

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Piedmont Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia

February 20, 2014

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, February 20, 2014, at 12:30 p.m.

Members Present

Julia Bernath

Lauren Eckman

Dr. Penny Elkins

Dr. Adrian Epps

Phil Jacobs

David Johnson

Scott Justus

Valerie Mateen

Christy McGill

Terrie Ponder

Carol Rivera

Sheryl Stalvey

Bettina Polite Tate

Pam Walker

Members Absent

Kamila Luigs

Heath Garrett

Dr. Lawrence Walters

Pam Williams

I. WORK SESSION

A. Penney McRoy presented rules. She explained that at today's Commission meeting, we would request to initiate the rule-making process. We asked the Commissioners to rescind all rules in Chapters 2 & 3, and Initiate all rules in Chapters 2 & 3. The final Initiate Rules Packet was on their desktops. A few edits were made to the following rules from the rules packet they received on February 5th:

Educator Preparation:

- 505-3-.01 and 505-3-.02– Added TPMS and NTRS Reporting Requirement
- 505-3-.05 – GaTAPP Rule – Added NTRS Reporting Requirement and minor edits
- 505-3-.56 – Changed the name from Early Childhood Special Education General Curriculum to Special Education General Curriculum Early Childhood Education (P-5) to align with certification.
- 505-3-.92 – K-5 Math Endorsement Program – added language to reflect tiered certification language.

Certification:

- 505-2-.07 – Lead Professional – corrected the effective date, which should have been July 1, 2014.

She gave the Commissioners an opportunity for Q&A on the rules that would be presented today for initiation. These rules were previewed at the December Commission Retreat and the January Commission meeting.

In addition, the Commissioners were provided with a timeline of Implementation Dates for Tiered Certification Requirements and PPEMs. Penney McRoy answered questions on the hand-out.

B. Kelly Henson and Kristina Stroede gave a brief legislative update. They emailed the Legislative Update document to Commissioners which lists the bills, status of the bill and a brief summary.

C. Kelly introduced two new employees. Brandon Elder, Educator Ethics Investigator comes to us from Riverdale Police Department. He also introduced Heath Garrett, Educator Specialist who comes to us from the

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Middle Georgia State College.

D. Chair Report – Chair Elkins thanked the PSC staff for the legislative update. She also informed the Commission that she will continue to update the Commission on the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship. She called on Christy McGill who announced that she is expecting a baby girl in June.

II. 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.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Dr. Elkins called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Dr. Adrian Epps / Pam Walker) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Elkins called for approval of the minutes from the January 9, 2014, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. VISITORS

Chair Dr. Elkins welcomed the visitors.

- Leonard Williams, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Linda Fortson, Warren Fortson Law Office
- Jessica Johnson, The Office of Planning and Budget
- Claire Boyce, Capella University

VI. EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARD

Chair Elkins and Kelly Henson presented Thomas Higgins with a 5 Year Service Award.

Kelly told the Commission that he has known Tom Higgins for about 25 years. They worked together when Kelly was Principal at Pope High School. Tom received high accolades from Kelly (very bright deep thinker, easy to work with and excellent written skills). Tom has done great work at the PSC. He started at the PSC working with the Master Teacher Program and he is now doing Race to the Top work which includes tiered Certification, TPPEM and Induction. Kelly ended by stating that it was fitting that we recognize Tom on a day that we were initiating rules that he had such a significant role in developing.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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

1. Ms. Walker reported that the Committee reviewed 20 *Probable Cause* cases during its February 20, 2014, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
13-12-434	1	Deny
11-5-1086	1,10	Suspension - 1 yr
11-9-420	4,9,10, DOE	Revocation
11-9-421	4,9,10, DOE	Revocation
12-9-346	4, 6,10	Suspension - 20 days
12-12-592	2,10	Revocation
12-12-607	9, 10	Revocation
13-1-640	2, 4,10	Revocation
13-2-723	2,5,10	Suspension - 1 yr
13-9-210	1,10	Suspension - 1 yr
13-9-221	4,10	Suspension - 1 yr
13-9-222	4,10	Suspension - 90 days
13-10-240	2,10	Suspension - 2 yrs
13-10-273	2,10	Revocation
13-10-276	2,10	Revocation
13-11-316	3, 10	Suspension - 1 yr
13-11-319	1,10	Revocation
13-11-334	3, 10	Suspension - 1 yr
13-11-337	5,10	Suspension - 45 days
13-12-381	3, 10	Suspension - 1 yr

2. Ms. Walker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 17 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-7-71	Suspension - 1 year	Accept
13-4-996	Suspension - 10 days	Accept
13-5-1088	Suspension - 20 days	Accept
13-7-30	Reprimand	Accept
13-7-51	Suspension - 5 days	Accept
13-8-86	Reprimand	Accept
13-9-165	Reprimand	Accept
13-10-251	Reprimand	Accept
13-10-252	Reprimand	Accept

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
13-10-254	Reprimand	Accept
13-10-266	Suspension - 90 days	Accept
13-10-282	Reprimand	Accept
13-10-290	Reprimand	Accept
13-10-291	Reprimand	Accept
13-10-292	Reprimand	Accept
13-10-293	Reprimand	Accept
13-11-321	Reprimand	Accept

3. Ms. Walker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 13 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMEND</u>
12-2-840	Warning	Accept
12-3-1044	Warning	Accept
12-3-1064	Suspension - 10 days	Accept
12-3-1065	Suspension -10 days	Accept
12-5-1232	Suspension -10 days	Accept
12-7-153	NPC	Accept
12-7-189	Suspension -3 years	Accept
12-7-199	Suspension -40 days	Accept
12-7-200	NPC	Accept
12-10-433	Suspension -1 year	Accept
12-11-541	Suspension -10 days	Accept
13-4-946	Reprimand	Accept
13-6-1232	Suspension -150 days	Accept

4. **OTHER BUSINESS**

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

<u>CASE</u>	<u>PROPOSED SANCTION</u>
NCO 12-7-89	Suspension - 90 days

5. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 40 new complaints received during the months of January and February 2014.

6. **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 1 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>RECOMMENDATION</u>
13-12-385	2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

7. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 16 Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations consisting of the following:

14-1-460	14-1-463	14-1-469	14-1-471	14-1-473	14-1-475	14-1-477	14-1-479
14-1-461	14-1-468	14-1-470	14-1-472	14-1-474	14-1-476	14-1-478	14-1-480

8. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting and *Investigative Extension* to the following 182 cases:

<u>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</u>							
10-8-159	11-11-600	12-11-552	13-2-757	13-3-904	13-6-1202	13-7-40	13-10-294
10-9-331	11-12-702	12-11-555	13-2-759	13-4-937	13-6-1207	13-7-54	13-11-302
10-12-553	11-12-710	12-12-561	13-2-778	13-4-953	13-6-1209	13-8-56	13-11-305
10-12-562	12-2-891	12-12-565	13-2-780	13-4-982	13-6-1210	13-8-123	13-11-307
11-8-119	12-2-896	12-12-567	13-2-786	13-4-983	13-6-1226	13-8-133	13-11-309
11-8-130	12-2-901	12-12-590	13-2-787	13-4-987	13-6-1229	13-9-142	13-11-312
11-8-200	12-3-1026	12-12-594	13-2-788	13-4-1007	13-6-1230	13-9-143	13-11-317
11-9-284	12-4-1120	12-12-595	13-2-789	13-4-1016	13-6-1231	13-9-180	13-11-325
11-9-337	12-4-1133	12-12-600	13-2-801	13-4-1028	13-6-1234	13-9-192	13-11-327
11-9-343	12-4-1137	13-1-633	13-3-17	13-5-1032	13-6-1239	13-9-193	13-11-329
11-9-355	12-4-1140	13-1-634	13-3-832	13-5-1043	13-6-1240	13-9-194	13-11-330
11-9-392	12-7-72	13-1-639	13-3-838	13-5-1049	13-6-1241	13-9-217	13-11-335
11-9-398	12-7-81	13-1-643	13-3-841	13-5-1076	13-6-1243	13-9-229	13-11-340
11-9-399	12-7-111	13-1-646	13-3-854	13-5-1080	13-6-1244	13-10-239	13-11-341
11-9-402	12-7-112	13-1-655	13-3-859	13-5-1087	13-6-1247	13-10-244	13-11-354
11-9-418	12-8-263	13-1-663	13-3-861	13-5-1112	13-6-1249	13-10-255	13-11-356
11-9-419	12-8-264	13-1-679	13-3-865	13-6-1162	13-7-11	13-10-258	13-11-360
11-9-424	12-9-336	13-1-691	13-3-869	13-6-1168	13-7-15	13-10-259	13-11-361
11-9-455	12-10-480	13-1-696	13-3-878	13-6-1176	13-7-20	13-10-278	13-11-363
11-9-456	12-11-505	13-1-719	13-3-891	13-6-1178	13-7-21	13-10-279	13-11-370
11-9-457	12-11-516	13-2-721	13-3-894	13-6-1184	13-7-23	13-10-284	13-12-435
11-9-458	12-11-530	13-2-725	13-3-904	13-6-1195	13-7-36	13-10-287	
11-9-459	12-11-531	13-2-756	13-3-905	13-6-1199	13-7-39	13-10-288	

9. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approving a no probable cause determination on 5 cases

reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

10. **FINAL DECISIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended that the Commission accept the 3 *Final Decision Cases*.

<u>CASE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL SANCTION</u>	<u>ALJ SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-7-193	Revocation	NPC	Accept
13-1-692	Denial	Denial	Accept
13-4-976	Revocation	Revocation	Accept

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

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 13 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. The report also advised that there were 4 cases 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 13-11-319, 12-9-346, 13-9-221 and 13-9-222.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Julia Bernath – Case #'s 12-3-1065, 14-1-458, Bettina Polite-Tate 14-1-474, 14-1-475, 14-1-485

Probable Cause Case # 12-3-974

MOTION: (Dr. Adrian Epps / Pam Williams) To reject the Educator Ethics Review Committee's recommendation of a 20 Day Suspension and to issue a 1 Year Suspension. To accept the Educator Ethics Review Committee's recommendation for a 1 year Suspension.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Opposed: Bettina Polite-Tate, Pam Walker, Scott Justus

Probable Cause Case # 13-11-319

MOTION: (Phil Jacobs / Lauren Eckman) To accept the Educator Ethics Review Committee's recommendation of a Revocation.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Probable Cause Case # 13-9-221

MOTION: (Julia Bernath / Phil Jacobs) To accept the Educator Ethics Review Committee's recommendation of a 1 Year Suspension

PSC ACTION: Approved

Probable Cause Case # 13-9-222

MOTION: (Julia Bernath / Phil Jacobs) To accept the Educator Ethics Review Committee's recommendation of a 90 Day Suspension

PSC ACTION: Approved

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

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

	EPP Number	February 2014 Detailed Approval Recommendations	Additional Action Required
1.	Nova Southeastern University	<p>For EPP 98253, the Committee recommends Developmental Approval of three Educator Preparation Programs including,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational Leadership Program (P-12; Initial; Ed Specialist; online) • Educational Leadership Program (P-12; Initial; Doctorate; online; Building Level) • Educational Leadership Program (P-12; Initial; Doctorate; online; System Level) <p>Additionally, the Committee recommends a GaPSC Staff Monitoring Report which shall document the Educator Preparation Provider’s compliance with required P-12 Partnership Agreements as specified in Educator Preparation Rule 505-3-.58 Educational Leadership Program to be presented to the Educator Preparation Standing Committee at the September 12, 2014, meeting.</p>	
2.	Piedmont College	<p>For EPP 3130, the Committee recommends Developmental Approval of two Educator Preparation Programs including,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructional Technology Program (P-12; Initial; Master’s) • Gifted In-Field Endorsement 	
3.	University of West Georgia	<p>For EPP 5540, the Committee recommends Developmental Approval of one Educator Preparation Program including,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-5 Science Endorsement 	
4.	Georgia State University	<p>For EPP 5090, the Committee recommends Continuing Approval of eighty-nine Educator Preparation Programs, and Developmental Approval of two Educator Preparation Programs including,</p> <p>Developmental Approval</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaching Endorsement • K-5 Science Endorsement <p>Continuing Approval</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Education (P-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Art Education (P12; Initial; Certification-only) • Biology Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Biology Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • Birth Through Kindergarten Education (Birth-5; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Chemistry Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Chemistry Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • Curriculum and Instruction (P-12; Initial; Doctoral) • Early Childhood Education (P-5; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Early Childhood Education-Master’s (P-5; Initial; Certification-only) • Early Childhood Education- M.A.T. (P-5; Initial; M.A.T.) 	

	EPP Number	February 2014 Detailed Approval Recommendations	Additional Action Required
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood Education- M.A.T (P-5; Initial; Certification-only) • Earth and Space Science Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Earth and Space Science Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • Economics Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Economics Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • Educational Leadership (Building and System Levels; PL6; Certification-only) • Educational Leadership (Building and System Levels; PL6; Specialist) • English Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • English Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • English To Speakers of Other Languages (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • English To Speakers of Other Languages (P-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • English To Speakers of Other Languages-Online (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • English To Speakers of Other Languages-Online (P-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • French Education (P-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) • French Education (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Geography Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Geography Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • German Education (P-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) • German Education (P-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • Health and Physical Education (P-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Health and Physical Education (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Healthcare Science and Technology Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • History Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • History Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • Latin Education (P-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Latin Education (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Mathematics Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) 	

	EPP Number	February 2014 Detailed Approval Recommendations	Additional Action Required
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Middle Grades Education (4-8; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Middle Grades Education- Master’s MA/SCE (4-8; Initial; M.A.T.) • Middle Grades Education- Master’s MA/SCE (4-8; Initial; Certification-only) • Middle Grades Education- Master’s LL/SS (4-8; Initial; M.A.T.) • Middle Grades Education- Master’s LL/SS (4-8; Initial; Certification-only) • Music Education (P-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Music Education (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Physics- B.S. with Education Concentration (6-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Physics Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • Physics Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Political Science Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • Political Science Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Reading Specialist Education- GOML Online (P-12; Initial; Master’s) • Reading Specialist Education- GOML Online (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Reading Specialist Education (P-12; Initial; Master’s) • Reading Specialist Education (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • School Counselor (P-12; Initial; Master’s) • School Counselor (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • School Psychologist (P-12; Initial; Specialist) • Science Education- Broad Fields (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) • Science Education- Broad Fields (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Spanish Education (P-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Spanish Education (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Special Education Adapted Curriculum- Autism (P-12; Initial; Master’s) • Special Education Adapted Curriculum- Autism (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) 	

	EPP Number	February 2014 Detailed Approval Recommendations	Additional Action Required
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Education Adapted Curriculum- Intellectual Disabilities (P-12; Initial; Master’s) • Special Education Adapted Curriculum- Intellectual Disabilities (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Special Education Deaf Education (P-12; Initial; Master’s) • Special Education Deaf Education (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Special Education General Curriculum (P-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Special Education General Curriculum (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Special Education General Curriculum- Autism (P-12; Initial; Master’s) • Special Education General Curriculum- Autism (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Special Education General Curriculum- Early Childhood Education (P-12; Initial; Master’s) • Special Education General Curriculum- Early Childhood Education (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Special Education Physical and Health Disabilities (P-12; Initial; Master’s) • Special Education Physical and Health Disabilities (P-12; Initial; Certification-only) • Trade and Industrial Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) • ESOL Endorsement- ECE/M.Ed. • ESOL Endorsement- Early Childhood • ESOL Endorsement- MSIT • ESOL Endorsement- MSIT Online • K-5 Mathematics Endorsement • Online Teaching Endorsement • Reading Endorsement- ECE • Reading Endorsement- MSIT • Reading Endorsement- MSIT Online • Special Education Preschool Endorsement • Teacher Support Specialist Endorsement- Early Childhood Education 	

	EPP Number	February 2014 Detailed Approval Recommendations	Additional Action Required
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher Support Specialist Endorsement- Kinesiology and Health 	
5.	Kennesaw State University	<p>For EPP 5780, the Committee recommends that while the Progress Report submitted August 23, 2013, indicates progress is satisfactory in addressing the areas for improvement for Standard 4 (element d) for the Educational Leadership Program (P-12; Initial; PL6; Specialist) and (P-12; Initial; Certification only), the area for improvement remain.</p> <p>Additionally, the Committee recommends the submission of a Progress Report by June 1, 2014, providing evidence of candidates' intentional and appropriate experiences working with two or more ethnic groups, including the documentation of diverse opportunities for candidates.</p>	
6.	Capella University	<p>For EPP 10195, the Committee recommends that while the Action Plan submitted January 31, 2014, indicates plans are in place, no evidence demonstrates that the plans have had any effect. The decisions of November 14, 2013 remain in effect with a Progress Report due by May 31, 2014 addressing these additional requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide evidence of notification to each individual enrolled in the program. The notification shall include language provided by GaPSC staff that clearly delineates the implications of changes in GaPSC approval status for the program and the individual candidates. The notification shall be approved by GaPSC staff prior to sending and shall be signed and dated by each candidate to indicate receipt and understanding of said consequences. Copies of each signed letter shall be sent to GaPSC in the Progress Report due by May 31, 2014; the letters will be saved in each individual's certification account. The Progress Report shall also include evidence of further implementation of the action plan submitted January 31, 2014, including signed partnership agreements. <p>A Focused Visit shall be scheduled for the fall of 2014; if standards 3 and 7 are not met at the time of the Focused Visit, a recommendation will be made to the Commission for immediate revocation of program approval. Candidates who are enrolled at the time of the Focused Visit will be allowed to complete the program within a specified period of time and be recommended for Georgia Performance-based Leadership certification.</p>	

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

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Dr. Adrian Epps – Kennesaw State University, Terrie Ponder – University of West Georgia

VIII. RULES

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Penney McRoy presented the rules. She explained that these rules, if initiated, would be scheduled for adoption in March. If adopted, the effective date for Chapter 3 rules (Educator Preparation) will be May 15, 2014. The effective date for Chapter 2 rules (Certification) will have an effective date of July 1, 2014.

MOTION: (Phil Jacobs / David Johnson) To initiate rulemaking procedures in accordance with the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act so as to provide for (1) rescinding all current rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective July 1, 2014, (2) initiating all rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective July 1, 2014, (3) rescinding all current rules in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective May 15, 2014, and (4) initiating all rules in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective May 15, 2014.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dr. Elkins called for the meeting to be adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved