

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Piedmont Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia

May 14, 2015

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, May 14, 2015, at 12:30 p.m.

Members Present

Dr. Jim Barrett	Kamila Luigs	David Smith
Lauren Eckman	Valerie Mateen	Sheryl Stalvey
Dr. Penny Elkins	Christy McGill	Susan Thayer
Phil Jacobs	Bettina Polite Tate	Dr. Lawrence Walters
Scott Justus	Terrie Ponder	Pam Walker
	Carol Rivera	

Members Absent

Dr. Martha Venn Henry Kelly

I. WORK SESSION

- Kelly Henson thanked Kristina Stroede for her work in organizing the retreat.
- Kelly Henson introduced Susan Thayer to the Commissioners. Susan is a retired educator with more than 30 years of experience. She has served in three metro Atlanta school systems as a teacher, guidance counselor, principal, director of leadership development, executive director of high schools and assistant superintendent. Susan is currently serving as a member of the Cobb County Board of Education. Susan earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and graduate degrees from the University of West Georgia. Susan and her husband, Ed, have two children. They reside in Smyrna.
- Anne Marie Fenton introduced Nathan Estel from ES. He presented the edTPA: Overview of the Standard Setting Process and held a Q&A after the presentation.
- Anne Marie Fenton presented the rules for adoption that were initiated on March 12th. We received one comment during the public comment period and that was given to Commissioners.

For the Rules Adoption

Commissioners will be asked to adopt all rules initiated in March, with an effective date of June 15, 2015 with rule 505-2-.36 Renewal Rule to become effective July 1, 2017.

Discussion (Certification)

505-2-.04 INDUCTION CERTIFICATE – amend to clarify the GPA requirement for Induction Pathway 4 certificates.

505-2-.15 ADJUNCT LICENSE - amend to establish that an Adjunct license may be issued for the field of Special Education field of Visual Impairment, to remove the restriction that Adjunct License holders may only teach grades 6-12, and to make the license transferrable among LUAs.

505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION PROCEDURES – amend to clarify the verification of lawful presence requirement and update the name of a required form.

505-2-.36 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS – repeal and a new rule adopted to change renewal requirements starting with certificates expiring in 2018.

505-2-.40 IN-FIELD ASSIGNMENT – amend to correct a reference to a rule that has a new name.

505-2-.90 CAREER AND TECHNICAL SPECIALIZATIONS – amend to clarify the assessment requirements for several areas.

505-2-.114 VISUAL IMPAIRMENT – amend to establish that an Adjunct license may be issued in this field.

Discussion (Educator Preparation)

505-3-.71 SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY PROGRAM - repeal and a new rule adopted as program standards have been updated to align with national standards, and there has been a change in requirements.

505-3-.102 SPECIAL EDUCATION VISUAL IMPAIRMENT ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM - amend to reflect the requirement of Special Education Certification for candidates entering a Special Education Visual Impairment Endorsement Program.

505-3-.105 TEACHER SUPPORT AND COACHING (TSC) ENDORSEMENT – amend to include the policy and procedures for current holders of TSS Endorsement to convert to the TSC Endorsement. The revised rule is intended to include a phase-in timeline for converting to the TSC Endorsement.

Discussion (Ethics)

505-6-.01 THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR EDUCATORS – amend to clarify terminology.

- Chair Elkins congratulated Dr. Kelli Young for receiving her Ph.D. in English from Georgia State University.
- Chair Elkins spoke briefly about the importance of communication (keeping the community informed of the many changes taking place in education in the state of Georgia) and the role of Commissioners.
- She spoke briefly about the Panel Discussion at Mercer University and thanked the PSC staff for their participation.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Elkins called the meeting to order at 1:00 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: (Pam Walker / Phil Jacobs) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Elkins called for approval of the minutes from the April 9, 2015, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. VISITORS

Chair Dr. Elkins welcomed the visitors.

- Leonard Williams, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Tayia Donald, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Linda Fortson, Warren Fortson Law Office
- Carmen Hernandez-Freemire, Office of Planning and Budget

VI. 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 33 *Probable Cause* cases during its May 14, 2015, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
14-11-371	4, 10	Deny
14-12-434	1, 4, 9	Reprimand
12-11-530	4,9,10	Suspension - 20 Days
13-2-759	2,5,10	Suspension - 1 Year
14-2-558	4,10	NPC
14-3-655	10, 11	Suspension - 90 Days
14-3-680	4,5,10	Suspension - 2 Years
14-4-766	4,10	Reprimand
14-4-767	4,10	Reprimand
14-4-778	3,10	Suspension - 1 Year
14-5-838	2,10	Suspension - 10 Days
14-7-38	2,5,10	Revoke
14-8-178	3,10	Suspension - 1 Year
14-9-212	3,10	Suspension - 1 Year
14-9-216	1,3,10	Suspension - 1 Year

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
14-11-424	4, 10	Suspension - 2 Years
14-12-428	2,7,10	Suspension - 3 Years
14-12-447	2, 10	Suspension - 10 Days
14-12-475	1,10	Suspension - 1 Year
14-12-484	10, 11	Reprimand
14-12-485	2,10	Suspension - 20 Days
15-1-512	5,10	Suspension - 1 Year
15-1-513	5,10	Suspension - 1 Year
15-1-526	4, 10	Revoke
15-1-547	2,10	Revoke
15-1-552	1,10	NPC
15-1-556	1,2,10	Revoke
15-1-570	1,4,9	Reprimand
15-2-646	2, 10	Suspension - 20 Days
15-2-662	1,2,10	Reprimand
15-2-682	3,4,10	Suspension - 1 Year
15-2-686	1,4,10	Revoke
15-3-760	2,10	Revoke

2. Ms. Walker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 1 *Petitions Issue* and brought the following recommendation on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>PREVIOUS SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
14-10-296	Revocation June 2008	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>
14-8-142	Suspension - 1 year	Accept
14-9-241	Reprimand	Accept
14-9-236	Revocation	Accept
14-12-440	Suspension - 90 days	Accept
14-12-454	Reprimand	Accept
15-1-576	Reprimand	Accept

4. Ms. Walker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 31 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
09-9-313 11-8-183	Suspension - 1 year Suspension - 2 years	Suspension - 90 days
11-9-361	Revocation	Suspension - 10 days
11-9-377	Revocation	Suspension - 20 days
11-9-409	Suspension - 2 years	Suspension - 90 days
11-9-421	Revocation	Suspension - 60 days
11-10-483	Suspension - 1 year	NPC
11-11-601	Suspension - 1 year	NPC
11-12-675	Suspension - 30 days	Reprimand
12-3-1032	Suspension - 2 years	No Jurisdiction
12-4-1149	Suspension - 90 days	Suspension - 5 days
13-1-640	Revocation	Suspension - 2 years & 90 days
13-3-833	Suspension - 90 days	Reprimand
13-3-894	Revocation	Suspension - 2 years
13-7-16	Suspension - 90 days	Suspension - 10 days
13-9-142	Suspension - 2 years	Suspension - 2 years
13-9-143	Revocation	Suspension - 2 years
13-9-215	Suspension - 2 years	Suspension - 20 days
14-1-473	Suspension - 5 days	Suspension - 3 days
14-2-568	Suspension - 5 days	Suspension - 3 days
14-3-594	Suspension - 1 year	Reprimand
14-3-646	Revocation	Suspension - 2 years
14-3-647	Revocation	Suspension - 3 years
14-4-775	Revocation	Suspension - 1 year
14-6-943	Suspension - 30 days	Suspension - 5 days
14-5-864	Suspension - 1 year	Suspension - 1 year
14-6-988	Denial	Reprimand
14-7-87	Suspension - 10 days	Reprimand
14-7-108	Suspension - 1 year	Suspension - 10 days
14-7-133	Revocation	NPC
14-9-225	Suspension - 20 days	Suspension - 5 days
14-9-266	Suspension - 20 days	Reprimand

5. OTHER BUSINESS

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

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS</u>	<u>PREVIOUS SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
PID 15-5-1002	2, 10	Investigate / Voluntary Surrender	Investigate / Voluntary Surrender

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 63 new complaints received during the months of April and May 2015.

7. VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 5 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>
14-4-737	1, 2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
14-8-172	1, 2, 3, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
14-12-459	9, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
15-2-703	2, 4, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
15-3-754	2, 10	Vol Surrender	Accept

8. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 72 Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations consisting of the following:

15-4-868	15-4-938	15-4-947	15-5-956	15-5-965	15-5-974	15-5-983	15-5-994
15-4-918	15-4-939	15-5-948	15-5-957	15-5-966	15-5-975	15-5-984	15-5-995
15-4-919	15-4-940	15-5-949	15-5-958	15-5-967	15-5-976	15-5-985	15-5-996
15-4-920	15-4-941	15-5-950	15-5-959	15-5-968	15-5-977	15-5-986	15-5-997
15-4-921	15-4-942	15-5-951	15-5-960	15-5-969	15-5-978	15-5-988	15-5-998
15-4-922	15-4-943	15-5-952	15-5-961	15-5-970	15-5-979	15-5-989	15-5-999
15-4-923	15-4-944	15-5-953	15-5-962	15-5-971	15-5-980	15-5-990	15-5-1000
15-4-924	15-4-945	15-5-954	15-5-963	15-5-972	15-5-981	15-5-991	15-5-1001
15-4-937	15-4-946	15-5-955	15-5-964	15-5-973	15-5-982	15-5-992	15-5-1003

9. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting and 154 *Investigative Extension* to the following 34 cases:

<u>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</u>							
11-8-130	13-5-1032	14-2-516	14-5-914	14-8-149	14-10-321	14-12-430	15-1-551
11-9-337	13-5-1043	14-3-581	14-6-938	14-8-151	14-10-340	14-12-436	15-1-558
11-9-343	13-5-1049	14-3-583	14-6-940	14-8-156	14-10-341	14-12-439	15-1-562
11-9-392	13-5-1076	14-3-593	14-6-942	14-8-157	14-10-349	14-12-448	15-1-566

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
11-9-398	13-6-1176	14-3-633	14-6-944	14-8-169	14-10-350	14-12-469	15-1-583
11-9-399	13-6-1199	14-3-635	14-6-950	14-8-179	14-10-353	14-12-470	15-1-589
11-9-402	13-6-1207	14-3-644	14-6-964	14-9-189	14-10-359	14-12-474	15-2-611
11-9-455	13-6-1209	14-3-645	14-6-971	14-9-218	14-10-361	14-12-491	15-2-612
11-9-456	13-6-1231	14-3-654	14-6-1036	14-9-219	14-10-362	14-12-492	15-2-618
11-9-457	13-8-56	14-4-723	14-6-1037	14-9-245	14-10-363	14-12-493	15-2-641
11-9-458	13-9-192	14-4-744	14-7-22	14-9-255	14-10-364	14-12-494	15-2-653
11-12-702	13-10-239	14-4-752	14-7-54	14-9-268	14-10-365	15-1-510	15-2-661
12-7-111	13-11-327	14-4-757	14-7-66	14-9-270	14-10-368	15-1-511	15-2-681
13-3-838	13-12-373	14-4-762	14-7-67	14-9-271	14-11-370	15-1-514	15-2-690
13-3-865	13-12-376	14-4-772	14-7-68	14-9-272	14-11-382	15-1-515	
13-3-869	13-12-377	14-5-819	14-7-69	14-9-277	14-11-386	15-1-518	
13-3-878	13-12-379	14-5-826	14-7-107	14-10-286	14-11-392	15-1-544	
13-3-891	13-12-423	14-5-863	14-7-123	14-10-300	14-11-396	15-1-548	
13-4-983	13-12-424	14-5-897	14-7-135	14-10-305	14-11-423	15-1-549	
13-4-1016	14-1-444	14-5-905	14-8-136	14-10-307	14-12-427	15-1-550	

10. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 31 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

11. 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 were 2 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.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Pam Walker – 14-4-737, Valerie Mateen – 14-11-424, Scott Justus – 14-11-424, 14-3-594, Bettina Polite Tate – 15-4-908, 15-4-909, Terrie Ponder – 15-4-864, Kami Luigs – 09-9-313, 11-8-143, 11-9-361, 11-9-377, 11-9-421, 14-3-647, 14-4-778, 15-3-760, 15-3-838, 15-3-839, 15-3-840, 15-3-824, 15-3-825, 15-3-826, 15-3-827, 15-3-849, 15-3-851

Negotiated Consent Order Case # 13-1-640

MOTION: (Pam Walker / Bettina Polite-Tate) To accept the EERC's recommendation to accept the Negotiated Consent Order of 2 Years and 90 Days Suspension.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Opposed: Phil Jacobs

Negotiated Consent Order Case # 14-4-775

MOTION: (Kami Luigs / Phil Jacobs) To accept the EERC's recommendation to accept the Negotiated Consent Order of a 1 Year Suspension.

PSC ACTION: Approved

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

Committee Vice-Chair, Phil Jacobs, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

1. Point University - The Committee disagrees with the ERP Recommendation that incremental progress is evident in the Progress Report submitted January 26, 2015, addressing Standard 2 (element a & b) resulting from the Fall 2013 Continuing Approval Review. The Committee recommends the Progress Report submitted January 26, 2015, is unsatisfactory in addressing Standard 2 (element a & b) resulting from the Fall 2013 Continuing Approval Review. The Committee recommends the areas for improvement remain. In addition, the Committee recommends the submission of a Progress Report by September 1, 2015, showing evidence of a systematic assessment system, including a comprehensive and integrated set of assessment and evaluation measures to monitor candidate performance and manage and improve educator preparation provider operations and preparation programs. The Committee recommends the Progress Report submitted January 26, 2015, is unsatisfactory in addressing the areas for improvement for Standard 5 (element c) resulting from the Fall 2013 Continuing Approval Review. The Panel recommends the areas for improvement remain. The Committee recommends the submission of a Progress Report by September 1, 2015, addressing Standard 5 (element c), showing evidence that faculty have participated in scholarly work such as attendance and presentations at national conferences and/or publications.

2. Armstrong University - The Committee recommends granting the request for deferral of the Spring 2017 Continuing Approval Review to Spring 2018.

3. Brewton-Parker College – The committee recommends granting the request for deferral of the Spring 2016 Continuing Approval review to Spring 2017.

4. Tier II Appeal – The committee recommended denying Educational Leadership certification.

Chair Elkins called for approval of the Educator Preparation report as presented by Phil Jacobs.

PSC ACTION: Approved

VII. RULES

Anne Marie Fenton presented 11 rules for Initiation.

MOTION: (Phil Jacobs / Pam Walker) To initiate rulemaking procedures in accordance with the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act so as to provide for (1) amending the current rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective June 15, 2015, as follows: 505-2-.04, 505-2-.15, 505-2-.27, 505-2-.40, 505-2-.90, and 505-2-.114 ; (2) repealing the current rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective July 1, 2017, as follows: 505-2-.36; (3) adopting the current rule in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective July 1, 2017, as follows: 505-2-.36; (4) amending the current rules in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective June 15, 2015, as follows: 505-3-.102, and 505-3-.105; (5) repealing the current rules in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation, effective June 15, 2015, as follows: 505-2-.71; (6) adopting the current rule in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation, effective June 15, 2015, as follows: 505-3-.71; and (7) amend the current rule in Chapter 505-6 Ethics, effective June 15, 2015, as follows: 505-6-.01.

PSC ACTION: Approved

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VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dr. Elkins called for the meeting to be adjourned at 1:45 .pm.

PSC ACTION: Approved