

# MINUTES

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

### Remote Meeting via ZOOM Webinar

December 12, 2024

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, December 12, 2024.

#### **Members Present**

Jeanine Bunn	Nathan Lewis	Dr. Jennifer Wade
Abigail Coggin	Dr. Franklin Perry	Carol Williams
Derek Easterling	Jane Rookard	Dr. Judi Wilson
Kedrione Harris	Dr. Brandon Seigler	Vonda Woodall
Mark Kauffman	Brian Sirmans	

#### **Members Absent**

Dr. Holley Roberts	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:** (Jane Rookard/Vonda Woodall) To approve the agenda.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

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

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the November 14, 2024 Commission minutes.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the December 2, 2024 Special Meeting minutes.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

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

Executive Secretary, Matt Arthur, announced that this was Derek Easterling's last meeting as a Commissioner. Derek was appointed to the Commission on July 19, 2019, and has served on the Educator Ethic Review committee. He thanked him for his service to the Commission and to the State of Georgia and wished him the

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best of luck in his future endeavors. He also thanked all Commissioners for their service and for their support that they gave him during his time as Executive Secretary and assured them that they would be in good hands with the newly appointed Executive Secretary, Dr. Joseph Barrow.

## **VI. RULES ADOPTION**

Anne Marie Fenton presented the rules for adoption. We received no public comments. Anne Marie asked if Commissioners had any questions or comments. Hearing none, a motion was made.

**MOTION:** (Dr, Judi Wilson / Dr. Franklin Perry) To: (1) amend the current rule in Chapter 505-2- Certification, effective January 1, 2025, as follows: 505-2-.143; (2) amend the current rule in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective January 1, 2025, as follows: 505-3-.01; (3) repeal the current rules in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective January 1, 2025, as follows: 505-3-.49, 505-3-.65, 505-3-.67, and 505-3-.69, and (4) adopt the current rules in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective January 1, 2025, as follows: 505-3-.49, 505-3-.65, 505-3-.67, 505-3-.69, 505-3-.73, 505-3-.78, and 505-3-.79.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

These rules will become effective January 1, 2025.

## **RULES PREVIEW**

Anne Marie Fenton announced that today would begin a new rules cycle with a preview of the one Certification and one Educator Preparation rule that would come before the Commission for their consideration at the January 9, 2025, Commission meeting.

Windy Fortenberry previewed the Certification rule, and Dr. Penney McRoy previewed the Educator Preparation rule.

### **Certification**

505-2-.46 MILITARY SUPPORT CERTIFICATE – It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.46 MILITARY SUPPORT CERTIFICATE dated July 1, 2022, be AMENDED to reinstate the Military Support Certificate in response to a law to support transitioning military support and spouses.

### **Educator Preparation**

505-3-.06 PEDAGOGY-ONLY PROGRAM - It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-3-.06 PEDAGOGY-ONLY PROGRAM dated August 15, 2023, be AMENDED to clarify eligible fields and to exclude the field of Middle Grades reading.

No motion is required when previewing rules.

## **VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Chair Kedrione Harris of the Educator Ethics Review Committee (EERC), gave a preliminary review of the cases.

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1. Chair Harris reported that the Committee reviewed 65 ***Probable Cause*** cases during December, 2024, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
24-9-396	1, 5a6	Reprimand	Accept
24-9-412	1,4,5a6	Deny	Accept
24-9-461	1,5a6	NPC	Accept
24-10-518	1,5a6	NPC	Accept
24-10-521	1,5a6	NPC	Accept
24-10-598	1,4,5a6	NPC	Accept
24-10-602	5a2,5a4,5a6	Reprimand	Accept
24-11-696	1, 5a6	Reprimand	Accept
23-9-551	1, 5a6,9	CCE	CCE
23-10-687	1,2,9	NPC	NPC
23-10-730	1,4,5a6,8,9	NPC	NPC
23-11-956	1,4,8,9	Reprimand	Reprimand
23-11-1002	1,9	Suspension 10 days	Suspension 10 days
23-12-1080	1,4,5a6,5a7,8,9	Revoke	Revoke
23-12-1089	1,4,5a6,8,9	Revoke	Revoke
24-1-1217	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2015-2020),8,9	Suspension 20 days	Suspension 20 days
24-1-1316	1,4,5a6,8,9	Revoke	Revoke
24-1-1380	2, 9	NPC	NPC
24-2-1462	1,4,5a6,8,9	Revoke	Revoke
24-2-1466	1,4,5a6,8,9	Revoke	Revoke
24-2-1535	5a4, 1, 8, 9	Revoke	Revoke
24-2-1571	2, 9	Suspension 1 year	Suspension 1 year
24-3-1615	2, 9	Suspension 20 days	Suspension 20 days
24-3-1772	4, 9	Suspension 5 days	Suspension 5 days
24-3-1773	4, 9	Suspension 5 days	Suspension 5 days
24-3-1774	4, 9	Suspension 5 days	Suspension 5 days
24-4-1907	1, 9	NPC	NPC
24-5-2052	8, 9	NPC	NPC
24-5-2062	3, 9	Suspension 1 year	Suspension 1 year
24-5-2063	9	Suspension 90 days	Suspension 90 days
24-5-2168	9	Suspension 90 days	Suspension 90 days
24-5-2175	2, 9	Warning	Warning
24-6-2319	2, 9	Suspension 10 days	Suspension 10 days
24-6-2368	9	Suspension 90 days	Suspension 90 days
24-8-232	4, 7, 9	NPC	NPC
24-8-254	9	Suspension 90 days	Suspension 90 days

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
24-8-260	4, 9	Suspension 1 year	Suspension 1 year
24-8-275	3,9	Suspension 90 days	Suspension 90 days
24-8-281	9	Suspension 90 days	Suspension 90 days
24-8-347	2, 9	Suspension 10 days	Suspension 10 days
24-9-365	4, 9	Suspension 30 days	Suspension 30 days
24-9-375	2,9	Suspension 2 years	Suspension 2 years
24-9-404	1, 2, 9, 5a6	CCE	CCE
24-9-423	2,9	NPC	NPC
24-9-454	1, 4, 5a6,8,9	NPC	NPC
24-9-459	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2021-2022), 8,9	Revoke	Revoke
24-9-483	4, 7, 9	Suspension 1 year	Suspension 1 year
24-9-487	9	Suspension 90 days	Suspension 90 days
24-9-489	9	Suspension 20 days	Suspension 20 days
24-9-498	1, 2, 9	CCE	CCE
24-9-503	9	Suspension 90 days	Suspension 90 days
24-10-522	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2018-2022), 8,9	Suspension 10 days	Suspension 10 days
24-10-551	2, 9	Suspension 10 days	Suspension 10 days
24-10-561	2, 9	Suspension 20 days	Suspension 20 days
24-10-605	5a2, 5a4, 8,9	NPC	NPC
24-10-607	1,4,5a6,5a7(2016- 2022),8,9	Suspension 20 days	Suspension 20 days
24-10-608	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2022),8,9	NPC	NPC
24-10-619	4, 9	Suspension 1 year	Suspension 1 year
24-10-628	1, 2, 9	CCE	CCE
24-10-635	2, 9	Reprimand	Reprimand
24-10-642	9	Reprimand	Reprimand
24-10-643	4, 9	Revoke	Revoke
24-10-660	1,4,a56,8,9	Reprimand	Reprimand
24-10-670	1,4,5a6,8,9	Reprimand	Reprimand
24-11-795	4, 9	Suspension 20 days	Suspension 20 days

2. Chair Harris 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>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
24-9-509	Grant
24-10-580	Deny
24-10-667	Deny

3. Chair Harris 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>
24-2-1519	Reprimand	Approved
24-3-1767	Suspension 20 days	Approved
24-4-1780	Reprimand	Approved
24-7-50	Reprimand	Approved
24-8-178	Suspension 20 days	Approved
24-8-234	Reprimand	Approved
24-8-318	Suspension 20 days	Approved
24-8-334	Reprimand	Approved
24-8-342	Reprimand	Approved
24-9-395	Suspension 1 year	Approved
24-9-419	Reprimand	Approved

4. Chair Harris reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 6 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>		<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
19-4-1383	1 Year Suspension	NPC	Accept
20-10-365	Reprimand	Warning	Accept
22-8-190	Denial	NFA-No Juris	Accept
23-10-781	1 Year Suspension	10 day Suspension	Accept
24-3-1732	Reprimand	NFA	Accept
24-5-2187	90 Day Suspension	10 day Suspension	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>
24-8-284	Pre-service application expired	HNA
NCO-24-5-2238	Sanction negotiated from 10 Days Suspension to 5 Days Suspension	Accept
NCO 24-1-1320	Sanction negotiated from revocation to 2 Year Suspension	Accept

<u>CASE</u>	<u>FINDINGS OF FACTS</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
OB 24-3-1758	Add supplemental complaint to current investigation	Investigate

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the ***Preliminary Investigative Determination Report*** consisting of 100 new complaints received during the months of November and December 2024.

#### 7. **EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 106 ***Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations*** consisting of the following:

24-11-855	24-11-876	24-11-890	24-12-904	24-12-918	24-12-955	24-12-969	24-12-983
24-11-859	24-11-877	24-11-891	24-12-905	24-12-919	24-12-956	24-12-970	24-12-984
24-11-860	24-11-878	24-11-892	24-12-906	24-12-920	24-12-957	24-12-971	24-12-985
24-11-861	24-11-879	24-11-893	24-12-907	24-12-921	24-12-958	24-12-972	24-12-986
24-11-862	24-11-880	24-11-894	24-12-908	24-12-922	24-12-959	24-12-973	24-12-987
24-11-867	24-11-881	24-11-895	24-12-909	24-12-923	24-12-960	24-12-974	24-12-988
24-11-868	24-11-882	24-11-896	24-12-910	24-12-924	24-12-961	24-12-975	24-12-989
24-11-869	24-11-883	24-12-897	24-12-911	24-12-944	24-12-962	24-12-976	24-12-990
24-11-870	24-11-884	24-12-898	24-12-912	24-12-945	24-12-963	24-12-977	
24-11-871	24-11-885	24-12-899	24-12-913	24-12-946	24-12-964	24-12-978	
24-11-872	24-11-886	24-12-900	24-12-914	24-12-947	24-12-965	24-12-979	
24-11-873	24-11-887	24-12-901	24-12-915	24-12-948	24-12-966	24-12-980	
24-11-874	24-11-888	24-12-902	24-12-916	24-12-949	24-12-967	24-12-981	
24-11-875	24-11-889	24-12-903	24-12-917	24-12-954	24-12-968	24-12-982	

#### 8. **EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an ***Investigative Extension*** to the following 249 cases:

<u>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</u>							
22-5-1513	24-3-1728	24-5-2003	24-5-2199	24-6-2429	24-7-142	24-8-297	24-9-414
23-2-1039	24-3-1695	24-5-2017	24-5-2218	24-6-2437	24-7-118	24-8-301	24-9-411
23-2-1090	24-3-1723	24-5-2029	24-5-2214	24-6-2419	24-7-120	24-8-293	24-9-433
23-3-1191	24-3-1712	24-5-2027	24-5-2220	24-6-2439	24-7-128	24-8-306	24-9-450
23-4-1308	24-3-1763	24-5-2037	24-5-2236	24-6-2421	24-7-134	24-8-296	24-9-443
23-4-1320	24-3-1758	24-5-2016	24-6-2246	24-6-2440	24-7-155	24-8-287	24-9-451
23-5-1593	24-4-1779	24-5-2040	24-6-2263	24-6-2427	24-8-162	24-8-304	24-9-446
23-10-824	24-4-1795	24-5-2028	24-6-2262	24-6-2430	24-8-166	24-8-294	24-9-478
24-1-1254	24-4-1814	24-5-2022	24-6-2318	24-6-2416	24-8-161	24-8-315	24-9-496
24-1-1276	24-4-1822	24-5-2018	24-6-2290	24-7-9	24-8-172	24-8-341	24-9-480
24-1-1377	24-4-1816	24-5-2045	24-6-2305	24-7-8	24-8-210	24-8-349	24-9-482
24-1-1396	24-4-1809	24-5-2057	24-6-2313	24-7-31	24-8-213	24-8-316	24-9-479

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
24-1-1395	24-4-1844	24-5-2065	24-6-2284	24-7-36	24-8-219	24-8-317	24-9-490
24-1-1382	24-4-1853	24-5-2067	24-6-2273	24-7-57	24-8-208	24-8-348	24-9-493
24-2-1420	24-4-1867	24-5-2064	24-6-2299	24-7-51	24-8-223	24-8-322	24-10-528
24-2-1498	24-4-1891	24-5-2096	24-6-2280	24-7-56	24-8-243	24-8-326	24-10-527
24-2-1477	24-4-1898	24-5-2092	24-6-2281	24-7-52	24-8-239	24-8-319	24-10-532
24-2-1481	24-4-1882	24-5-2100	24-6-2332	24-7-58	24-8-236	24-8-354	24-10-526
24-2-1577	24-4-1916	24-5-2080	24-6-2333	24-7-66	24-8-241	24-9-362	24-10-531
24-3-1625	24-4-1909	24-5-2113	24-6-2348	24-7-71	24-8-246	24-9-367	24-10-536
24-3-1621	24-4-1901	24-5-2125	24-6-2355	24-7-69	24-8-252	24-9-361	24-10-523
24-3-1637	24-4-1903	24-5-2129	24-6-2350	24-7-82	24-8-253	24-9-366	24-10-524
24-3-1648	24-4-1941	24-5-2142	24-6-2339	24-7-80	24-8-249	24-9-371	24-10-537
24-3-1664	24-4-1937	24-5-2140	24-6-2340	24-7-83	24-8-261	24-9-370	24-10-517
24-3-1663	24-4-1935	24-5-2144	24-6-2349	24-7-115	24-8-272	24-9-372	24-10-535
24-3-1671	24-4-1953	24-5-2155	24-6-2351	24-7-114	24-8-276	24-9-380	
24-3-1687	24-4-1948	24-5-2169	24-6-2371	24-7-97	24-8-277	24-9-384	
24-3-1688	24-4-1962	24-5-2183	24-6-2374	24-7-106	24-8-278	24-9-385	
24-3-1734	24-4-1969	24-5-2180	24-6-2377	24-7-98	24-8-279	24-9-402	
24-3-1696	24-5-1998	24-5-2190	24-6-2398	24-7-107	24-8-283	24-9-418	
24-3-1724	24-5-1983	24-5-2223	24-6-2405	24-7-138	24-8-282	24-9-425	
24-3-1711	24-5-2002	24-5-2213	24-6-2417	24-7-151	24-8-280	24-9-429	

## 9. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 19 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

## 10. FINAL DECISIONS RENDERED BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed the report, which advised of 11 cases closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge.

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as present by Chair Kedrione Harris.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

Abstentions: Derek Easterling-PID Cases 24-11-703, 24-11-704, 24-11-726, 24-11-727, 24-11-729, 24-11-743, 24-11-750, 24-11-765, PCE Cases 24-11-956, 24-8-347, 24-6-2319, Dr. Jennifer Wade-PID Case 24-11-764, Jimmy Atkins-PCE Case 24-9-375, Abigail Coggin- 24-8-260, Jane Rookard-PCA Case 24-10-598

## B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

Committee Vice-Chair, Dr. Jennifer Wade, presented the report of the Educator Preparation/Certification Committee report.

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Educator Preparation and Certification Committee Report	
The Educator Preparation and Certification Committee met December 11, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. With only four members present and voting, we did not have a quorum. The following approval item is presented as a Committee Recommendation.	
For the University of West Georgia	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for the Speech-Language Associate Program (P-12) [Baccalaureate degree; Certification-only].

**MOTION:** (Dr. Judi Wilson / Dr. Franklin Perry) To accept the recommendations from the Educator Preparation and Certification Committee report as presented by Vice-Chair, Dr. Jennifer Wade.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

Abstentions: Brian Sirmans

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Our next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, January 9, at 4 pm. We will meet remotely and the information will be posted on our website under Commission Information. On January 8<sup>th</sup>, the Educator Ethics Review Committee will meet at 4:30 pm and the Educator Preparation and Certification Committee will meet at 4:00 pm. Chair Sirmans called for the meeting to be adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved