

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Piedmont Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia

December 13, 2012

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, December 13, 2012, at 12:30 p.m.

Members Present

Julia Bernath
Dr. Penny Elkins
Dr. Adrian Epps
Heath Garrett
Bill Haskin

Phil Jacobs
David Johnson
Scott Justus
Kamila Luigs
Christy McGill

Sheryl Stalvey
Bettina Polite Tate
Dr. Lawrence Walters
Pam Walker
Pam Williams
Valerie Williams

Members Absent

Alice Clements
Stephanie Leggett

I. WORK SESSION

A. Dr. David Hill presented/spoke about the Tiered Certification Task Force.

B. Penney McRoy presented rules. In September, the Commission was introduced to rules that they initiated at the October 11, 2012, Commission meeting. At today's Commission meeting, they were asked to rescind/amend/adopt the following rules: *Certification, Amend Rule 505-2-.32 APPEALS*.

Educator Preparation -

Rescind the current Rule 505.3-.01 REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING PROFESSIONAL **EDUCATION** UNITS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS and adopt a new rule with the same number and name.

These rules, if adopted, will have an effective date of January 15, 2013.

Sent to them last Thursday and also on their your desktops are:

- 1) The Adopt Rules Packet;
- 2) The one comment received during the public comment period (October 26, 2012 – November 24, 2012), along with a brief staff analysis of each point covered in that comment; and
- 3) Follow-up communication received from the person submitting the public comment, which indicates she is satisfied with the staff response to her feedback.

We will be bringing two rules (both revisions) to you for your consideration to initiate at the January meeting. It is important to us to provide a preview to you today, which will be delivered by Bobbi Ford, Program Approval Education Specialist. These rules include:

505-3-.47 READING SPECIALIST EDUCATION PROGRAM

505-3-.75 READING ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM

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505-3-.26 MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION PROGRAM
505-3-.16 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM

C. Kelly Henson told the Commission that he will be giving the Commission a legislative update in February. Commissioner Heath Garrett spoke briefly about the “hospital tax” issue and the potential impact it would have on all state agencies if not resolved.

D. Kelly spoke briefly about ethics files. An educator’s file does not go public until their 30 day appeal option is exhausted. The educator’s name and certification ID is not redacted. If a child’s name appears in the file it is redacted.

E. Dr. Penny Elkins thanked all the Commissioners and staff for their hard work.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Elkins 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.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Dr. Elkins called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Pam Walker / Dr. Adrian Epps) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Elkins called for approval of the minutes from the November 8, 2012, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION:

IV. VISITORS

Chair Dr. Elkins welcomed the visitors.

- Linda Fortson, Warren Fortson Law Office
- Kerri Wilson, Office of Planning and Budget

V. EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

Chair Elkins spoke briefly about each employee listed below and presented them with service awards and Kelly Henson read the following:

Dr. Hilda Tompkins – 10 years

And now we are pleased to recognize Dr. Hilda Tompkins for over ten years of service to the state of Georgia.

Before coming to the PSC, Hilda served as the Early Childhood Coordinator for the Technical College System of Georgia for 7 years. Among her many duties at TCSG, Hilda worked with PSC staff to develop the Birth Through Kindergarten teacher preparation standards and program rules. From September of 2007 until May of 2011, Hilda served as a Program Approval Education Specialist, facilitating approval reviews for some of the largest institutions in the state. During this time she completed her doctorate degree with the University of Georgia, served in a variety of leadership positions with the state and National Association for the Education of Young Children, and she was selected to serve as a member of the NCATE Board of Examiners. In May of 2011 Hilda earned a promotion to the role of Program Approval Director, the role in which she continues to serve today with great success. We thank you, Hilda for your dedicated and tireless work on behalf of the agency!

Phyllis Payne - 5 years

Phyllis Payne is also a valued member of our team and although she has served this state for more than five years, today we celebrate her five plus years of service as a GaPSC employee. Phyllis came to us in 2005 to develop and implement the Master Teacher program. Although she was new to the agency, she was not a stranger to the PSC. Phyllis was instrumental in designing and implementing the Georgia TAPP program, a nationally recognized exemplary alternative teacher preparation program. She had also served on multiple task forces and as a member of the Board of Examiners. Phyllis worked with the Master Teacher program until January 2008, at which time she was promoted to Program Director for Non-traditional Preparation. Phyllis has worked tirelessly to develop a strong coalition among non-traditional program providers, to bring consistency to the delivery and quality of programs across the state, and to develop with our IT staff reporting tools which will allow us to collect and disseminate data related to the success of our programs. Thank you, Phyllis!

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

Committee Chair, Dr. Adrian Epps, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

	Unit Number	Detailed Approval Recommendation	Additional Action Required
1.	n/a	For the Tier II Appeal by Georgia educator, the committee recommends denying the appeal and the request for a clear renewable certificate.	No additional action required.
2.	5070	Grant the request for deferment of the Fall 2013 GaPSC/NCATE Continuous Improvement Review to Fall 2014.	No additional action required.
3.	10195	Progress Report is Satisfactory in addressing the Standard 2 and Standard 4 areas for improvement cited for the Educational Leadership programs.	The Standard 2 and Standard 4 areas for improvement listed below should be removed. <u>Areas for Improvement:</u> Standard 2 (Element a) The professional education program does not include a comprehensive and integrated set of assessments and evaluation measures to monitor

Unit Number	Detailed Approval Recommendation	Additional Action Required
		<p>candidates' dispositions.</p> <p>Standard 4 (Element d) The professional education program does not ensure that candidates have experiences working with diverse P-12 students.</p>

Chair Elkins called for approval of the Educator Preparation Committee report as presented by Julia Bernath.

PSC ACTION: Approved

B. Ethics and Professional Conduct --Recommendations and Actions on Cases

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

- Ms. Walker reported that the Committee reviewed 45 ***Probable Cause*** cases during its December 13, 2012, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
11-07-098	2,10	NPC
11-07-099	2,10	NPC
11-09-275	4, 10	Suspension - 20 days
11-09-342	1,10	Revoke
11-10-505	2,10	Suspension - 5 days
11-12-681	2,10	Revoke
11-12-711	3, 10	Suspension - 1 year
11-12-719	2,10	Revoke
12-01-736	10,11	Suspension - 2 years
12-01-746	4,10	Suspension - 90 days
12-02-916	10	NPC
12-03-951	4,5,10	Suspension - 10 days
12-03-973	9, 10	Suspension - 2 years
12-03-1025	7,10,11	Suspension - 2 years
12-03-1047	9, 10	Suspension - 2 years
12-05-1247	10, 11, DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-05-1262	1, 10	Revoke
12-06-1331	9,10	Suspension - 1 year
12-07-156	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-07-157	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-07-158	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-07-159	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-07-160	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-07-161	4,7,9,10,DOE	Reprimand

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-07-162	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-07-171	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-07-176	4,7,9,10,DOE	Reprimand
12-07-177	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-07-178	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-07-181	4,7,9,10,DOE	NPC
12-07-182	4,7,9,10,DOE	Reprimand
12-07-192	4,7,9,10,DOE	NPC
12-07-195	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-07-199	4,7,9,10,DOE	Suspension - 2 years
12-08-291	2,5,10	Suspension - 1 year
12-08-300	1,10	Suspension - 1 year
12-09-331	1, 10	Suspension - 1 year
12-09-333	1,10	Suspension - 1 year
12-09-361	2,10	Suspension - 1 year
12-09-364	2, 10	Revoke
12-09-372	3,4,10	Suspension - 1 year
12-09-387	1, 4, 9, 10	NPC
12-10-409	8. 10	NPC
12-10-431	1, 4, 9, 10	Reprimand
12-10-442	1, 4, 9, 10	Revoke

2. Ms. Walker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 3 *Petitions Issues* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>PREVIOUS SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-7-064	Revocation March 2009	Deny
12-8-236	Denial December 2007	Deny
12-8-287	Voluntary Surrender October 2008	Deny

4. Ms. Walker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 16 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
11-8-185	Suspension - 1 year	Accept
11-11-551	Revocation	Accept
11-11-560	Suspension - 1 year	Accept

12-1-771	Reprimand	Accept
12-2-852	Suspension - 90 days	Accept
12-3-1013	Reprimand	Accept
12-5-1197	Reprimand	Accept
12-5-1221	Suspension - 2 years	Accept
12-7-21	Reprimand	Accept
12-7-73	Revocation	Accept
12-7-175	Suspension - 2 years	Accept
12-7-186	Suspension - 2 years	Accept
12-7-188	Suspension - 2 years	Accept
12-8-224	Reprimand	Accept
12-2-233	Suspension - 1 year	Accept
12-8-255	Reprimand	Accept

5. Ms. Walker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 8 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
11-8-191	Suspension - 1 year	Accept
11-8-249	Suspension - 5 days	Accept
11-10-521	Suspension - 1 year	Accept
12-1-730	Suspension - 15 days	Accept
12-3-1034	Suspension - 20 days	Accept
12-4-1152	Suspension - 140 days	Accept
12-5-1182	Suspension - 5 days	Accept
12-7-22	Reprimand	Accept

6. **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 3 *Other Business Report* as follows:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
NCO 11-4-1017	Susp 90 days	Accept
12-3-934	Close case administratively due to failure to respond	Admin Dismissal

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-10-248	Duplicate complaint	Admin Dismissal

7. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the ***Preliminary Investigative Determination Report*** consisting of 64 new complaints received during the months of November and December 2012.

8. VOLUNTARY SURRENDER/VOLUNTARY DENIAL

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 4 Voluntary Surrender/Voluntary Denial 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>
11-5-1132	2, 4, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
12-7-212	2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
12-8-230	2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
12-10-414	2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

9. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 94 Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations consisting of the following:

12-10-470	12-11-499	12-11-514	12-11-529	12-11-541	12-11-560	12-12-572	12-12-600
12-10-471	12-11-500	12-11-515	12-11-530	12-11-542	12-12-561	12-12-589	12-12-601
12-10-476	12-11-501	12-11-516	12-11-531	12-11-543	12-12-562	12-12-590	12-12-602
12-10-477	12-11-502	12-11-517	12-11-532	12-11-544	12-12-563	12-12-591	12-12-603
12-10-478	12-11-503	12-11-518	12-11-533	12-11-545	12-12-564	12-12-592	12-12-604
12-10-479	12-11-504	12-11-519	12-11-534	12-11-550	12-12-565	12-12-593	12-12-605
12-10-480	12-11-505	12-11-523	12-11-535	12-11-554	12-12-566	12-12-594	12-12-606
12-10-481	12-11-506	12-11-524	12-11-536	12-11-555	12-12-567	12-12-595	12-12-607
12-10-482	12-11-507	12-11-525	12-11-537	12-11-556	12-12-568	12-12-596	12-12-608
12-10-483	12-11-508	12-11-526	12-11-538	12-11-557	12-12-569	12-12-597	12-12-609
12-10-484	12-11-509	12-11-527	12-11-539	12-11-558	12-12-570	12-12-598	
12-11-498	12-11-510	12-11-528	12-11-540	12-11-559	12-12-571	12-12-599	

10. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting and ***Investigative Extension*** to the following 250 cases:

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS

10-9-331	11-9-358	11-12-702	12-3-953	12-5-1178	12-6-1330	12-7-129	12-8-259
10-12-553	11-9-359	11-12-710	12-3-954	12-5-1183	12-6-1333	12-7-131	12-8-260
10-12-562	11-9-360	11-12-720	12-3-955	12-5-1200	12-7-7	12-7-144	12-8-261
11-4-915	11-9-391	12-1-724	12-3-972	12-5-1203	12-7-11	12-7-153	12-8-263
11-4-999	11-9-392	12-1-725	12-3-973	12-5-1210	12-7-12	12-7-155	12-8-264
11-4-1000	11-9-394	12-1-733	12-3-974	12-5-1216	12-7-38	12-7-163	12-8-266
11-6-1192	11-9-396	12-1-738	12-3-978	12-5-1220	12-7-48	12-7-164	12-8-267
11-6-1227	11-9-397	12-1-747	12-3-979	12-5-1231	12-7-65	12-7-165	12-8-269
11-7-87	11-9-398	12-1-749	12-3-1019	12-5-1232	12-7-66	12-7-166	12-8-270
11-7-97	11-9-399	12-1-763	12-3-1026	12-5-1237	12-7-68	12-7-167	12-8-294
11-8-117	11-9-401	12-1-764	12-3-1031	12-5-1241	12-7-69	12-7-168	12-8-295
11-8-119	11-9-402	12-1-776	12-3-1032	12-5-1244	12-7-70	12-7-169	12-8-296
11-8-130	11-9-413	12-1-777	12-3-1040	12-5-1246	12-7-71	12-7-170	12-8-297
11-8-142	11-9-418	12-1-778	12-3-1044	12-5-1250	12-7-72	12-7-172	12-8-299
11-8-200	11-9-419	12-2-827	12-3-1047	12-5-1251	12-7-74	12-7-179	12-8-302
11-8-232	11-9-420	12-2-831	12-3-1049	12-5-1259	12-7-75	12-7-180	12-9-332
11-8-233	11-9-421	12-2-837	12-3-1064	12-5-1261	12-7-76	12-7-185	12-9-335
11-8-234	11-9-423	12-2-838	12-3-1065	12-5-1263	12-7-77	12-7-205	12-9-336
11-8-235	11-9-424	12-2-840	12-4-1120	12-5-1266	12-7-79	12-7-207	12-9-343
11-8-236	11-9-431	12-2-842	12-4-1133	12-5-1270	12-7-80	12-7-211	12-9-344
11-8-237	11-9-455	12-2-843	12-4-1134	12-5-1278	12-7-81	12-7-212	12-9-345
11-8-238	11-9-456	12-2-854	12-4-1136	12-5-1280	12-7-86	12-7-216	12-9-346
11-8-239	11-9-457	12-2-856	12-4-1137	12-6-1286	12-7-89	12-7-218	12-9-357
11-8-240	11-9-458	12-2-885	12-4-1138	12-6-1287	12-7-90	12-8-227	12-9-358
11-8-241	11-9-459	12-2-888	12-4-1140	12-6-1288	12-7-91	12-8-228	12-9-359
11-8-242	11-11-552	12-2-891	12-4-1141	12-6-1289	12-7-93	12-8-230	12-9-363
11-9-284	11-11-561	12-2-894	12-4-1144	12-6-1290	12-7-96	12-8-238	
11-9-298	11-11-589	12-2-896	12-4-1147	12-6-1295	12-7-98	12-8-239	
11-9-304	11-11-598	12-2-901	12-4-1149	12-6-1301	12-7-109	12-8-240	
11-9-337	11-11-600	12-2-920	12-4-1150	12-6-1305	12-7-111	12-8-243	
11-9-343	11-11-603	12-3-942	12-4-1151	12-6-1328	12-7-112	12-8-244	
11-9-355	11-12-684	12-3-946	12-4-1159	12-6-1329	12-7-121	12-8-246	

11. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

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

PSC ACTION:

13. STUDENT LOAN SUSPENSION / REINSTATEMENTS

The Commission reviewed the report, which indicated that there were no certificates suspended from November 8, 2012 through December 13, 2012. There was 1 certificate that had been *reinstated* because restitution is now being made on that student loan.

14. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 5 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an

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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 excluding case #'s 12-7-22.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Dr. Adrian Epps – All cases, Pam Williams – Case # 11-9-342, Scott Justus – Case # 12-11-528

Negotiated Consent Order Case # 12-7-22

MOTION: (Phil Jacobs / Kami Luigs) To accept the Reprimand.

PSC ACTION: Approved

VII. RULES

Penny McRoy presented the rules for adoption to the Commission.

MOTION: (Julia Bernath / Bettina Tate) To (1) amend the current rule in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective January 15, 2013, as follows: 505-2-.32; (2) rescind the current rule in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective January 15, 2013, as follows: 505-3-.01; (3) adopt the current rules in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective January 15, 2013, as follows: 505-3-.01.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Dr. Adrian Epps

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Elkins announced that our next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 10th at 200 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia. The Educator Ethics Review Committee will meet at 9:00 am and the Educator Preparation Committee will meet at 9:30:00 am.

Chair Dr. Elkins called for the meeting to be adjourned at 12:55 p.m.