

# MINUTES

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Piedmont Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia

December 10, 2015

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, July 9, 2015, at 12:30 p.m.

### Members Present

Lauren Eckman

Scott Justus

Dr. Sandy Leslie

Kamila Luigs

Valerie Mateen

Diane McClearen

Christy McGill

Terrie Ponder

Carol Rivera

Teri Schneider

David Smith

Susan Thayer

Dr. Martha Venn

Dr. Lawrence Walters

### Members Absent

Henry Kelly

Bettina Polite Tate

Sheryl Stalvey

Dr. Jim Barrett

### **I. WORK SESSION**

A. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT – Kelly Henson spoke briefly about the upcoming work session agenda items and gave the Commissioners a hand-out. He also wished everyone a happy holiday.

B. STANDARD SETTING - Jan Ruthven and Wanda Swiggett joined us remotely from ETS. As a reminder, the Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership Assessment– Program Entry (Test 370) is currently available for EPP optional use. We encourage EPPs to strongly encourage their educational leadership candidates to take it for their benefit. The following is a recap of the policy for this assessment:

July 1, 2016: All candidates admitted to any GaPSC-approved Educational Leadership program (current program or the new tiered model) on or after July 1, 2016, must have completed (do not have to pass) the Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership Assessment – Program Entry (Test 370) prior to becoming enrolled. *A candidate who completes this program entry requirement (Test 370) for Tier I, does not have to complete Test 370 for Tier II.*

All candidates completing any GaPSC-approved Educational Leadership program (current program or the new tiered model) on or after July 1, 2016, must attempt the Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership – Program Exit (Test 380) prior to completion and must pass the assessment to earn certification in the field of Educational Leadership. *A candidate who passes the Program Exit (Test 380) for Tier I certification, does not have to pass Test 380 for Tier II certification.*

Therefore, we are asking you today during the Commission meeting to set the passing standard for the Program Exit Test 380.

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ETS will present to you today the recommendations of the recently convened standard setting committee to recommend the passing standard for the Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership Assessment – Program Exit (380).

C. RULES FOR ADOPTION – Anne Marie Fenton presented the rules that the Commissioners will be asked to adopt 16 rules initiated in October, with an effective date of January 15, 2015, with the 505-2-.36 Renewal Requirements Rule to become effective in July 1, 2017.

D. RULES TO BE PREVIEWED – The Commissioners previewed 4 Certification Rules and 4 Educator Preparation Rules that will come before them for initiation in October.

- Penney McRoy previewed 505-3-.01 REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS
- Julie Beck previewed the GaTAPP Educator Preparation Rule.
- Bobbi Ford previewed the Gifted In-Field Endorsement Program Rule
- Paquita Morgan previewed the Media Specialist Program Rule
- Kelli Young previewed the Certification Rules

E. COMMISSION CHAIR REPORT – Chair Luigs wished everyone a happy holiday and asked everyone to remember Bettina Polite-Tate and her family and Dr. Jim Barrett and his students. Dr. Marti Venn then presented the Bright Spot. On December 2<sup>nd</sup> the PSC held their Certification and Program Officials Conference in Macon, Georgia at Middle Georgia State University. Over 200 people participated. The conference was orchestrated under Penney McRoy's leadership and was a success.

## **II. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Luigs 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.

## **III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Chair Luigs called for approval of the agenda.

**MOTION:** (Scott Justus / David Smith) To approve the agenda.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

## **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Luigs called for approval of the minutes from the November 12, 2015, Commission meeting.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

## **V. VISITORS**

Chair Dr. Luigs welcomed the visitors.

- Linda Fortson, Warren Fortson Law Office
- Tayia Donald, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Don Splinter
- Kris Brown, Orr, Brown & Phillips
- Leonard Williams, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- John Hooper, Georgia School Superintendents Association

**VI. EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS**

Chair Luigs and Kelly Henson presented the employees listed below with their employee service award.

Tatisha Doggett – 5 Year Service Award - Tatisha Doggett affectionately known as “Tisha” started with the PSC on 02/01/2010 as one of the 3 original band members of a little group called PDR. In the 5 years that she has been here at the PSC, her knowledge and perseverance has enabled her to be promoted twice, from Customer Service Specialist to Evaluator and more recently, Lead Evaluator. The PDR department has benefited from Tisha’s growth and expertise as well. It has grown from a 3 member team to a 12 member team where she has been a valuable team mentor. Tisha is very committed, always willing to jump in and lend a helping hand! Her warm and friendly personality accentuated with southern charm is ever present when she is assisting our educators and her PSC peers.

Ashley Sanders – 5 Year Service Award - Ashley was hired as an Information Specialist in 2010 and promoted to an Evaluator Trainee in 2011, Evaluator 2 in 2012 and in 2014, promoted to an Evaluator 3. She is a Georgia Tech graduate majoring in history, technology and society. She is very well-versed in anything dealing with technology. Due to her excellent technological skills Ashley has been instrumental in working on many special projects in collaboration with our IT staff. She understands their language. We have watched Ashley blossom into her position over the years and she has become a trusted source of information for both our internal and external customers. She also has been very reliable in our outreach initiatives and has presented at various meetings around the state and represents the PSC with the utmost professionalism. More recently Ashley has become our social media guru and we rely on her expertise in posting information to our Facebook account. We are very proud to have Ashley working at the PSC. Congratulations on 5 years of faithful service!

**VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Vice-Chair Scott Justus of the Educator Ethics Review Committee (EERC), gave a preliminary review of the Cases.

1. Vice-Chair Justus reported that the Committee reviewed 30 **Probable Cause** cases during its December 10, 2015, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
15-4-886	1	Reprimand
15-4-930	1	Reprimand
15-6-1283	1	Reprimand

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
15-6-1286	1	Deny
15-8-211	1	Deny
15-8-271	1	Reprimand
15-9-379	1, 4	Reprimand
15-9-393	1	Reprimand
15-9-456	1, 4	Reprimand
13-3-838	1,10	Suspension 1 year
14-3-698	1, 10	Suspension 10 days
14-6-973	1	NPC
14-7-14	1, 9, 10	Revoke
14-7-123	1, 10	Suspension 1 year
15-1-543	1,9, 10	Revoke
15-6-1111	3,10	Suspension 1 year
15-6-1216	2,10	Suspension 2 years
15-6-1276	1, 10	Revoke
15-7-10	8,10	Suspension 90 days
15-7-11	2,10	Suspension 5 days
15-7-73	1, 10	Suspension 90 days
15-8-242	2,4,9,10	Suspension 120 days
15-8-243	9, 10	Suspension 10 days
15-8-302	1,2,10, 5a7	Revoke
15-8-318	6, 10	NPC
15-8-319	1, 4	Suspension 90 days
15-9-329	1,2,10,5a7	Revoke
15-9-330	4,9,10	Suspension 1 year
15-9-445	1,4	Reprimand
15-10-486	1, 4	Reprimand

2. Vice-Chair Justus reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed the *Other Business Report* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
PCE 14-6-971		Close - Hold New App
NCO 14-4-777	Suspension 10 days	Deny

3. Vice-Chair Justus 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>
15-1-565	Reprimand	Accept
15-4-856	Suspension 1 year	Accept
15-5-954	Revocation	Accept
15-6-1165	Reprimand	Accept
15-6-1282	Reprimand	Accept
15-7-21	Suspension 30 days	Accept
15-7-50	Reprimand	Accept
15-7-61	Reprimand	Accept
15-7-102	Suspension 1 year	Accept
15-8-249	Suspension 10 days	Accept
15-9-410	Suspension 90 days	Accept

4. Vice-Chair Justus reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 10 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
11-8-120	Reprimand	Accept
11-8-130	NPC	Accept
11-9-416	NPC	Accept
13-6-1226	Suspension 3 years	Accept
14-11-417	Warning	Accept
14-12-429	NPC	Accept
15-3-766	Suspension 1 year	Accept
15-7-40	Reprimand	Accept
15-7-43	NPC	Accept
15-7-45	NPC	Accept

5. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 45 new complaints received during the months of November and December 2015.

#### 6. **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of 2 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>
15-8-299	3, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
15-9-363	1, 2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

## 7. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 27 Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations consisting of the following:

15-11-636	15-12-657	15-12-661	15-12-665	15-12-669	15-12-673	15-12-677
15-12-654	15-12-658	15-12-662	15-12-666	15-12-670	15-12-674	15-12-678
15-12-655	15-12-659	15-12-663	15-12-667	15-12-671	15-12-675	15-12-679
15-12-656	15-12-660	15-12-664	15-12-668	15-12-672	15-12-676	

## 8. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 341 cases:

<u>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</u>							
11-9-392	14-6-971	14-12-474	15-3-849	15-5-1035	15-6-1252	15-7-139	15-9-327
11-9-398	14-6-981	14-12-492	15-4-851	15-5-1044	15-6-1253	15-7-156	15-9-336
11-9-399	14-7-54	14-12-493	15-4-852	15-5-1045	15-6-1256	15-8-171	15-9-340
11-9-402	14-7-66	15-1-511	15-4-853	15-5-1046	15-6-1257	15-8-172	15-9-342
11-12-702	14-7-68	15-1-514	15-4-855	15-5-1047	15-6-1259	15-8-180	15-9-346
12-7-111	14-7-107	15-1-515	15-4-857	15-5-1048	15-6-1265	15-8-185	15-9-350
13-3-838	14-7-135	15-1-548	15-4-859	15-5-1054	15-6-1266	15-8-193	15-9-360
13-3-869	14-8-136	15-1-549	15-4-860	15-5-1057	15-6-1274	15-8-194	15-9-368
13-3-891	14-8-149	15-1-558	15-4-864	15-5-1058	15-6-1281	15-8-195	15-9-371
13-4-983	14-8-151	15-1-562	15-4-870	15-5-1088	15-6-1287	15-8-198	15-9-372
13-4-1016	14-8-156	15-2-611	15-4-877	15-6-1090	15-7-1	15-8-199	15-9-373
13-5-1043	14-8-157	15-2-661	15-4-892	15-6-1093	15-7-2	15-8-201	15-9-378
13-5-1049	14-8-169	15-2-690	15-4-942	15-6-1094	15-7-6	15-8-202	15-9-389
13-6-1176	14-8-179	15-2-698	15-4-947	15-6-1095	15-7-7	15-8-208	15-9-390
13-6-1199	14-9-189	15-2-699	15-5-952	15-6-1099	15-7-8	15-8-213	15-9-391
13-6-1207	14-9-191	15-2-711	15-5-953	15-6-1100	15-7-15	15-8-225	15-9-392
13-6-1231	14-9-218	15-3-719	15-5-955	15-6-1101	15-7-16	15-8-233	15-9-393
13-8-56	14-9-219	15-3-720	15-5-957	15-6-1102	15-7-18	15-8-234	15-9-394
13-10-239	14-9-245	15-3-721	15-5-958	15-6-1107	15-7-19	15-8-235	15-9-396
13-11-327	14-9-255	15-3-722	15-5-959	15-6-1111	15-7-32	15-8-239	15-9-401
13-12-373	14-9-268	15-3-733	15-5-969	15-6-1119	15-7-35	15-8-242	15-9-405
13-12-379	14-9-270	15-3-734	15-5-970	15-6-1120	15-7-47	15-8-243	15-9-406
13-12-423	14-9-271	15-3-735	15-5-971	15-6-1125	15-7-49	15-8-244	15-9-414
13-12-424	14-9-272	15-3-741	15-5-972	15-6-1126	15-7-52	15-8-256	15-9-420

<b>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</b>							
14-1-444	14-10-286	15-3-749	15-5-973	15-6-1129	15-7-52	15-8-259	15-9-425
14-2-516	14-10-300	15-3-757	15-5-980	15-6-1133	15-7-53	15-8-267	15-9-430
14-3-581	14-10-305	15-3-761	15-5-982	15-6-1138	15-7-53	15-8-272	15-9-431
14-3-583	14-10-307	15-3-764	15-5-984	15-6-1149	15-7-54	15-8-274	15-9-439
14-3-593	14-10-321	15-3-767	15-5-985	15-6-1167	15-7-54	15-8-297	15-9-458
14-3-633	14-10-340	15-3-774	15-5-986	15-6-1170	15-7-55	15-8-300	15-9-463
14-3-654	14-10-341	15-3-785	15-5-989	15-6-1171	15-7-55	15-8-304	15-10-476
14-3-697	14-10-353	15-3-800	15-5-996	15-6-1172	15-7-59	15-8-305	15-10-489
14-4-744	14-10-359	15-3-809	15-5-997	15-6-1173	15-7-59	15-8-306	15-10-492
14-4-757	14-10-361	15-3-820	15-5-998	15-6-1187	15-7-68	15-8-307	15-10-495
14-4-762	14-10-368	15-3-821	15-5-1003	15-6-1199	15-7-73	15-8-313	15-10-501
14-4-772	14-11-370	15-3-823	15-5-1009	15-6-1203	15-7-74	15-8-315	15-10-502
14-5-819	14-11-386	15-3-827	15-5-1015	15-6-1207	15-7-79	15-8-316	15-10-505
14-5-826	14-11-392	15-3-828	15-5-1016	15-6-1208	15-7-82	15-8-318	15-10-506
14-5-905	14-11-396	15-3-834	15-5-1017	15-6-1209	15-7-83	15-8-320	15-10-507
14-6-942	14-12-427	15-3-836	15-5-1026	15-6-1211	15-7-125	15-8-322	15-10-509
14-6-944	14-12-436	15-3-837	15-5-1029	15-6-1214	15-7-133	15-9-324	
14-6-950	14-12-439	15-3-840	15-5-1031	15-6-1215	15-7-134	15-9-325	
14-6-964	14-12-469	15-3-844	15-5-1034	15-6-1250	15-7-138	15-9-326	

## 9. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 30 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

## 10. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 10 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. The report also advised that there were 2 cases closed without an appeal for a review hearing before the Commission.

## 11. FINAL DECISIONS

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of the following 4 cases:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL SANCTION</u>	<u>ALJ SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
11-9-383	Suspension 2 years	Suspension 2 years	Accept
11-9-384	Suspension 2 years	Suspension 2 years	Accept
11-9-390	Revocation	Revocation	Accept
12-7-211	Suspension 90 days	Suspension 90 days	Accept

Chair Luigs called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Vice-Chair Scott Justus excluding case 15-6-1216 and 15-8-242.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

Abstention: Kami Luigs – 11-8-120, 11-8-130, 11-9-416, 13-6-1226, Susan Thayer, 14-11-417, Lauren Eckman, 14-12-429

**Probable Cause Case # 15-6-1216**

**MOTION:** (Lauren Eckman / David Smith) To reject the EERC’s recommendation for a 2 Year Suspension and issue a 1 Year Suspension.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**Probable Cause Case # 15-8-242**

**MOTION:** (Christy McGill / Susan Thayer) To reject the EERC’s recommendation for a 120 Day Suspension and issue a 1 Year Suspension.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee**

Committee Chair, Dr. Marti Venn, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

No.	EPP	December 2015 Detailed Approval Recommendations
1.	Thomas University	Incremental progress is evident in the Progress Report submitted October 1, 2015, addressing the Standard 3 (element c) area for improvement. The Progress Report demonstrates evidence of a plan for systematically documenting candidate exposure to diverse P-12 student populations. The area for improvement remains. A second Progress Report is due January 4, 2016, demonstrating evidence of implementation of the systematic process for documenting candidate exposure to diverse P-12 student populations.
2.	West Georgia RESA	The Progress report submitted August 5, 2015, is satisfactory in addressing the area for improvement for Standard 2 (element b) resulting from the Fall 2014 Continuing Approval review. The Committee recommends the area for improvement be removed.
3.	Tier Appeal Ronza J. Frye	The Committee recommends postponing consideration of the Tier II Certification Appeal until receipt of an affidavit from the Dean of the School of Education at Northcentral University verifying that program coursework is taken prior to TEAC accreditation is identical to coursework after accreditation was granted.

Chair Luigs called for approval of the Educator Preparation / Certification Report as presented by Dr. Marti Venn.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**VIII. STANDARD SETTING FOR ETHICS LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT**

Anne Marie Fenton presented the passing standard for the GEORGIA ETHICS FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP – PROGRAM EXIT (Test 380) for adoption:

**MOTION:** Scott Justus / Carol Rivera) Beginning with the January 2016 launch of the Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership – Program Exit (Test 380) the following passing scores be set:

- Modules 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8, the passing threshold is 10 (out of 12);

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- Module 6, the passing threshold is 7 (out of 12);
- The end-of-course (summative) test, the passing score is 34 (out of 40)

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

## **IX. RULES**

Anne Marie Fenton presented the rules. 16 rules were brought to the Commission for adoption. The rules to be adopted were initiated in October 2016. No public comment was received.

**MOTION:** (Scott Justus / David Smith) To: (1) amend the current rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective January 15, 2016, as follows: 505-2-.01, 505-2-.02, 505-2-.03, 505-2-.04, 505-2-.20, 505-2-.22, 505-2-.32, 505-2-.33, 505-2-.43, 505-2-.102, 505-2-.162, and 505-2-.181, with 505-2-.36 becoming effective July 1, 2017; (2) repeal the current rule in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective January 15, 2016, as follows: 505-2-.153; (3) adopt the current rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective January 15, 2016, as follows: 505-2-.153; (4) amend the current rules in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation, effective January 15, 2016, as follows: 505-3-.76 and 505-3-.77.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Luigs called for the meeting to be adjourned at 1:05 .pm.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved