

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Piedmont Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia

February 11, 2016

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, February 11, 2016, at 12:30 p.m.

Members Present

Dr. Jim Barrett	Diane McClearn	David Smith
Lauren Eckman	Christy McGill	Susan Thayer
Scott Justus	Bettina Polite Tate	Dr. Martha Venn
Dr. Sandy Leslie	Terrie Ponder	Dr. Lawrence Walters
Kamila Luigs	Teri Schneider	

Members Absent

Valerie Mateen	Henry Kelly
Sheryl Stalvey	Carol Rivera

I. WORK SESSION

- Kelly Henson spoke briefly about the following:
 - a) Susan Thayer is now Chair of the Cobb County Board of Education and Dr. Marti Venn is Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at Middle Georgia State University.
 - b) The Department of Audits and Accounts Performance Audit Division's report on Virtual Charter Schools that all commissioners received.
 - c) The communication to Georgia educators regarding Georgia law requiring reporting performance to the Georgia Professional Standards Commission for school year 2015-2016. The Commissioners received a copy of this communication.
 - d) Kelly addressed the formation of a Task Force on Abandonment of Contract.
- Anne Marie Fenton provided the context for the presentation on edTPA data, which data represent the first consequential semester (Fall 2015) of edTPA in Georgia. She introduced Nathan Estel, Client Relations Director, Evaluation Systems group of Georgia (ES), and Jerry Bush, Senior Education Consultant, with ES. Nathan provided a brief overview of the national landscape of edTPA. Jerry Bush shared the aggregate pass rate results based on the Georgia passing standard, as well as GA average passing scores as compared to national data. Anne Marie concluded the presentation with next steps.
- Kristina Stroede and Kelly Henson presented the legislative update. Copies of Senate Bill 355 and 364 were given to Commissioners. Kristina also informed Commissioners that we are half way thru the session. Commissioners were told that they would be receiving by email a legislative update that would be up to date as of 2/11/16. It is intended to contain all education bills (other than local bills or bills celebrating or recognizing individuals, organizations, or the like) as well as other bills of interest to PSC. There may be some tax and local government bills that affect school systems that are not included. The update should give Commissioners a good idea of what is under discussion in the General Assembly related to education.
- Anne Marie Fenton gave a rules preview of rules that will come before Commissioners in March for initiation. While there are multiple endorsement rules, all include one change in wording to update the

language regarding embedded endorsements. Bobbi Ford presented the Educator Preparation rules and Kelli Young presented the Certification rules.

Educator Preparation:

505-3-.90 GIFTED IN-FIELD EDUCATION ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM

It is proposed that Rule 505-3-.90, GIFTED IN-FIELD EDUCATION ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM, dated May 15, 2014, be RESCINDED and that a new rule with the same number and the same title be INITIATED. The new rule is intended to reflect new standards by the Council for Exception Children (2012).

505-3-. DUAL IMMERSION EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ENDORSEMENT

It is proposed that a new rule be INITIATED to prepare certified educators to be highly qualified to teach in P-5 Dual Immersion Classrooms.

All endorsement rules to be AMENDED to update language regarding embedded endorsements.

Certification:

505-2-.01 GEORGIA EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.01 GEORGIA EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION, dated January 15, 2016, be AMENDED to expand the definition of local unit of administration (LUA) to include charter systems and schools, and to update the language Investing in Educational Excellence (IE²) to the new term, strategic waiver system.

505-2-.04 INDUCTION CERTIFICATE

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.04 INDUCTION CERTIFICATE be AMENDED to remove the academic degree major requirement for Supplemental Induction certificates.

505-2-.08 CAREER, TECHNICAL AND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.08 CAREER, TECHNICAL AND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION be AMENDED to expand CTAE certification fields to include Computer Science.

505-2-.15 ADJUNCT LICENSE

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.15 ADJUNCT LICENSE be AMENDED to clarify numbering of sections.

505-2-.18 PARAPROFESSIONAL LICENSE

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.18 PARAPROFESSIONAL LICENSE be AMENDED to clarify Non-Renewable license requirements.

505-2-.26 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ASSESSMENTS

It is proposed that Rule 505-2-.26 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ASSESSMENTS, dated October 15, 2015, be AMENDED to include the Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership assessments.

505-2-.32 VALIDITY PERIODS AND DATING OF CERTIFICATES

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.32 VALIDITY PERIODS AND DATING OF CERTIFICATES

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be AMENDED to clarify numbering of sections.

505-2-.145 SCHOOL NUTRITION DIRECTOR

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.145 SCHOOL NUTRITION DIRECTOR be AMENDED to add the requirement to pass or exempt the PAA for those obtaining a master's degree in a related field.

505-2-.182 TEACHER SUPPORT AND COACHING ENDORSEMENT

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.182 TEACHER SUPPORT AND COACHING ENDORSEMENT be AMENDED to clarify numbering of sections.

505-2-.185 SPECIAL EDUCATION AUTISM ENDORSEMENT

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.185 SPECIAL EDUCATION AUTISM ENDORSEMENT be INITIATED to create an endorsement type that will allow qualified teachers to teach students with Autism.

505-2-.36 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.36 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS, to become effective July 1, 2017, be AMENDED to clarify numbering of sections.

- Chair Luigs introduced PSC's two new investigators that formerly worked for the Secret Service - Gina Ahlberg and Taylor Montague.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Luigs called the meeting to order at 12:51 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: (Bettina Polite-Tate / Sheryl Stalvey) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Luigs called for approval of the minutes from the February 11, 2016, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION:

V. VISITORS

Chair Dr. Luigs welcomed the visitors.

- Margaret Elliott, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Leonard Williams, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Yari Lawson, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Don Splinter, Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL)
- Linda Fortson, Warren Fortson Law Office
- Bettina Davies, Cauthorn, Nohr and Owen
- Karen Jones, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Tayia Donald, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Jerry Bush, Evaluation Systems
- Nathan Estel, Evaluation Systems

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Chair Bettina Polite-Tate of the Educator Ethics Review Committee (EERC), gave a preliminary review of the Cases.

1. Chair Polite-Tate reported that the Committee reviewed 38 **Probable Cause** cases during its February 11, 2016, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
15-5-1048	1	Deny
15-6-1257	1, 4, Lic Act	Deny
15-7-52	1, 4	Deny
15-7-53	1, 4	Deny
15-9-394	1,4	NPC
15-10-548	1	Reprimand
15-11-578	1	NPC
15-11-625	1,4	Reprimand
15-12-700	1,4	Reprimand
15-12-701	1,4	Reprimand
14-6-942	4,7,10,11	Suspension - 90 days
14-7-68	2, 4, 10	Suspension - 20 days
14-10-353	4, 10	Revoke
15-3-774	1, 9, 10	Reprimand
15-3-823	8, 10	Revoke
15-3-834	4, 5, 10	Suspension - 3 days
15-4-857	2, 10	Suspension - 1 year
15-4-860	2,10	Revoke
15-5-959	2,10	Suspension - 1 year
15-6-1119	1, 2, 10, 5a7	Revoke
15-6-1167	1, 3, 10	Suspension - 1 year
15-6-1211	1, 2, 10	Revoke
15-6-1266	1, 10	NPC

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
15-8-172	1	Revoke
15-8-235	3, 10	Suspension - 1 year
15-8-307	10,11	Suspension - 20 days
15-8-315	2,10	Revoke
15-9-372	2, 10	Suspension - 90 days
15-9-389	10	NPC
15-10-480	2, 10	Suspension - 10 days
15-10-498	3, 10	Suspension - 20 days
15-10-506	5a5	NPC
15-10-518	3,10	Suspension - 1 year
15-10-523	3,10	Suspension - 1 year
15-11-588	1,4,10	Revoke
15-11-610	1, 2, 10, 5a7	Revoke
15-11-640	4, 10	Revoke
15-12-720	1, 4	Reprimand

2. Chair Polite-Tate 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>
15-9-381	Revocation, April 2001	Grant
15-11-601	Revocation, April 2003	Deny

3. Chair Polite-Tate reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 10 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
15-2-670	Suspension - 60 days	Accept
15-7-54	Suspension - 5 days	Accept
15-7-79	Suspension - 100 days	Accept
15-9-387	Suspension - 60 days	Accept
15-9-415	Warning	Accept
15-9-431	Reprimand	Accept
15-9-454	Reprimand	Accept
15-9-472	Warning	Accept
15-10-487	Suspension - 90 days	Accept
15-10-546	Suspension - 60 days	Accept

4. Chair Polite-Tate 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>
12-5-1263	Suspension - 60 days	Accept
13-1-643	Suspension - 5 days	Accept
13-5-1034	Suspension - 100 days	Accept
13-5-1035	Suspension - 60 days	Accept
14-4-794	Warning	Accept
14-9-223	Reprimand	Accept
15-1-529	Reprimand	Accept
15-1-530	Warning	Accept
15-3-732	Suspension - 90 days	Accept
15-4-868	Suspension - 60 days	Accept

5. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 55 new complaints received during the months of January and February 2016.

6. 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>
15-9-340	2, 10, Other Good & Sufficient Cause	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

7. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of 44 Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations consisting of the following:

16-1-812	16-1-820	16-1-840	16-2-846	16-2-852	16-2-858	16-2-865	16-2-871
16-1-813	16-1-823	16-1-841	16-2-847	16-2-853	16-2-859	16-2-866	16-2-872
16-1-815	16-1-836	16-1-842	16-2-848	16-2-854	16-2-861	16-2-867	
16-1-816	16-1-837	16-1-843	16-2-849	16-2-855	16-2-862	16-2-868	
16-1-817	16-1-838	16-2-844	16-2-850	16-2-856	16-2-863	16-2-869	
16-1-818	16-1-839	16-2-845	16-2-851	16-2-857	16-2-864	16-2-870	

8. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 315 cases:

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
11-9-392	14-7-107	15-1-549	15-4-947	15-6-1102	15-7-59	15-9-350	15-10-536
11-9-399	14-7-135	15-1-558	15-5-952	15-6-1107	15-7-83	15-9-360	15-10-538
11-9-402	14-7-757	15-1-562	15-5-953	15-6-1120	15-7-125	15-9-371	15-10-541
11-12-702	14-7-772	15-2-611	15-5-955	15-6-1125	15-7-133	15-9-373	15-10-542
12-7-111	14-8-136	15-2-661	15-5-957	15-6-1126	15-7-136	15-9-378	15-10-550
13-3-869	14-8-149	15-2-690	15-5-958	15-6-1129	15-7-138	15-9-390	15-10-552
13-3-891	14-8-156	15-2-698	15-5-969	15-6-1133	15-7-139	15-9-391	15-10-565
13-4-106	14-8-157	15-2-699	15-5-972	15-6-1138	15-7-156	15-9-396	15-10-569
13-4-983	14-8-179	15-2-711	15-5-973	15-6-1149	15-8-151	15-9-401	15-10-573
13-5-1043	14-9-218	15-3-1199	15-5-980	15-6-1170	15-8-169	15-9-405	15-10-574
13-5-1049	14-9-219	15-3-719	15-5-982	15-6-1171	15-8-171	15-9-406	15-11-576
13-6-1176	14-9-245	15-3-720	15-5-984	15-6-1172	15-8-180	15-9-414	15-11-579
13-6-1199	14-9-255	15-3-721	15-5-985	15-6-1173	15-8-185	15-9-420	15-11-580
13-6-1207	14-9-268	15-3-722	15-5-986	15-6-1187	15-8-193	15-9-425	15-11-591
13-6-1231	14-9-270	15-3-733	15-5-989	15-6-1203	15-8-194	15-9-430	15-11-592
13-8-56	14-9-271	15-3-734	15-5-996	15-6-1207	15-8-195	15-9-439	15-11-594
13-10-239	14-9-272	15-3-735	15-5-997	15-6-1208	15-8-198	15-9-458	15-11-598
13-11-327	14-10-286	15-3-749	15-5-998	15-6-1209	15-8-199	15-9-460	15-11-599
13-12-373	14-10-300	15-3-757	15-5-1003	15-6-1214	15-8-201	15-9-461	15-11-600
13-12-379	14-10-305	15-3-761	15-5-1009	15-6-1215	15-8-208	15-9-462	15-11-604
13-12-423	14-10-307	15-3-764	15-5-1015	15-6-1250	15-8-225	15-9-463	15-11-606
13-12-424	14-10-321	15-3-767	15-5-1016	15-6-1252	15-8-233	15-9-464	15-11-609
14-1-444	14-10-340	15-3-785	15-5-1017	15-6-1253	15-8-234	15-9-465	15-11-613
14-3-581	14-10-341	15-3-800	15-5-1026	15-6-1256	15-8-239	15-9-466	15-11-614
14-3-583	14-10-359	15-3-820	15-5-1029	15-6-1259	15-8-244	15-10-476	15-11-618
14-3-593	14-10-361	15-3-821	15-5-1031	15-6-1265	15-8-259	15-10-482	15-11-619
14-3-633	14-10-368	15-3-827	15-5-1034	15-6-1274	15-8-272	15-10-489	15-11-621
14-3-654	14-11-386	15-3-828	15-5-1035	15-7-1	15-8-300	15-10-492	15-11-622
14-3-697	14-11-392	15-3-836	15-5-1044	15-7-2	15-8-304	15-10-494	15-11-626
14-4-744	14-11-396	15-3-837	15-5-1045	15-7-6	15-8-305	15-10-499	15-11-628
14-4-762	14-12-427	15-3-840	15-5-1046	15-7-7	15-8-306	15-10-501	15-11-629
14-5-819	14-12-436	15-3-844	15-5-1047	15-7-8	15-8-313	15-10-502	15-11-630
14-5-826	14-12-469	15-3-849	15-5-1058	15-7-15	15-8-316	15-10-505	15-11-633
14-5-905	14-12-474	15-4-852	15-5-1088	15-7-16	15-9-324	15-10-510	15-11-634
14-6-944	14-12-492	15-4-853	15-6-1090	15-7-18	15-9-325	15-10-511	15-11-635
14-6-950	14-12-493	15-4-855	15-6-1093	15-7-19	15-9-326	15-10-513	
14-6-964	15-1-511	15-4-859	15-6-1094	15-7-32	15-9-327	15-10-517	
14-6-981	15-1-514	15-4-870	15-6-1095	15-7-35	15-9-336	15-10-522	
14-7-54	15-1-515	15-4-877	15-6-1099	15-7-47	15-9-342	15-10-526	
14-7-66	15-1-548	15-4-942	15-6-1100	15-7-55	15-9-346	15-10-532	

9. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 10 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

10. FINAL DECISIONS

The commission reviewed the *Final Decisions* below and voted to recommend the following action:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL SANCTION</u>	<u>ALJ SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
11-9-382	Revocation	Suspend 1 year	Accept
14-6-1063	Revocation	Revocation	Accept

11. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 4 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 Luigs called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Chair Polite-Tate excluding cases 14-7-68 and 15-10-498.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Kami Luigs – 16-1-740 thru 16-1-748, 16-1-776, 16-1-777, 14-7-68, 15-12-720, Bettina Polite-Tate – 15-11-588, Terri Schneider – 16-1-759, 16-1-772, 15-1-530, Christy McGill – 16-1-759, 16-1-772, 15-1-530, Lauren Eckman – 16-1-730, Jim Barrett – 15-10-523, Larry Walters – 16-1-739

Probable Cause Case # 14-7-68

MOTION: (Lauren Eckman / Bettina Polite-Tate) To reject the EERC’s recommendation of a 20 Day Suspension and issue a 45 Day Suspension.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Probable Cause Case # 15-10-498

MOTION: (Jim Barrett / Terrie Ponder) To accept the EERC’s recommendation of a 20 Day Suspension.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Opposed: Dr. Larry Walters, Scott Justus

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

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

	EPP	February 2016 Detailed Approval Recommendations
1.	Griffin RESA	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of the Student Support Team Coordinator Endorsement Program.
2.	Okefenokee RESA	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of the Teacher Support and Coaching Endorsement Program.
3.	Metropolitan RESA	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of the Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership Program.

	EPP	February 2016 Detailed Approval Recommendations
4.	Middle Georgia RESA	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of the Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership Program. The Committee recommends the submission of a Progress Report by April 15, 2016, demonstrating evidence of a plan for conducting systematic and comprehensive evaluations of faculty teaching performance to assure faculty competence.
5.	Southwest Georgia RESA	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of the Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership Program. The Committee recommends the submission of a Progress Report by April 15, 2016, providing evidence of a comprehensive assessment system which includes transition points for candidates to assure program level data are collected and analyzed on a systematic basis to monitor candidate performance and improve EPP operations.
6.	Gwinnett County Public Schools	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of two Educator Preparation Programs including, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Education Physical and Health Disabilities Endorsement Program • Special Education Visual Impairment Endorsement Program
7.	Piedmont College	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of two Educator Preparation Programs including, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tier I Educational Leadership Program • Coaching Endorsement Program
8.	University of North Georgia	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of the Curriculum and Instruction Program (P-12; Initial; M. Ed).
9.	Technical College System of Georgia (Wiregrass Georgia Technical College)	The Committee recommends Continuing Approval of the Educator Preparation Provider and GaTAPP (Initial; Certification-only)
10.	Gordon State College	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of five Educator Preparation Programs including, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle Grades Education Program – English Language Arts (4-8; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Middle Grades Education Program – Mathematics (4-8; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Middle Grades Education Program – Reading (4-8; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Middle Grades Education Program – Science (4-8; Initial;

	EPP	February 2016 Detailed Approval Recommendations
		<p>Baccalaureate)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle Grades Education Program – Social Science (4-8; Initial; Baccalaureate) <p>Additionally, the Committee recommends Continuing Approval for four Educator Preparation Programs including,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Education Program (6-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) • History Education Program (6-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Mathematics Education Program (6-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) • Science Education Program – Biology (6-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) <p>The Committee recommends the submission of a Progress Report by March 1, 2017, addressing the Standard 3 (element a), and Standard 3 (element c) Areas for Improvement resulting from the Fall 2015 First Continuing Review.</p>
11.	Tier II Appeal Cynthia Peck	The Committee recommends granting the Tier II Certification Appeal.

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

PSC ACTION: Approved

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Luigs called for the meeting to be adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved