

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION MEETING

KING AND PRINCE
St. Simons Island, Georgia

March 1, 2001

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, March 1, 2001, at 9 a.m. at the King and Prince, St. Simons Island, Georgia.

Members Present

Anne Adams
Phoebe Bailey
Vicky Cody
Kay Cribbs

John Culbreath
Terri DeLoach
Amy Denty
Angela Finn

Willda Melton
Vernon Payne
Janet Scott
Pam Thomas

Members Absent

Thomas Harrison
Leon Hurley
Debbie Lane
Sue Sehgal
Beth Steele
David Wallace

Visitors

- Gail Wooten, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- John Dobrenic, Georgia Association of Educators
- Franklin Shumake, Piedmont College
- Stephanie Carreker, Georgia Department of Education
- Barbara Culbreath
- Lauren Melton

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Culbreath called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and a moment of silence.

II. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Chairman Culbreath recognized the visitors.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Culbreath called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Cribbs/Payne) To adopt the agenda as presented.

ACTION: Approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Culbreath called for approval of the minutes from the February 1, 2001, Commission meeting.

MOTION: (Payne/Thomas) To approve the minutes as written.

ACTION: Approved.

V. COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Professional Practices Review Committee

1. The Professional Practices Review Committee brought suggestions to the Commission regarding this month's *Thirty-eight (38) Probable Cause* cases. These were as follows:

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
00-12-897	Monitoring for One Year
00-12-898	Revocation
01-01-915	Reprimand and Monitoring for Two Years
01-01-925	Reprimand and Monitoring for One Year
01-01-939	No Probable Cause
01-01-951	Monitoring for One Year
01-01-960	No Probable Cause
00-11-785	Revocation
00-12-873	Revocation
01-01-1034	No Probable Cause
00-09-425	Extend Probable Cause Determination for Additional Thirty (30) Days
00-12-831	No Probable Cause
00-12-841	Extend Probable Cause Determination for Initial Sixty (60) Days
00-12-844	Warning
00-12-857	No Probable Cause
01-01-969	No Probable Cause
01-01-1061	Warning
01-01-956	Suspension for Two Years
00-12-887	Voluntarily Surrendered (Revocation)
00-11-737	Extend Probable Cause Determination for Initial Sixty (60) Days
00-11-717	Suspension for One Month
00-11-718	Suspension for One Month
00-11-719	Suspension for Three Months

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
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00-11-743	Denial
00-12-867	Suspension for Three Months
00-12-868	Reprimand
00-12-869	Suspension for One Month
00-12-871	No Probable Cause
00-12-881	Suspension for Six Months
00-12-904	Suspension for Six Months
00-12-909	Suspension for Six Months
00-11-804	Suspension for Six Months
00-12-830	Reprimand and Monitoring for One Year
00-12-879	Reprimand
00-12-903	No Probable Cause
00-12-906	Warning
00-12-886	Revocation
00-12-866	Reprimand

MOTION: (Payne/Cribbs) To accept the suggestions of the Professional Practices Review Committee in all thirty-eight (38) probable cause cases.

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
Abstentions: None

2. The Professional Practices Review Committee brought suggestions to the Commission regarding this month's *Four (4) Initial Decisions* cases. These were as follows:

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>ALJ's Decision</u>	<u>PPRC's Recommendation</u>
99-07-022	Revocation	Accept
99-06-618	Revocation	Accept
99-12-789	Suspension for One Year/Monitoring For Two Years	Accept
00-3-1201	Suspension for One Year	Accept

MOTION: (Scott/Payne) To accept the suggestions of the Professional Practices Review Committee for all four (4) initial decisions cases.

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
Abstention: None

3. The Professional Practices Review Committee brought suggestions to the Commission regarding *Two (2) Petitions*. These were as follows:

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Matter</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
99-10-586	Petition for Stay of PSC's Final Decision	Deny
00-10-523	Petition for extension beyond 30-days to request due process hearing	Grant

MOTION: (Payne/Bailey) To accept the suggestion of the Professional Practices Review Committee to grant the request for an extension (Case No. 00-10-523), and to deny the request for a stay (Case No. 99-10-586).

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
Abstention: None

4. The Professional Practices Review Committee brought a suggestion to the Commission to accept all *Sixteen (16) Settlement Agreements*. These were as follows:

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Settlement Agreement</u>
00-10-472	Reprimand and Monitoring for One Year
00-10-529	Warning
00-10-588	Monitoring for One Year
00-10-589	Reprimand and Monitoring for Two Years
00-10-591	Reprimand and Monitoring for One Year
00-10-598	Reprimand and Monitoring for Two Years
00-10-641	Suspension for Six Months
00-11-714	Reprimand and Monitoring for One Year
00-11-727	Suspension for Six Months
00-11-774	Suspension for Six Months
00-11-786	Suspension for Six Months
00-11-799	Monitoring for One Year
00-11-813	Reprimand
00-12-833	Warning
00-12-887	Revocation (Voluntary Surrender)
01-01-913	Reprimand and Monitoring for One Year

MOTION: (Scott/Cribbs) To accept all sixteen (16) settlement agreements as suggested by the Professional Practices Review Committee.

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
Abstention: None

5. The Professional Practices Review Committee brought a suggestion to the Commission to accept the *Five (5) negotiated Settlement Agreements*. These were as follows:

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Settlement Agreement</u>
00-11-820	Suspension for Four Months
00-02-1032	Warning
00-06-1559	Suspension for Four Months
99-11-671	Waiver of Right to a Hearing (Denial)
99-4-353	Warning with Training in Test Security

MOTION: (Thomas/Bailey) To accept all five negotiated settlement agreements as suggested by the Professional Practices Review Committee.

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
Abstention: None

6. The Professional Practices Review Committee brought a suggestion to the Commission to grant *Extensions on Thirty (30) cases* in order to complete investigations. These cases are:

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Case Number</u>
00-12-880	01-01-958	01-01-1063
00-12-838	01-01-977	01-01-1064
00-12-856	01-01-1004	01-01-1069
00-12-910	01-01-1007	01-01-1071
01-01-924	01-01-1021	01-01-1075
01-01-928	01-01-1024	01-02-1078
01-01-941	01-01-1031	01-02-1079
01-01-947	01-01-1032	01-02-1082
01-01-950	01-01-1044	01-02-1085
01-01-957	01-01-1048	01-02-1087

MOTION: (Bailey/Thomas) To accept the suggestion of the Professional Practices Review Committee to grant the requested extensions.

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
Abstention: None

7. The February 2001 *Preliminary Investigation Determination Report* was distributed listing the *Fifty-four (54)* cases that the Cognizant members reviewed during the month.

MOTION: (Payne/Thomas) To accept the determinations of the cognizant members in all fifty-four (54) cases.

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
Abstention: None

8. During the month of February, the Student Finance Commission forwarded notifications to the Professional Standards Commission requesting the suspension of *Nine (9)* educator certificates for default in the repayment of *Student Loans*. These were as follows:

<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Case No.</u>
01-02-1122	01-02-1128	01-02-1131
01-02-1123	01-02-1129	01-02-1132
01-02-1127	01-02-1130	01-02-1134

MOTION: (Payne/Thomas) To accept the suggestion of the Professional Practices Review Committee to suspend the nine certificates as requested.

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
Abstention: None

MOTION: (Payne/Bailey) To take no action at this time against the *Four (4)* educators listed as *Student Loan-Early Release* cases.

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
Abstention: None

9. The following educators received notification of the Professional Standards Commission's proposed Disciplinary sanctions. In accordance with Rule No. 505-6-.04 (1) (c), the educator's failure to request a hearing within thirty days constitutes a waiver of their right to contest the proposed sanctions. Therefore, the sanctions have become the final decisions of the Commission.

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Sanction</u>
00-10-587	Reprimand and Monitoring for Two Years
00-10-608	Reprimand and Monitoring for Two Years
00-10-610	Warning
00-10-612	Suspension for Six Months
00-10-622	Suspension for Six Months

10. The following cases were referred to the Office of State Administrative Hearings for adjudication of the Professional Standards Commission's proposed disciplinary sanction. The Administrative Law Judge rendered an Initial Decision that was subsequently accepted by the PSC. The Initial Decision was served upon the educator. The educator's failure to request a review hearing within thirty days requires that the Initial Decision become the Final Decision of the Commission by operation of law.

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Sanction</u>
98-12-677	Warning and Monitoring for Three Years
99-10-508	No Probable Cause
99-11-703	Revocation
99-12-781	No Probable Cause
99-5-436	Revocation

11. The February 2001 *Probable Cause Determination* for Applicants for Certification was presented with the suggestion that the Commission approve those determinations as listed.

MOTION: (Cribbs/Adams) To approve the Professional Practices Review Committee's suggestion in all (63) *sixty-three* cases listed.

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
 Abstention: None

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

1. Oglethorpe Univeristy

Dr. Bailey reported that the Committee reviewed Oglethorpe University's quarterly report submitted for the Remediation Plan approved on April 6, 2000. Since the progress reported was satisfactory, they recommended that the Commission approve the quarterly report.

The Committee would like for the University to revisit the level of financial resources for infusing technology into the classroom and provide specific evidence of progress in its next quarterly report. Dr. Watkins will continue to be the PSC staff member providing technical assistance as the University completes their quarterly report.

The Commission accepted the recommendation from the Standing Committee.

2. Atlanta Christian College

Dr. Bailey reported that the Committee reviewed Atlanta Christian College's follow-up report to their approval with stipulations and recommended that the Commission remove the stipulations, granting full approval for the Early Childhood Education Program.

Full Approval: The program can accept students and recommend them for state certification when they have successfully completed the program.

The Commission accepted the recommendation from the Standing Committee.

3. Agnes Scott College

Dr. Bailey reported that the Committee reviewed Agnes Scott College's first quarterly report submitted for the Remediation Plan approved at the Commission's November 2000 meeting. Since the necessary progress is being made on the goals of the Remediation Plan, the Committee recommended that the Commission approve the report as satisfactory. The Committee also asked that the College continue to submit quarterly reports until its next on-site review scheduled for the fall of 2002.

Dr. Fran Watkins will continue to be the PSC staff member who will provide technical assistance as they complete their quarterly report.

The Commission accepted the recommendation from the Standing Committee.

4. Shorter College

At its March 1, 2001 meeting, the Professional Standards Commission considered Shorter College's follow-up report to approval with stipulations. After careful review of the College's report, the Committee requested that the Commission disagree with the Evaluation Review Panel's recommendation to remove stipulations. They recommended that the Commission require the stipulations to remain and ask the College to provide a coherent plan with specific measurable benchmarks addressing standards not met and standards met with weaknesses.

Education Unit and Program Approval with Stipulations signifies that the college is approved to offer preparation programs and recommend teachers for state certification. It requires that the College continue to submit a follow-up report to the Panel as detailed above.

The Commission accepted the recommendation from the Standing Committee.

5. Berry College

At its March 1, 2001 meeting, the Professional Standards Commission considered Berry College's follow-up report to continuing approval with provisos for the Middle Grades Program. After careful review of the College's follow-up report, the Committee recommended that the Commission agree with the Evaluation Review Panel's recommendation that provisos be removed and the college be granted full continuing accreditation for all programs.

Initial Programs Recommended for Continuing Accreditation

Early Childhood Education

Middle Grades Education (Initial)

Secondary Teaching Fields – Biology, Chemistry, English, History, Mathematics, Physics, Political Science, and Broad Field Social Science

P-12 Programs – Art, ESOL, Health and Physical Education, Music, French, German and Spanish

Advanced Programs Recommended for Continuing Accreditation

Early Childhood Education
Middle Grades Education
Reading
Secondary Curriculum and Instruction
Curriculum and Instruction

Program Recommended for Initial Accreditation

Reading Endorsement (new program)

IV. *Initial and Continuing Accreditation – The programs meet state standards, and candidates who successfully complete a program can be recommended for state certification.*

The Commission accepted the recommendation from the Standing Committee.

6. State University of West Georgia

At its March 1, 2001 meeting, the Professional Standards Commission considered the State University of West Georgia's follow-up report for approval with provisos. After careful review, the Committee recommended that the Commission agree with the Evaluation Review Panel's recommendation and approve the report as satisfactory and request the provisos to be continued. The Committee further recommended that additional information be submitted to the Panel by July 20, 2001 demonstrating how the University's plan is being implemented.

Continuing Approval with Provisos- Following a five-year continuing review, the education unit and/or programs of an institution or local agency continue to be officially sanctioned by the PSC as meeting state standards for their operation and content to prepare education personnel for state certification. However additional written responses for the stated weaknesses are required within a specified period of time. If the provisos are not met, the unit and/or programs will lose their approval status.

The Commission accepted the recommendation from the Standing Committee.

7. Georgia Southwestern State University

At its March 1, 2001 meeting, the Professional Standards Commission considered Georgia Southwestern State University's Business Education program. After careful review of the College's Business Education program, the Committee recommended that the Commission agree with the Evaluation Review Panel's recommendation to deny approval of the College's Business Education program.

Denial - Following a comprehensive review or a provision approval, the education unit and/or programs of an institution is not/are not sanctioned by the PSC as meeting state standards to prepare education personnel for state certification.

The Commission accepted the recommendation from the Standing Committee.

8. Wesleyan College

At its March 1, 2001 meeting, the Professional Standards Commission granted approval with stipulations of Wesleyan College's initial and advanced education unit. The Committee recommended that the Commission request Wesleyan College to submit a follow-up plan by January 18, 2002 to the Evaluation Review Panel demonstrating how the College is working to resolve the standards met with weaknesses.

The Commission requested the Commission to approved the College's initial and advanced programs in Early Childhood and Middle Grades, Secondary Education programs in English, history and mathematics. A written report responding to the weaknesses cited is to be filed by January 18, 2002.

The Committee requested the Commission to deny accreditation for the College's Reading Endorsement Program. The Education Unit should submit a plan by July 20, 2001, addressing the need for additional library resources and personnel for reconsideration.

Approval with Stipulations - Following a comprehensive review, the education unit and/or programs of an institution or local agency is/are officially sanctioned by the PSC as meeting state standards for their operation and content to prepare education personnel for state certification. However, additional written responses for the stated weaknesses are required within a specified period of time. If the stipulations are not met, the unit and/or program will lose its approval status.

Denial - Following a comprehensive review or a provision approval, the education unit and/or programs of an institution is not/are not sanctioned by the PSC as meeting state standards to prepare education personnel for state certification.

The Commission accepted the recommendation from the Standing Committee.

9. Clayton College and State University

At its March 1, 2001 meeting, the Professional Standards Commission considered Clayton College and State University's plan for its response to approval with probation. After careful consideration, the Committee recommended that the Commission approve the University's follow-up report as satisfactory. They should also submit additional information demonstrating how the University's plan is being implemented to the Evaluation Review Panel by July 20, 2001.

The Commission accepted the recommendation from the Standing Committee.

MOTION: The Committee made a motion that "satisfactory progress" be defined as, "measurable benchmarks to include a plan, actions, and results."

ACTION: Approved.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

A. The *Instruction Effectiveness Course Approval Application Package* and a *Course Approval Process Summary* were distributed to the Commission. Dr. Toth reported that the Governor's Implementation Task Force recently gave their final approval of the process to be used by the PSC. This requirement is for all principals, assistant principals, superintendents, assistant superintendents, as well as any other administrator having line authority over instruction.

Dr. Culbreath stated that the Commission has been charged to approve a procedure through which courses can be developed that will be alternatives to the five-days in a classroom required by the *A-Plus Education Act of 2000*. The Commission will provide the framework to be used in the development of these courses. One PSC-approved alternative course will satisfy this requirement for the entire five-year renewal cycle.

MOTION: (Cribbs/Scott) To approve the application package as well as the parameters for approval of the courses to be taken in lieu of the annual five days in a classroom.

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
Abstention None

B. The proposed *Georgia Technology Standards for Educators* were presented by Dr. Jerry Thomas for approval by the Commission. These standards include professional development objectives and performance descriptors for teachers and for leadership personnel.

Dr. Thomas also presented the *Technology Course Approval Framework* for approval by the Commission. The route for course approval will be a review by a special technology group, then it will go to the Educator Preparation Standing Committee, and finally to the full Commission.

MOTION: (Thomas/Payne) To approve the application package and to adopt the framework for the technology course requirement.

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
Abstention None

C. Dr. Toth asked Phil Blackwell to review the proposed rules regarding the International Exchange Certificates, Regional Accreditation, Special Education, and Student Loan Suspensions. In addition to reviewing the *proposed rules*, Mr. Blackwell went over the Administrative Procedures process for filing rules and regulations. If approved by the Commission, the proposed rule changes would be considered for adoption at the May meeting and become effective June 1, 2001. A motion was made as follows:

MOTION: (Thomas/Melton) To initiate the *rule-making process* by formally intending to adopt the proposed rule changes to Certification Rule Nos. 505-2-.24; 505-2-.35; 505-2-.52; 505-2-.71; 505-2-.75; 505-2-.80; 505-2-.83; 505-2-.86; 505-2-.97; and Professional Practices Rule No. 505-6-.08.

ACTION: Approved.

Opposed: None
Abstention None

IX. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Culbreath appointed the following new commission members to serve on committees as follows:

The Professional Practices Review Committee

Terri DeLoach
Amy Denty

The Educator Preparation Standing Committee

Debbie Lane
Angela Finn

X. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Cribbs/Payne) To adjourn the meeting.

ACTION: The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p. m.