

# MINUTES

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

### Remote Meeting via TEAMS Platform

November 5, 2020

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, November 5, 2020.

#### **Members Present**

Dr. Steve Barker	Scott Hollowell	Teri Schneider
Jeanine Bunn	Dr. Karla Hull	Dr. Brandon Seigler
Daniel Dooley	Diane McClearn	Brian Sirmans
Derek Easterling	Dr. Franklin Perry	Beth Townsend
Barbara Ellingson	Dr. Holley Roberts	Dr. Jennifer Wade
		Carol Williams

#### **Members Absent**

Jordan Frobos	Jimmy Atkins
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#### **I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Chair Sirmans called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and Commissioners answered roll call for attendance.

#### **II. VISITORS**

Chair Sirmans welcomed the visitors.

#### **III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the agenda.

**MOTION:** (Beth Townsend / Derek Easterling) To approve the agenda.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

#### **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the minutes from the October 8, 2020, Commission meetings.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

#### **V. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Matt Arthur spoke briefly about the following topics:

- a) The Preparation Program Effectiveness Measures (PPEM) indicate how well state approved programs are preparing their candidates for a career as a classroom teacher. This tool also provides contextual data for each program provider which includes program enrollment and employment needs. This information will be released on November 20<sup>th</sup>. The PPEM is becoming more popular across the state as it houses lots of good information and I am very proud of the work that the Educator Preparation division has done in overseeing

the PPEM.

- b) I would also like to mention the collaborative work that the Certification and Educator Preparation division have done in working to increase the of Computer Science teachers in Georgia and getting the word out about this important field.
- c) Julie Beck hosted a webinar on October 28<sup>th</sup> for faculty and staff from endorsement program providers. The webinar focused on the evidence and practices they can utilize to demonstrate continuous improvement and to meet approval standards. Our staff continues to try to collaboratively with program providers across the state.

## VI. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Sirmans thanked Executive Secretary Matt Arthur and the PSC for all of their work.

## VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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

1. Chair Townsend reported that the Committee reviewed 28 *Probable Cause* cases during November 4, 2020, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

CASE	STANDARDS VIOLATED	EERC RECOMMENDATION
20-3-1375	9, 5a7	Deny
20-6-1693	1, 4, 5a7	NPC
20-8-144	1, 4, 5a7	NPC
20-8-148	1	NPC
20-8-156	1	Reprimand
18-11-694	1,4,5a7,8	Suspend 20 days
19-8-261	2, 5, 9	Suspend 2 years
19-8-265	9	NPC
19-8-266	2 & 9	Suspend 10 days
19-11-695	9,5a7	NPC
20-2-1173	5, 9, 5a7	Suspend 90 days
20-2-1185	3, 9, 5a7	Suspend 1 year
20-3-1374	1, 2, 9, 5a7	Revoke
20-5-1560	4,5a5,5a7,8,9	Revoke
20-5-1583	2, 5, 9, 5a7	Suspend 2 years
20-6-1676	1,5a7,8,9	Reprimand
20-7-72	9, 5a7	Suspend 5 days
20-7-74	9, 5a7	Suspend 5 days
20-8-107	9, 5a2, 5a5, 5a7	Suspend 1 year
20-8-125	9, 5a7	Suspend 90 days
20-8-129	1,3,9,5a7	Revoke

<b>CASE</b>	<b>STANDARDS VIOLATED</b>	<b>EERC RECOMMENDATION</b>
20-8-130	4, 9, 5a7	Suspend 1 year
20-8-133	2, 9, 5a7	Suspend 20 days
20-8-135	9, 5a7	Suspend 5 days
20-8-139	1,2, 9, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender
20-8-155	1,4,5a7,8,9	Suspend 20 days
20-8-181	4,5a7,8	Suspend 20 days
20-8-187	3, 9, 5a7	Suspend 1 year

2. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 4 *Petitions Issues* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<b>CASE</b>	<b>PREVIOUS SANCTION</b>	<b>EERC RECOMMENDATION</b>
20-5-1554	Denial	Grant
20-6-1661	Voluntary Surrender	Grant
20-6-1679	Revocation	Deny
20-6-1680	Revocation	Deny

3. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 7 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<b>CASE</b>	<b>SANCTION</b>	<b>EERC RECOMMENDATION</b>
20-2-1164	Revocation	Accept
20-6-1671	Suspend 2 years	Accept
20-7-21	Suspend 1 year	Accept
20-7-29	Suspend 10 days	Accept
20-7-30	Suspend 10 days	Accept
20-7-42	Suspend 10 days	Accept
20-8-114	Suspend 60 days	Accept

4. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 10 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<b>CASE</b>	<b>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</b>	<b>EERC RECOMMENDATION</b>
17-1-928	NPC	Reject
17-10-579	Reprimand	Accept
18-7-115	Suspend 15 days	Accept
19-1-849	NPC	Accept
19-3-1209	Suspend 2 years	Accept
19-3-1321	Suspend 45 days	Accept
19-10-510	Revocation	Accept
19-10-685	Reprimand	Accept

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
19-12-814	Suspend 1 year	Accept
20-6-1691	Reprimand	Accept

## 5. OTHER BUSINESS

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

<u>CASE</u>	<u>FINDINGS OF FACTS</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
NCO 18-8-271	Educator is deceased	Admin Close
20-5-1548	Failed to provide requested documents	Hold New App
20-5-1549	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-5-1564	Failed to provide requested documents	Hold New App
20-5-1577	Failed to provide requested documents	Hold New App
20-6-1674	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-6-1681	Failed to provide requested documents	Hold New App
20-6-1685	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-6-1686	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-6-1704	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-6-1715	Failed to provide requested documents	Hold New App
20-7-61	Failure to respond	Hold New App

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 44 new complaints received during the months of October and November 2020.

## 7. VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 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>
20-8-139	1, 2, 9, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender
20-9-227	2, 9, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender

## 8. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

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

20-10-365	20-10-371	20-10-377	20-10-386	20-10-392	20-10-414	20-11-420	20-11-426
20-10-366	20-10-372	20-10-378	20-10-387	20-10-393	20-10-415	20-11-421	
20-10-367	20-10-373	20-10-382	20-10-388	20-10-399	20-10-416	20-11-422	
20-10-368	20-10-374	20-10-383	20-10-389	20-10-411	20-11-417	20-11-423	

20-10-369	20-10-375	20-10-384	20-10-390	20-10-412	20-11-418	20-11-424	
20-10-370	20-10-376	20-10-385	20-10-391	20-10-413	20-11-419	20-11-425	

## 9. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 377 cases:

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
19-1-946	19-7-87	19-10-534	20-1-1096	20-3-1408	20-5-1582	20-7-46	20-8-147
19-1-961	19-7-90	19-10-545	20-1-1103	20-3-1411	20-5-1585	20-7-47	20-8-150
19-1-963	19-7-92	19-10-557	20-1-1105	20-3-1413	20-5-1587	20-7-48	20-8-152
19-2-1073	19-7-93	19-10-589	20-1-1107	20-3-1417	20-5-1588	20-7-49	20-8-154
19-2-1106	19-7-94	19-10-596	20-1-1108	20-3-1420	20-5-1590	20-7-50	20-8-157
19-3-1277	19-7-95	19-10-597	20-2-1132	20-3-1424	20-5-1594	20-7-51	20-8-158
19-3-1287	19-7-97	19-10-599	20-2-1134	20-3-1425	20-5-1597	20-7-54	20-8-159
19-4-1400	19-7-98	19-10-609	20-2-1152	20-4-1430	20-5-1598	20-7-56	20-8-160
19-4-1402	19-7-100	19-10-618	20-2-1175	20-4-1434	20-5-1601	20-7-57	20-8-161
19-4-1545	19-7-102	19-10-657	20-2-1178	20-4-1436	20-5-1602	20-7-59	20-8-163
19-5-1613	19-7-103	19-10-661	20-2-1179	20-4-1447	20-5-1603	20-7-62	20-8-164
19-5-1616	19-7-105	19-10-672	20-2-1234	20-4-1449	20-5-1604	20-7-63	20-8-165
19-5-1620	19-7-106	19-10-674	20-2-1239	20-4-1450	20-6-1618	20-7-66	20-8-167
19-5-1695	19-7-107	19-10-683	20-2-1245	20-4-1453	20-6-1620	20-7-67	20-8-168
19-5-1696	19-7-128	19-10-689	20-2-1249	20-4-1454	20-6-1621	20-7-68	20-8-169
19-5-1700	19-7-138	19-11-752	20-2-1250	20-4-1455	20-6-1636	20-7-69	20-8-170
19-5-1701	19-7-140	19-11-800	20-2-1254	20-4-1464	20-6-1638	20-7-70	20-8-174
19-5-1706	19-7-142	19-12-851	20-2-1261	20-4-1465	20-6-1639	20-7-71	20-8-175
19-6-1787	19-7-144	19-12-855	20-2-1265	20-4-1466	20-6-1675	20-7-75	20-8-176
19-6-1812	19-7-154	19-12-857	20-2-1268	20-4-1467	20-6-1677	20-7-76	20-8-177
19-6-1814	19-8-194	19-12-867	20-2-1293	20-4-1468	20-6-1678	20-7-77	20-8-178
19-6-1815	19-8-213	20-1-920	20-2-1295	20-4-1469	20-6-1688	20-7-79	20-8-179
19-6-1818	19-8-219	20-1-924	20-3-1313	20-4-1472	20-6-1692	20-7-80	20-8-180
19-6-1821	19-8-227	20-1-931	20-3-1315	20-4-1473	20-6-1695	20-7-81	20-8-182
19-6-1872	19-8-242	20-1-939	20-3-1316	20-5-1488	20-6-1697	20-7-82	20-8-183
19-6-1875	19-8-258	20-1-940	20-3-1318	20-5-1506	20-6-1698	20-7-83	20-8-184
19-6-1878	19-8-259	20-1-977	20-3-1319	20-5-1514	20-6-1702	20-7-85	20-8-185
19-6-1886	19-8-309	20-1-980	20-3-1321	20-5-1519	20-6-1705	20-7-89	20-8-190
19-6-1887	19-9-375	20-1-991	20-3-1322	20-5-1521	20-6-1706	20-7-90	20-8-191
19-6-1889	19-9-376	20-1-1021	20-3-1325	20-5-1526	20-6-1707	20-7-91	20-8-193
19-6-1890	19-9-381	20-1-1022	20-3-1326	20-5-1531	20-6-1708	20-7-92	20-8-195
19-6-1891	19-9-383	20-1-1023	20-3-1329	20-5-1534	20-6-1714	20-7-93	20-8-196
19-6-1896	19-9-390	20-1-1047	20-3-1330	20-5-1535	20-6-1717	20-7-94	20-8-198
19-6-1897	19-9-392	20-1-1057	20-3-1331	20-5-1546	20-6-1718	20-7-95	20-8-199
19-6-1898	19-9-400	20-1-1060	20-3-1333	20-5-1551	20-6-1719	20-7-96	20-8-200
19-6-1899	19-9-407	20-1-1061	20-3-1335	20-5-1556	20-6-1720	20-7-97	20-8-201
19-6-1900	19-9-447	20-1-1062	20-3-1337	20-5-1557	20-6-1722	20-7-98	20-8-202
19-6-1903	19-9-450	20-1-1064	20-3-1338	20-5-1558	20-7-4	20-7-99	20-8-203
19-6-1906	19-9-461	20-1-1066	20-3-1354	20-5-1561	20-7-6	20-7-100	20-8-204

<b>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</b>							
19-6-1908	19-9-464	20-1-1069	20-3-1356	20-5-1562	20-7-15	20-7-101	20-8-205
19-6-1915	19-9-488	20-1-1074	20-3-1357	20-5-1567	20-7-16	20-7-104	20-8-207
19-6-1922	19-9-492	20-1-1080	20-3-1376	20-5-1569	20-7-17	20-8-109	
19-6-1929	19-9-499	20-1-1081	20-3-1379	20-5-1571	20-7-27	20-8-117	
19-6-1931	19-9-502	20-1-1083	20-3-1380	20-5-1572	20-7-36	20-8-118	
19-7-56	19-10-505	20-1-1086	20-3-1384	20-5-1575	20-7-37	20-8-119	
19-7-71	19-10-516	20-1-1089	20-3-1386	20-5-1576	20-7-41	20-8-120	
19-7-72	19-10-517	20-1-1090	20-3-1387	20-5-1578	20-7-44	20-8-145	
19-7-86	19-10-533	20-1-1091	20-3-1401	20-5-1579	20-7-45	20-8-146	

#### 10. **APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 13 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

#### 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.

#### 12. **FINAL DECISIONS RENDERED BY AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to accept the ALJ sanction for the Final Decisions listed below:

<b><u>CASE</u></b>	<b><u>ORIGINAL SANCTION</u></b>	<b><u>ALI SANCTION</u></b>	<b><u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u></b>
18-10-536	Revoke	NPC	Accept
19-4-1455	Suspend 1 year	Suspend 1 year	Accept
19-6-1752	Suspend 90 days	NPC	Accept
19-7-164	Reprimand	Reprimand	Accept

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Chair Townsend excluding case # 20-8-187.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

Abstentions: Derek Easterling- PCE-20-3-134, Jeanine Bunn- PCEs-20-2-1185, 19-8-261, PIDs-20-9-290, 20-10-312, 20-10-316

#### **Case # 20-8-187**

**MOTION:** (Teri Schneider / Jeanine Bunn) To accept the EERC recommendation of a One Year Suspension.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved:

Opposed: Scott Hollowell, Carol Williams

#### **B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee**

Committee Chair, Diane McClearn, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

	EPP	November 2020 Detailed Approval Recommendations
1.	<b>Kennesaw State University</b>	The Committee recommends granting the request for deferral of the Fall 2021 Continuing Approval Review until Fall 2022.
2.	<b>Northeast Georgia RESA</b>	<p>The Committee recommends the August 19, 2020, progress report is satisfactory in addressing areas for improvement (AFIs) cited during the Fall 2018 Continuing Approval Review. The Committee recommends the removal of the following AFIs for the Educator Preparation Provider.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard 1.1</li> <li>• Standard 3.1</li> <li>• Standard 4.1</li> <li>• Standard 5.1</li> <li>• Standard 5.3</li> <li>• Standard 5.4</li> <li>• Standard 5.5</li> </ul> <p>In addition, the Committee recommends the August 19, 2020, progress report is satisfactory in addressing the AFI cited in Standard 1.2 for the Georgia Teacher Academy for Preparation &amp; Pedagogy (GaTAPP) Program. The Committee recommends the removal of the AFI in Standard 1.2.</p> <p>The Committee recommends reclassifying Standard 5 from not met to met.</p>
3.	<b>Savannah Chatham County School System</b>	<p>The Committee recommends that the July 27, 2020, progress report is satisfactory in addressing the areas for improvement (AFIs) cited during the Spring 2019 Continuing Approval Review. The Committee recommends the removal of the AFI in Standard 3.3 and Standard 5.1 for the Educator Preparation Provider.</p> <p>In addition, the Committee recommends that the July 27, 2020, progress report is satisfactory in addressing the AFIs cited in Standard 1.1 and Standard 1.3 for the Gifted In-field Endorsement. The Committee recommends the removal of the AFIs in Standard 1.1 and Standard 1.3.</p>
4.	<b>Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership Programs</b>	The Committee recommends removing the limit on the number of Educator Preparation Providers eligible to offer Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership Programs.

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the Educator Preparation/Certification report as presented by Chair Diane McClearen.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Our next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, at 4 pm. We will meet remotely and the information will be posted on our website under Commission Information. The Educator Ethics Review

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Committee and Educator Preparation/Certification Standing Committee meeting will meet on Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 pm. Chair Sirmans called for the meeting to be adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved