

# MINUTES

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Piedmont Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia

November 12, 2015

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

### Members Present

Dr. Jim Barrett  
Lauren Eckman  
Scott Justus  
Henry Kelly  
Dr. Sandy Leslie

Kamila Luigs  
Diane McClearen  
Christy McGill  
Bettina Polite Tate  
Carol Rivera

David Smith  
Sheryl Stalvey  
Susan Thayer  
Dr. Martha Venn  
Dr. Lawrence Walters

### Members Absent

Terrie Ponder  
Valerie Mateen

Teri Schneider

## **I. WORK SESSION**

**A.** Kelly welcomed Diane McClearen, Director of Community and External relations for Oglethorpe Power to the Commission. She is also First Vice president and 2016 Board Chair for the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce.

**B.** Penney McRoy, Assistant Division Director of Educator Preparation, and Windy Fortenberry, Certification Program Director, spoke briefly about the PSC Task Force work.

**C.** Anne Marie Fenton, Janet Cook, ETS and Jan Ruthven, ETS, gave a presentation on a) Data update: Georgia Educator Ethics Assessment; and b) Overview: Georgia Educator Ethics for Educational Leadership Assessment and answered questions from Commissioners.

**D.** Commission Chair Report: Dr. Marti Venn spoke briefly about the presentation that PSC Education Specialist Nate Thomas gave on the edTPA Boot Camp that Columbus State University holds each year for its pre-service candidates to prepare them for success on the edTPA.

## **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:** (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 October 8, 2015, Commission meeting.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

#### **V. VISITORS**

Chair Dr. Luigs welcomed the visitors.

- Leonard Williams, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Janet Cook, Educational Testing Service
- Jan Ruthven, Educational Testing Service
- Don Splinter, Georgia Association of Educational Leaders
- Deborah James, ODE
- Karen, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)-Retired
- Linda Fortson, Warren Fortson Law Office
- Sid Chapman, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Chris Baumann, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Tayia Donald, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)

#### **VI. EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS**

Melanie Madison – 5 Year Service Award - Melanie joined the Certification Division as a Customer Service Specialist in 2010 and within her first year she was promoted to an Evaluator. From the very beginning Melanie has displayed superb attention to detail and has grown into one of the most knowledgeable evaluators capable of processing the most complicated certification cases. In 2014, right after the division experienced the most significant changes in the certification structure to date, Melanie was promoted to a Lead Evaluator, as a result of her capacity to quickly learn new rules and desire to mentor staff through such a vital transition. She has a natural aptitude for the work of certification and has repeatedly proven to be a true asset to the division. Certification is always changing and improving and will continue to be successful because of staff like Melanie Madison. Congratulations on 5 years of faithful service!

Sherry Smith – 10 Year Service Award - Sherry started with the cert division as a temporary employee working on the NCLB special education project in 2005 and was taken away from us to fill a permanent position with TeachGa as a Program Specialist. We stole her back in 2006 as an Information Specialist and promoted her to an evaluator in 2009 and later to the Outreach Coordinator in 2012. No matter what position Sherry filled, she consistently demonstrated a high level of professionalism and work ethic in her duties. Sherry is extremely customer-focused and has always represented our agency with grace and understanding and many educators have benefited from her advisement over the years. In her duties as an Outreach Coordinator, Sherry has continued to be instrumental in organizing and planning our training and outreach events and has received many positive comments from LUAs and EPPs regarding her organizational and planning skills. She has become a trusted and reliable employee of the GaPSC. We are very proud of her accomplishments and the excellent way she represents our agency and state. Congratulations on 10 years of faithful service.

## VII. 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 51 *Probable Cause* cases during its November 12, 2015, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
14-9-194	1	Deny
15-3-803	5a2	NPC
15-4-884	1	Deny
15-4-900	5a2	Deny
15-5-1070	1	Deny
15-6-1165	1	Reprimand
15-6-1267	5a2	Deny
15-6-1270	1	Deny
15-6-1272	1, 5a2	Deny
15-6-1282	1	Reprimand
15-6-1284	1	Deny
15-7-50	1, 4	Reprimand
15-7-61	1	Reprimand
15-7-72	1, 4	Deny
15-7-128	1, 4	Deny
15-8-219	1, 5a2	Deny
15-9-451	5a2, 5a7	Deny
11-9-343	1, 10	Revoke
11-9-456	1, 4, 9, 10	Revoke
11-9-457	1, 4, 9, 10	Revoke
11-9-458	1, 4, 9, 10	Revoke
13-5-1032	4, 10	Revoke
14-3-635	9,10	NPC
14-6-940	2,10	Suspension - 1 year
14-6-1036	4,5,10	Suspension - 2 years
14-6-1037	4,5,10	Suspension - 1 year
14-11-405	1, 4, 10	Suspension - 20 days
14-12-498	1	NPC
15-1-529	1, 9, 10	Revoke
15-1-550	10	Suspension - 20 days
15-1-565	1,9,10	Reprimand
15-3-773	2, 10, 5a7	Revoke
15-3-814	5a2	Reprimand
15-4-856	2, 10	Suspension - 1 year

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
15-5-960	5,10	NPC
15-5-961	5,10	NPC
15-5-962	5,10	NPC
15-5-981	7,10,11	Suspension - 20 days
15-5-1071	1,9, 10	Revoke
15-6-1105	9, 10	Suspension - 90 days
15-6-1160	1, 4, 9, 10	Revoke
15-6-1201	2,10	Suspension - 20 days
15-7-21	5, 10	Suspension - 30 days
15-7-51	1, 4, 10	NPC
15-7-102	1, 4, 10	Suspension -1 year
15-8-192	4, 10	Revoke
15-8-205	3, 10	Suspension - 1 year
15-8-240	1, 4, 10	Reprimand
15-8-249	8,10	Suspension - 10 days
15-9-407	3, 10	Suspension - 1 year
15-9-410	8, 10	Suspension - 90 days

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>
15-7-22	Revocation May 2007	Deny
15-8-177	Voluntary Surrender April 2014	Deny

3. Chair Polite-Tate 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>
14-4-723	Reprimand	Accept
14-7-69	Suspension - 20 days	Accept
14-11-383	Reprimand	Accept
15-2-669	Warning	Accept
15-3-804	Reprimand	Accept
15-5-956	Suspension - 1 year	Accept
15-5-965	Vol Surrender	Accept
15-5-1007	Reprimand	Accept
15-6-1166	Reprimand	Accept
15-6-1175	Warning	Accept

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
15-6-1278	Reprimand	Accept

4. Chair Polite-Tate reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 17 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
11-8-161	NPC	Accept
11-8-223	75 days	Accept
11-11-589	Reprimand	Accept
12-8-299	NPC	Accept
12-9-333	NPC	Reject
13-10-240	Reprimand	Accept
13-12-408	Reprimand	Accept
14-3-644	5 days	Accept
14-3-696	15 days	Accept
14-5-832	5 days	Accept
14-8-171	Reprimand	Accept
14-9-215	3 years	Accept
15-1-564	NPC	Reject
15-1-568	Reprimand	Accept
15-1-601	Warning	Accept
15-4-882	60 days	Accept
15-4-914	NPC	Accept

#### 5. OTHER BUSINESS

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

<u>CASE</u>	<u>EDUCATOR</u>	<u>PREVIOUS SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
NCO 1-8-212	Suspension 2 years	Suspension 15 days	Accept
PID 15-9-388	Close - No Jurisdiction		Close - No Juris
PCE 11-9-337	Hold New Application		Hold New App

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 71 new complaints received during the months of October and November 2015.

#### 7. VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 3 *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>
11-9-455	4, 9, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
15-6-1234	2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
15-8-314	1, 2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

#### 8. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

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

15-10-510	15-10-519	15-11-583	15-11-592	15-11-605
15-10-511	15-10-520	15-11-584	15-11-593	15-11-606
15-10-512	15-10-521	15-11-585	15-11-594	15-11-607
15-10-513	15-10-522	15-11-586	15-11-595	15-11-608
15-10-514	15-11-578	15-11-587	15-11-596	15-11-609
15-10-515	15-11-579	15-11-588	15-11-597	15-11-610
15-10-516	15-11-580	15-11-589	15-11-599	15-11-611
15-10-517	15-11-581	15-11-590	15-11-600	15-11-612
15-10-518	15-11-582	15-11-591	15-11-604	

#### 9. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 311 cases:

<u>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</u>							
11-9-392	14-5-905	14-10-353	15-3-761	15-5-969	15-6-1101	15-6-1286	15-8-171
11-9-398	14-6-942	14-10-359	15-3-764	15-5-970	15-6-1102	15-6-1287	15-8-172
11-9-399	14-6-944	14-10-361	15-3-767	15-5-971	15-6-1107	15-7-1	15-8-180
11-9-402	14-6-950	14-10-368	15-3-774	15-5-972	15-6-1111	15-7-2	15-8-182
11-12-702	14-6-964	14-11-370	15-3-785	15-5-973	15-6-1119	15-7-6	15-8-185
12-7-111	14-6-971	14-11-386	15-3-800	15-5-980	15-6-1120	15-7-7	15-8-193
13-3-838	14-6-973	14-11-392	15-3-809	15-5-982	15-6-1125	15-7-8	15-8-194
13-3-869	14-6-981	14-11-396	15-3-820	15-5-984	15-6-1126	15-7-10	15-8-195
13-3-891	14-7-14	14-12-427	15-3-821	15-5-985	15-6-1129	15-7-11	15-8-198
13-3-1199	14-7-54	14-12-436	15-3-823	15-5-986	15-6-1133	15-7-15	15-8-199
13-4-983	14-7-66	14-12-439	15-3-827	15-5-989	15-6-1138	15-7-16	15-8-201
13-4-1016	14-7-68	14-12-469	15-3-828	15-5-996	15-6-1149	15-7-18	15-8-202
13-5-1043	14-7-107	14-12-474	15-3-834	15-5-997	15-6-1167	15-7-19	15-8-208
13-5-1049	14-7-123	14-12-492	15-3-836	15-5-998	15-6-1170	15-7-32	15-8-210
13-6-1176	14-7-135	14-12-493	15-3-837	15-5-1003	15-6-1171	15-7-35	15-8-211

<b>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</b>							
13-6-1207	14-8-136	15-1-511	15-3-840	15-5-1009	15-6-1172	15-7-47	15-8-213
13-6-1231	14-8-149	15-1-514	15-3-844	15-5-1015	15-6-1173	15-7-49	15-8-225
13-8-56	14-8-151	15-1-515	15-3-849	15-5-1016	15-6-1187	15-7-51	15-8-226
13-10-239	14-8-156	15-1-543	15-4-851	15-5-1017	15-6-1199	15-7-52	15-8-227
13-11-327	14-8-157	15-1-548	15-4-852	15-5-1026	15-6-1203	15-7-52	15-8-229
13-12-373	14-8-169	15-1-549	15-4-853	15-5-1029	15-6-1207	15-7-53	15-8-233
13-12-379	14-8-179	15-1-558	15-4-855	15-5-1031	15-6-1208	15-7-53	15-8-234
13-12-423	14-9-189	15-1-562	15-4-857	15-5-1034	15-6-1209	15-7-54	15-8-235
13-12-424	14-9-191	15-2-611	15-4-859	15-5-1035	15-6-1211	15-7-54	15-8-239
14-1-444	14-9-218	15-2-661	15-4-860	15-5-1044	15-6-1214	15-7-55	15-8-242
14-2-516	14-9-219	15-2-690	15-4-864	15-5-1045	15-6-1215	15-7-55	15-8-243
14-3-581	14-9-245	15-2-698	15-4-870	15-5-1046	15-6-1216	15-7-59	15-8-244
14-3-583	14-9-255	15-2-699	15-4-877	15-5-1047	15-6-1250	15-7-59	15-8-256
14-3-593	14-9-268	15-2-711	15-4-886	15-5-1048	15-6-1252	15-7-68	15-8-259
14-3-633	14-9-270	15-3-719	15-4-892	15-5-1054	15-6-1253	15-7-73	15-8-267
14-3-654	14-9-271	15-3-720	15-4-930	15-5-1057	15-6-1256	15-7-74	15-8-271
14-3-697	14-9-272	15-3-721	15-4-942	15-5-1058	15-6-1257	15-7-79	15-8-272
14-3-698	14-10-286	15-3-722	15-4-947	15-5-1088	15-6-1259	15-7-82	15-8-274
14-4-744	14-10-300	15-3-733	15-5-952	15-6-1090	15-6-1265	15-7-83	15-8-280
14-4-757	14-10-305	15-3-734	15-5-953	15-6-1093	15-6-1266	15-7-125	15-8-292
14-4-762	14-10-307	15-3-735	15-5-955	15-6-1094	15-6-1274	15-7-133	15-8-320
14-4-772	14-10-321	15-3-741	15-5-957	15-6-1095	15-6-1276	15-7-138	15-8-321
14-5-819	14-10-340	15-3-749	15-5-958	15-6-1099	15-6-1281	15-7-139	15-8-322
14-5-826	14-10-341	15-3-757	15-5-959	15-6-1100	15-6-1283	15-7-156	

#### 10. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 24 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

#### 11. FINAL DECISIONS

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 2 cases.

<u>CASE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL SANCTION</u>	<u>ALJ SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
11-4-167	2 years	NPC	Accept
12-7-81	Revocation	Revocation	Accept

#### 12. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 7 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 judicial review.

Chair Luigs called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Bettina Polite-Tate excluding case 14-6-940.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

Abstention: Christy McGill-15-1-564, 15-9-461, 15-10-524, 15-5-525, Kami Luigs – 11-9-455, 11-8-161, 11-8-223, 13-10-240, 15-1-568, 15-6-1201, 11-9-457, 11-9-458, 14-6-1036, 14-3-635, 13-5-1032, 11-9-456, 15-9-468, 15-10-477, 15-10-478, 15-10-479, 15-10-522, 15-10-531, 15-10-532, 15-10-533, 15-10-534, 15-10-535, 15-10-537, Bettina Polite-Tate – 15-1-565, 15-10-48, Scott Justus – 15-9-460, 15-9-470, 15-9-471, Susan Thayer, 15-10-498, 15-10-499, 15-9-457, Jim Barrett – 15-10-523, Diane McClearen – All Cases

**Probable Cause Case # 14-6-940**

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

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

Opposed: Sheryl Stalvey

**B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee**

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

<b>EPP</b>	<b>November 2015 Detailed Approval Recommendations</b>
University of Georgia	<p>While the College of Education Progress report submitted August 3, 2015, indicates incremental progress in addressing the Standard 2 (element a) area for improvement for the Special Education Preschool Endorsement Program, the area for improvement remains.</p> <p>A Progress Report is due March 7, 2016, addressing how the program is assuring inter-rater reliability among multiple assessors when assessing candidate performance. The Progress Report should address how multiple assessors are trained prior to candidates beginning courses, and how multiple assessors are made knowledgeable of assessments and scoring guides. The Progress Report should also include an update on the progress of Foliotek, and include evidence of candidate data stored in Foliotek, further showing how candidate progress is tracked.</p>
Request for PSC/CAEP Continuing Approval Review	The Committee recommends granting the request for a one year deferral of the PSC/CAEP Continuing Approval Review for Toccoa Falls College

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

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Luigs called for the meeting to be adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

12/11/2015

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**PSC ACTION:** Approved