

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Piedmont Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia

April 14, 2016

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

Members Present

Dr. Jim Barrett	Valerie Mateen	Teri Schneider
Scott Justus	Diane McClearn	David Smith
Dr. Sandy Leslie	Christy McGill	Sheryl Stalvey
Kamila Luigs	Bettina Polite Tate	Susan Thayer
	Terrie Ponder	Dr. Lawrence Walters

Members Absent

Lauren Eckman	Carol Rivera
Henry Kelly	Dr. Martha Venn

I. WORK SESSION

- Chair Report – Kelly Henson spoke briefly on the submission of unsats. The problem that we are facing is that unsats are being submitted by all systems. One solution to this problem is to send out letters to school systems that we “suspect” have not submitted. We can also include in presentations that unsats should be submitted. If this does not work, notification or a rule change that the responsible person in each system will be sanctioned if they are not submitted.
- Legislative Review – Kelly Henson and Kristina Stroede briefly reviewed some House and Senate Bills. Kelly briefly spoke about Senate Bill 355 which states that a parent can have their child opt out from any or all parts of state mandated assessments if the child has a serious health condition or a therapist or physician issues an order that the child opt out and Senate Bill 364 which relates to the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to revise provisions relating to annual teacher, principal, and assistant principal evaluations; to revise provisions relating to student assessment; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. Kristina mentioned several education bills and then informed the Commissioners that she had prepared a complete review that would be emailed to Commissioners by end of day and that they could email her or Kelly with any questions that they might have.
- NTEP Work – Penney McRoy, Angie Gant and Chuck McCampbell gave an update on the Georgia Network for transforming Educator Preparation. Georgia is one of the first seven states selected and is now among fourteen member states. They also gave a hand-out to Commissioners with websites for the 2012 CCSSO Report – Ten Policy Recommendations and Georgia P-20 Regional Collaboratives.
- Revisions to GA Standards for Approval of EPPs and Programs – Angie Gant gave Commissioners a hand out on Revisions to 2016 Standards and reviewed each revision. Commissioners will be asked to vote on these revisions when the meeting is called to order.
- Commission Chair Report – Chair Luigs gave the Bright Spot report. The national edTPA Implementation Conference was held March 31 – April 2nd in Savannah. This national edTPA conference seeks to promote a

5/20/2016

Page 2

learning community of teachers, teacher educators and policy leaders to deepen their understanding of policy and implementation issues regarding teacher performance assessment and to discuss supporting and sustaining teachers across a career continuum. We are very proud that Georgia is a leader in edTPA and that Julie Beck, Bobbi Ford and Anne Marie Fenton were presenters at this conference.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Luigs called the meeting to order at 12:25 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: (David Smith / Bettina Polite-Tate) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Luigs called for approval of the minutes from the March 10, 2016, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. VISITORS

Chair Luigs welcomed the visitors.

- Leonard Williams, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Tayia Donald, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Don Splinter, Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL)
- Linda Fortson, Warren Fortson Law Office
- Bettina Davies, Cauthorn, Nohr and Owen Law Firm
- Ty Tagami, Atlanta Journal Constitution
- Shamita Johnson
- Kenny A. Johnson

VI. EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

Kelly Henson read the following and Chair Luigs presented the employee with their service award:

Bobbi Ford – 5 Years - Throughout the past five years, Dr. Bobbi Ford has led or helped lead countless projects at the PSC. From tiered certification, to certification upgrade, to the new professional learning rule, Bobbi has left a lasting imprint. She is a lifetime educator. Prior to her work at the PSC, Bobbi was a school teacher, a media specialist, and a professional learning coordinator. She is also a State Teacher of the Year. Bobbi is a servant-leader with a “can-do” attitude and a willingness to serve others. The joy Bobbi brings to this agency, and the encouragement she shares with those around her, make our everyday work more enjoyable. She goes by many

different names: Some call her “Dr. Ford,” and her eight grandchildren know her as “Granby.” By whatever name, Bobbi Ford is a tremendous asset to this agency and the children of Georgia.

Mary-Ellen Snow – 10 years – She has worked in a variety of pivotal roles during her 10 years at PSC, from her early days with Educator Preparation and most recently in Certification. No matter in what area she works, she is held in high regard by her colleagues. As an example, she worked closely for many years with the Title II, Part A program. Title II, Part A Specialists considered her the ‘go to’ person at the PSC. If she did not know the answer to a question (which was rare), she knew who did. Another former colleague shared, “Over the last ten years in a variety of different situations, I have never seen her rattled. She is always calm, collected, and resourceful, thinking ahead to possible solutions. Additionally, she is a caring, thoughtful person who makes life as easy as possible for those around her.” Through such testimony, it is evident that Mary-Ellen’s vast PSC knowledge base, individual initiative, commitment to quality service, and collaborative spirit, along with her ability to find creative solutions to problems, contribute greatly to the work of the agency.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

Committee vice Chair, Dr. Sandy Leslie, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee. The Committee recommends the following approval actions.

	EPP	April 2016 Detailed Approval Recommendations	Additional Action Required
1.	DeKalb County Schools	<p>The Committee recommends the Progress Report submitted January 11, 2016, is satisfactory in addressing the area for improvement for Standard 1 (element d) resulting from the Fall 2014 Continuing Approval Review. The Committee recommends the area for improvement be removed.</p> <p>Additionally, incremental progress is evident in the Progress Report submitted January 11, 2016, addressing Standard 2 (element c) resulting from the Fall 2014 Continuing Approval Review. The Committee recommends the area for improvement shall remain and the submission of a Progress Report by August 15, 2016, demonstrating how the observation instrument is used and what type of data the instrument produces. Additionally, the Progress Report should address how the data will be used once it is produced.</p>	A Progress Report is due by August 15, 2016.
2.		Incremental progress is evident in the Progress	A Progress

	EPP	April 2016 Detailed Approval Recommendations	Additional Action Required
	Pioneer RESA	Report submitted January 7, 2016, addressing Standard 1 (element g) resulting from the Fall 2014 Continuing Approval Review. The Committee recommends the area for improvement shall remain and the submission of a Progress Report by August 15, 2016, identifying candidate dispositions, and demonstrating how candidate dispositions are assessed.	Report is due by August 15, 2016.

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

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstentions: Diane McClearn – DeKalb County Schools, David Smith – Pioneer RESA, Scott Justus – DeKalb County Schools and Pioneer RESA

B. 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 64 **Probable Cause** cases during its April 14, 2016, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
11-9-402	4, 10, 11	NPC
11-12-702	1, 9, 10	Reprimand
13-12-423	2, 10	NPC
14-5-826	2, 10	Suspension - 60 days
14-7-129	1, 10	Revocation
14-9-245	1, 2, 10	Revocation
15-1-548	2, 9, 10	Suspension - 30 days
15-1-549	2, 4, 10	Suspension - 45 days
15-2-699	2, 10	Suspension - 2 years
15-3-722	2, 10	Suspension - 45 days
15-3-849	2, 10	Suspension - 10 days
15-4-852	2, 10	Revocation
15-8-180	1, 2, 10	Suspension - 1 year
15-8-306	4, 10	Suspension - 1 year
15-8-313	4, 7, 10	Suspension - 2 years
15-9-342	3, 10	NPC

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
15-9-466	1,2,10	Revocation
15-11-613	2,10	NPC
15-11-614	10	NPC
15-11-636	4, 5, 10	NPC
15-12-656	8, 10	NPC
15-12-659	4,10	Revocation
15-12-663	10	Reprimand
15-12-664	2, 10	Suspension - 5 days
15-12-665	3,4,10	Revocation
15-12-689	2, 10	Suspension - 30 days
15-12-707	1,2,10	Revocation
15-12-710	1, 2,10	Revocation
16-1-761	1, adv. Action other state	Suspension - 30 days
16-1-764	2,4,9,10	NPC
16-1-767	8,10	Suspension - 90 days
16-1-768	2,10	Suspension - 5 days
16-1-769	8, 10	Suspension - 90 days
16-1-786	1,2,10, other good & sufficient cause	Revocation
16-1-788	4,10	Suspension - 20 days
16-1-793	1,4	Reprimand
16-1-799	8,10	NPC
16-1-800	4, 10	Suspension - 20 days
16-1-801	4, 10	Suspension - 20 days
16-1-802	2, 10	Suspension - 5 days
16-1-804	8,10	NPC
16-1-817	1,4,10	Revocation
16-2-854	1, 10	Suspension - 1 year
16-2-871	2,4,10	Suspension - 90 days
16-2-884	2, 9, 10	Suspension - 1 year
16-2-908	2,10	Reprimand
15-8-259	1	Reprimand
15-8-272	1, 4	NPC
15-12-702	1	NPC
15-12-724	1, 4	NPC
15-12-727	1, 5(a)2	Deny
15-12-728	5(a)2	Deny
16-1-751	4	Deny
16-1-794	1, 4	Reprimand
16-1-806	1	Reprimand
16-1-821	1	Reprimand
16-1-830	1	Warning
16-2-912	1	Deny
16-2-925	1	Reprimand

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
16-2-929	1	Reprimand
16-2-934	1, 4	NPC
16-2-938	1	NPC
16-2-942	5(a)2, 5(a)5	Reprimand
16-2-952	1	Reprimand

2. Chair Polite-Tate reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 19 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-4-1137	Revocation	Accept
13-2-788	Reprimand	Accept
13-6-1180	NPC	Accept
13-6-1234	Suspension - 20 days	Accept
13-11-325	Suspension - 20 days	Accept
14-2-575	Reprimand	Accept
14-3-720	Suspension - 4 days	Accept
14-6-939	Suspension - 1 year	Accept
14-9-235	Reprimand	Accept
14-10-309	Suspension - 2 years	Accept
14-10-320	Reprimand	Accept
15-4-905	Reprimand	Accept
15-5-970	NPC	Accept
15-5-1027	Suspension - 20 days	Accept
15-6-1105	Suspension - 60 days	Accept
15-6-1281	Reprimand	Accept
15-6-1286	Reprimand	Accept
15-7-11	Suspension - 2 days	Accept
15-8-243	NPC	Accept

3. Chair Polite-Tate reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 19 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-4-1137	Revocation	Accept
13-2-788	Reprimand	Accept
13-6-1180	NPC	Accept
13-6-1234	Suspension - 20 days	Accept
13-11-325	Suspension - 20 days	Accept

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
14-2-575	Reprimand	Accept
14-3-720	Suspension - 4 days	Accept
14-6-939	Suspension - 1 year	Accept
14-9-235	Reprimand	Accept
14-10-309	Suspension - 2 years	Accept
14-10-320	Reprimand	Accept
15-4-905	Reprimand	Accept
15-5-970	NPC	Accept
15-5-1027	Suspension - 20 days	Accept
15-6-1105	Suspension - 60 days	Accept
15-6-1281	Reprimand	Accept
15-6-1286	Reprimand	Accept
15-7-11	Suspension - 2 days	Accept
15-8-243	NPC	Accept

4. **OTHER BUSINESS**

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

<u>CASE</u>	<u>FINDINGS</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
PCE 14-12-436	Expand investigation	Expand Investigation

5. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 77 new complaints received during the months of March and April 2016.

6. **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>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATIONS</u>
15-7-59	1, 4	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
15-9-430	1,4	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
15-10-513			
16-1-733	1, 4, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
16-1-779	2, 4, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
16-1-820	2, 4, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

7. **EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 59 *Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations* consisting of the following:

16-3-992	16-3-1000	16-3-1050	16-3-1075	16-3-1105	16-4-1113	16-4-1144	16-4-1152
16-3-993	16-3-1001	16-3-1058	16-3-1084	16-3-1106	16-4-1114	16-4-1145	16-4-1153
16-3-994	16-3-1002	16-3-1062	16-3-1085	16-3-1107	16-4-1115	16-4-1146	16-4-1154
16-3-995	16-3-1003	16-3-1006	16-3-1086	16-3-1008	16-4-1139	16-4-1147	
16-3-996	16-3-1004	16-3-1071	16-3-1087	16-3-1109	16-4-1140	16-4-1148	
16-3-997	16-3-1005	16-3-1072	16-3-1088	16-3-1110	16-4-1141	16-4-1149	
16-3-998	16-3-1006	16-3-1073	16-3-1091	16-3-1111	16-4-1142	16-4-1150	
16-3-999	16-3-1007	16-3-1074	16-3-1096	16-3-1112	16-4-1143	16-4-1151	

8. **EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 314 cases:

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
13-3-869	14-9-255	15-3-749	15-5-1034	15-6-1274	15-9-360	15-11-580	15-12-729
13-3-891	14-9-268	15-3-757	15-5-1035	15-7-1	15-9-371	15-11-592	16-1-730
13-4-983	14-9-270	15-3-761	15-5-1044	15-7-2	15-9-373	15-11-594	16-1-732
13-5-1043	14-9-271	15-3-764	15-5-1045	15-7-6	15-9-390	15-11-598	16-1-734
13-5-1049	14-9-272	15-3-785	15-5-1046	15-7-7	15-9-391	15-11-599	16-1-735
13-6-1176	14-10-286	15-3-800	15-5-1047	15-7-8	15-9-396	15-11-600	16-1-736
13-6-1207	14-10-300	15-3-820	15-5-1058	15-7-15	15-9-401	15-11-604	16-1-738
13-6-1231	14-10-305	15-3-821	15-5-1088	15-7-16	15-9-405	15-11-621	16-1-739
13-8-56	14-10-307	15-3-828	15-6-1090	15-7-18	15-9-406	15-11-622	16-1-753
13-11-327	14-10-321	15-3-836	15-6-1093	15-7-19	15-9-414	15-11-626	16-1-754
13-12-373	14-10-340	15-3-837	15-6-1094	15-7-32	15-9-420	15-11-628	16-1-759
13-12-424	14-10-341	15-3-840	15-6-1095	15-7-35	15-9-425	15-11-629	16-1-763
14-1-444	14-10-359	15-3-844	15-6-1099	15-7-47	15-9-439	15-11-630	16-1-766
14-3-581	14-10-361	15-4-853	15-6-1100	15-7-55	15-9-458	15-11-633	16-1-774
14-3-583	14-10-368	15-4-855	15-6-1102	15-7-83	15-9-460	15-11-634	16-1-775
14-3-593	14-11-386	15-4-859	15-6-1107	15-7-125	15-9-461	15-12-644	16-1-778
14-3-633	14-11-392	15-4-870	15-6-1120	15-7-138	15-9-462	15-12-649	16-1-780
14-3-654	14-11-396	15-4-877	15-6-1125	15-7-139	15-9-463	15-12-660	16-1-781
14-3-697	14-12-427	15-4-947	15-6-1126	15-7-156	15-9-464	15-12-661	16-1-783
14-4-744	14-12-436	15-5-953	15-6-1129	15-8-171	15-9-465	15-12-662	16-1-784
14-4-757	14-12-469	15-5-955	15-6-1133	15-8-185	15-10-476	15-12-668	16-1-785
14-4-762	14-12-474	15-5-957	15-6-1138	15-8-193	15-10-482	15-12-670	16-1-789
14-4-772	14-12-492	15-5-972	15-6-1149	15-8-194	15-10-492	15-12-671	16-1-792
14-5-819	14-12-493	15-5-980	15-6-1170	15-8-195	15-10-494	15-12-678	16-1-795
14-5-905	15-1-511	15-5-982	15-6-1172	15-8-199	15-10-499	15-12-679	16-1-796
14-6-944	15-1-514	15-5-984	15-6-1173	15-8-201	15-10-501	15-12-682	16-1-797
14-6-950	15-1-515	15-5-985	15-6-1187	15-8-208	15-10-505	15-12-683	16-1-809
14-6-964	15-1-558	15-5-986	15-6-1199	15-8-225	15-10-510	15-12-687	16-1-810
14-6-981	15-1-562	15-5-989	15-6-1203	15-8-233	15-10-511	15-12-694	16-1-814
14-7-54	15-2-611	15-5-996	15-6-1207	15-8-234	15-10-517	15-12-695	16-1-819
14-7-66	15-2-661	15-5-997	15-6-1208	15-8-239	15-10-522	15-12-697	16-1-824
14-7-107	15-2-690	15-5-998	15-6-1209	15-8-244	15-10-526	15-12-699	16-1-828

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
14-7-135	15-2-698	15-5-1003	15-6-1214	15-8-300	15-10-532	15-12-704	16-1-831
14-8-136	15-2-711	15-5-1009	15-6-1215	15-8-304	15-10-536	15-12-705	16-1-832
14-8-149	15-3-719	15-5-1015	15-6-1250	15-8-305	15-10-541	15-12-712	
14-8-151	15-3-720	15-5-1016	15-6-1252	15-8-316	15-10-550	15-12-713	
14-8-157	15-3-721	15-5-1017	15-6-1253	15-9-324	15-10-552	15-12-714	
14-8-179	15-3-733	15-5-1026	15-6-1256	15-9-326	15-10-565	15-12-715	
14-9-218	15-3-734	15-5-1029	15-6-1259	15-9-336	15-10-569	15-12-722	
14-9-219	15-3-735	15-5-1031	15-6-1265	15-9-346	15-11-576	15-12-726	

9. **APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 12 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

10. **FINAL DECISIONS**

The Commission reviewed and approved the following *Final Decisions* report:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL SANCTION</u>	<u>ALJ SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
14-1-493	Suspension 1 year	Suspension 1 year	Accept
15-1-554	Suspension 20 days	Suspension 20 days	Accept
15-2-705	Denial	Reprimand	Accept

11. **FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW**

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 13 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.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Scott Justus – all cases, Susan Thayer – 15-5-1027, 15-12-689, 15-2-699, 15-4-852, 16-3-955, 16-3-1012, 16-3-1076, Kami Luigs – 13-11-325, 15-12-664, 15-3-849, 15-8-313, 15-12-656, 11-9-402, 16-3-961, 16-3-974, 16-3-994, 16-3-998, 16-3-1009, Bettina Polite-Tate – 15-3-722, 14-2-575, 15-5-970, Terri Schneider, Christy McGill and Valerie Mateen – 16-3-989, 16-3-990

VIII. **ADJUSTMENT OF PROGRAM APPROVAL STANDARDS**

Angie Gant presented the Program Approval Standards.

MOTION: (Dr. Sandy Leslie/ Sheryl Stalvey) To accept the revised Georgia Standards 2016 as the standards that will be used for the purposes of program and Educator Preparation Provider approval.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

5/20/2016

Page 10

Chair Luigs called for the meeting to be adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved