	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension 2 yrs
11-09-416	4,7,9,10,DOE	Revoke
11-11-536	2,10	NPC
12-01-726	1, 4, 9, 10	Suspension 10 days
12-01-739	10	Suspension 90 days
12-01-759	1, 4, 10	Suspension 10 days
12-02-915	10	Suspension 2 yrs
12-03-994	1, 9, 10	Suspension 1 yr
12-03-1002	1,9,10	Suspension 10 days
12-03-1009	1,9,10	NPC
12-03-1017	1,9,10	Suspension 10 days

2. Ms. Walker 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>
12-1-723	Denial Sept. 14, 2006	Deny
12-2-884	Denial Dec. 19, 2009	Deny

3. Ms. Walker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 6 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
11-8-228	Revocation	Accept
11-12-699	Reprimand	Accept
12-1-768	Reprimand	Accept
12-2-820	Reprimand	Accept
12-2-866	Reprimand	Accept
12-2-870	Reprimand	Accept

4. Ms. Walker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 12 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
08-6-1514	Suspension 90 days	Accept
09-3-1013	NPC	Accept
10-5-1161	Suspension 45 days	Accept
10-11-511	Suspension 5 days	Accept
10-11-512	Suspension 5 days	Accept
10-11-513	Suspension 5 days	Accept
10-11-514	Suspension 5 days	Accept
10-11-515	Suspension 5 days	Accept
11-5-1119	Suspension 1 year	Accept
11-6-1237	Suspension 10 days	Accept
11-6-1256	Suspension 1 year	Accept
11-7-4	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

5. OTHER BUSINESS

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

<u>CASE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
NCO 09-7-56	Suspension 20 days	Suspension 10 days	Accept
ID 10-10-448	Suspension 20 days	Suspension 20 days	Reject
PCE-11-9-415	Expand investigation		Expand
PCE-11-10-522	Expand investigation		Expand

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative*

Determination Report consisting of 65 new complaints received during the months of April 2012 and May 2012.

7. VOLUNTARY SURRENDER/VOLUNTARY DENIAL

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the Voluntary Surrender/Voluntary Denial 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>
12-2-887	5, 10	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:

PSC ACTION: Approved

9. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an extension to the following 27 Preliminary Investigations cases and 224 Written Complaint and Application cases

12-3-1062	12-3-1066	12-3-1070	12-4-1106	12-4-1110	12-4-1116	12-4-1120	
12-3-1063	12-3-1067	12-3-1071	12-4-1107	12-4-1111	12-4-1117	12-4-1121	
12-3-1064	12-3-1068	12-3-1072	12-4-1108	12-4-1112	12-4-1118	12-4-1122	
12-3-1065	12-3-1069	12-3-1073	12-4-1109	12-4-1115	12-4-1119		

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
10-7-34	11-8-132	11-8-263	11-9-385	11-9-456	11-12-675	12-1-747	12-2-854
10-9-331	11-8-133	11-9-268	11-9-386	11-9-457	11-12-677	12-1-748	12-2-855
10-12-553	11-8-137	11-9-275	11-9-387	11-9-458	11-12-681	12-1-749	12-2-856
10-12-562	11-8-142	11-9-284	11-9-388	11-9-459	11-12-683	12-1-753	12-2-858
10-12-623	11-8-146	11-9-285	11-9-389	11-10-480	11-12-684	12-1-758	12-2-864
11-1-646	11-8-164	11-9-298	11-9-390	11-10-481	11-12-690	12-1-759	12-2-864
11-3-391	11-8-165	11-9-302	11-9-392	11-10-484	11-12-691	12-1-761	12-2-882
11-3-876	11-8-166	11-9-304	11-9-394	11-10-486	11-12-702	12-1-763	12-2-885
11-4-915	11-8-167	11-9-311	11-9-395	11-10-492	11-12-703	12-1-764	12-2-888
11-4-999	11-8-168	11-9-321	11-9-396	11-10-500	11-12-709	12-1-769	12-2-889
11-4-1000	11-8-169	11-9-332	11-9-397	11-10-505	11-12-710	12-1-771	12-2-891
11-4-1031	11-8-180	11-9-333	11-9-398	11-10-511	11-12-711	12-1-775	12-2-894
11-5-1118	11-8-185	11-9-337	11-9-399	11-10-513	11-12-719	12-1-776	12-2-896
11-5-1149	11-8-200	11-9-342	11-9-401	11-10-519	11-12-720	12-1-777	12-2-898
11-6-1192	11-8-201	11-9-343	11-9-402	11-10-522	12-1-724	12-1-778	12-2-901
11-6-1227	11-8-203	11-9-355	11-9-413	11-11-551	12-1-725	12-1-790	12-2-914
11-6-1249	11-8-232	11-9-358	11-9-415	11-11-552	12-1-726	12-1-807	12-2-916

11-6-1272	11-8-233	11-9-359	11-9-417	11-11-554	12-1-730	12-1-811	12-3-985
11-6-1273	11-8-234	11-9-360	11-9-418	11-11-560	12-1-731	12-2-827	12-3-986
11-7-84	11-8-235	11-9-363	11-9-419	11-11-561	12-1-733	12-2-831	12-3-997
11-7-87	11-8-236	11-9-364	11-9-420	11-11-589	12-7-735	12-2-837	12-3-1004
11-7-89	11-8-237	11-9-365	11-9-421	11-11-595	12-1-736	12-2-838	12-3-1007
11-7-97	11-8-238	11-9-366	11-9-422	11-11-598	12-1-737	12-2-840	12-3-1013
11-7-98	11-8-239	11-9-368	11-9-423	11-11-600	12-1-738	12-2-841	12-3-1054
11-7-99	11-8-240	11-9-369	11-9-424	11-11-601	12-1-740	12-2-842	12-3-1056
11-8-117	11-8-241	11-9-382	11-9-431	11-11-603	12-1-742	12-2-843	12-3-1057
11-8-119	11-8-242	11-9-383	11-9-444	11-11-665	12-1-744	12-2-852	12-3-1059
11-8-130	11-8-255	11-9-384	11-9-455	11-11-671	12-1-746	12-2-853	12-3-1060

10. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 9 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

11. STUDENT LOAN SUSPENSION / REINSTATEMENTS

The Commission reviewed the report, which indicated that there were 14 certificates suspended from April 12, 2012 through May 10, 2012. There were 6 certificates that had been *reinstated* because restitution is now being made on those student loans. The Committee was also advised that there were 14 issues where notification had been received to suspend but releases were received prior to the actual suspension being implemented. Restitution is now being made on those student loans.

12. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 3 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 Elkins called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Pam Walker excluding case #'s 9-5-1196.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Case #12-4-117 –Julia Bernath Case # 10-12-569-Stephanie Leggett and Phil Jacobs - all cases.

Initial Decision Case # 9-5-1196

MOTION: (Pam Walker / Bettina Tate) To accept the Educator Ethics Review Committee’s recommendation for retro-active credit from August 10, 2009 to September 4, 2009.

PSC ACTION: Approved

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

Committee Chair, Dr. Adrian Epps, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

Reports Requiring Approval
Developmental Approval of Program (one)

	Unit Number	
1.	10004	Developmental Approval
Continuing Approval of Unit and Programs (one)		
	Unit Number	
1.	3140	Continuing Approval
Continuing Approval of Programs (two)		
	Unit Number	
1.	5540	1. Developmental Provisional Approval: Option II 2. Continuing Approval with Conditions: Option II
2.	6671	Continuing Approval
Progress Report Approval (one)		
	Unit Number	
1.	5568	Unsatisfactory, areas for improvement remain

SYNOPSIS				
	Unit Number	Standards	Detailed Approval Recommendations	Additional Action Required
1.	10004	1-8	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for the Middle Grades Education program (4-8; Initial).	A Progress Report is due Jan 1, 2014, on Standard 2 to include the plan on how the areas for improvement (AFI) will be addressed and show data demonstrating that the AFIs have been addressed.
2.	3140	1-8	The Committee recommends Continuing Approval for the unit (Initial and Advanced) and for the Early Childhood Education program (P-5; Initial), English Education program (6-12; Initial), History Education program (6-12; Initial), Mathematics Education program (6-12; Initial), Middle Grades Education program (4-8; Initial), Music Education program (P-12; Initial), and Science Education program (6-12; Initial).	

SYNOPSIS					
	Unit	Number	Standards	Detailed Approval Recommendations	Additional Action Required
3.	5540	1-8	<p>The Committee recommends Developmental Provisional Approval for the Birth through Five Endorsement, K-5 Mathematics Endorsement, Online Mathematics Education program (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.), Online Science Education program (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.), and Political Science Education program (6-12; Initial; Certification Only).</p>	<p>A focused visit on Standard 2 at the initial teacher preparation level must take place no later than Spring 2013.</p>	
			<p>The Committee recommends Continuing Approval with Conditions for all remaining initial preparation programs.</p>		
			<p>The Committee recommends the areas for improvement cited for Standard 4 be removed.</p>		
4.	6671	1-8	<p>The Committee recommends Continuing Approval for the Georgia Teacher Academy for Preparation and Pedagogy, the ESOL endorsement, and the Gifted endorsement.</p>	<p>A Progress Report is due January 1, 2014, addressing the Standard 2 areas for improvement (AFI) for the ESOL Endorsement.</p>	
5.	5568	1	<p>The Committee recommends that the Progress Report submitted December 12, 2011, indicates that progress is unsatisfactory in addressing the Standard 1 area for improvement for the Middle Grades Education program and the English Education program.</p>	<p>A Progress Report is due June 1, 2012, addressing the Standard 1 area for improvement for the Middle Grades Education program and the English Education program including the following information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Provide disaggregated data on the GACE scores within the Middle Grades Education program including the 2010-11 data, · Address the area for improvement for the English Education program cited in the original Commission decision, and · Describe in detail what the newly revised admission policy was to address and what has been accomplished with that change. 	
			<p>The Committee recommends the Standard 1 area for improvement shall remain for the Middle Grades Education program and the English Education program.</p>		<p>The Committee recommends that the December 9, 2010, Commission decision that required an August 31, 2012, Progress Report be eliminated.</p>

6/25/2012

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Chair Elkins called for approval of the Educator Preparation Committee report as presented by Dr. Adrian Epps.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Phil Jacobs

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Elkins called for the meeting to be adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

MOTION: (Pam Walker/ Stephanie Leggett) To adjourn the meeting.

PSC ACTION: Approved