

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Piedmont Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia

January 8, 2015

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, January 8, 2015, at 12:30 p.m.

Members Present

Dr. Jim Barrett

Lauren Eckman

Dr. Penny Elkins

Phil Jacobs

David Johnson

Scott Justus

Henry Kelly

Kamila Luigs

Valerie Mateen

Terrie Ponder

Carol Rivera

Sheryl Stalvey

Bettina Polite Tate

Dr. Martha Venn

Dr. Lawrence Walters

Members Absent

Christy McGill

Pam Walker

David Smith

I. WORK SESSION

- Rules – Anne Marie Fenton presented the rules that will be voted on at today's Commission meeting. The Commissioners will be asked to initiate rules that were previewed during the December work session. These rules will be scheduled to become effective April 15, 2015, except for Rule 505-3-.03 (Preservice Certificate), which will be scheduled to become effective July 1, 2015.

Discussion (Certification) – 10 rules

AMEND:

505-2-.02 CLASSIFICATION

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.02 CLASSIFICATION, dated July 1, 2014, be AMENDED to clarify the information provided about certificate levels, particularly as they relate to leadership degrees.

505-2-.03 PRESERVICE CERTIFICATE

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-3-.03 PRESERVICE CERTIFICATE, dated July 1, 2015, be AMENDED to clarify requirements for the ethics assessment.

505-2-.04 INDUCTION CERTIFICATE

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-3-.04 INDUCTION CERTIFICATE, dated July 3, 2014, be AMENDED to clarify requirements for the ethics assessment.

505-2-.05 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.05 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE, dated July 3, 2014, be AMENDED to clarify requirements for converting an Induction Pathway 4 certificate to a Professional certificate.

505-2-.14 ENDORSEMENTS

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.12 ENDORSEMENTS, dated July 3, 2014, be AMENDED to clarify that a Non-Renewable Professional ESOL endorsement may be added to a Permit certificate

in a foreign language field, in accordance with established Certification Division practice.

505-2-.19 SUPPORT PERSONNEL LICENSE

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.19 SUPPORT PERSONNEL LICENSE, dated July 1, 2014, be AMENDED to clarify the requirements for this license.

505-2-.24 SPECIAL GEORGIA REQUIREMENTS

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.24 SPECIAL GEORGIA REQUIREMENTS, dated January 1, 2015, be AMENDED to clarify the Educator Ethics Assessment requirement and revise the Content Pedagogy requirement.

505-2-.26 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ASSESSMENTS

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-3-.26 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ASSESSMENTS, dated July 1, 2014, be AMENDED to clarify requirements for the ethics assessment.

505-2-.33 CERTIFICATE UPGRADE

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.41 EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE UPGRADES, dated July 3, 2014, be AMENDED to clarify the grandfathering period for transition fields, the options for completing an in-field upgrade, and the application of upgrades to the general or leader level of certificates.

505-2-.144 SCHOOL COUNSELING

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.144 SCHOOL COUNSELING, dated July 1, 2014, be AMENDED to adjust the numbering in the rule.

Discussion (Educator Preparation) – 3 rules

Rescind:

505-3-.78 EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONVERSION PROCESS

It is proposed that GaPSC rule 505-3-.78, EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONVERSION PROCESS, dated May 15, 2014, be REPEALED as this rule is no longer needed.

Rescind and Initiate:

505-3-.77 EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-3-.77 EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM, dated May 15, 2014, be REPEALED and that a new rule with the same name and number be INITIATED. This new rule further develops and articulates standards and expectations for the educational leadership preparation program as well as creates a two-tiered preparation structure.

505-3-.76 ALTERNATIVE PREPARATION FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-3-.76 ALTERNATIVE PREPARATION FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM, dated July 3, 2014, be REPEALED and that a new rule with the same name and number be INITIATED. This new rule further develops and articulates standards and expectations for the non-traditional educational leadership preparation program as well as creates a two-tiered preparation structure.

Regarding the Educator Preparation Rule 505-3-.76, Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership Program, as you know from previous work sessions, we want to rescind the present rule that was a response to Georgia's Race To The Top commitment and replace with a revised rule that will more

closely align the structure of alternative programs to that of the proposed two-tier traditional leadership programs.

Commissioners were asked to initiate rule 505-3-.76 that will replace the current alternative preparation for leaders rule, and as part of this motion, no more than five (5) program providers will be approved. In addition, data will be collected and analyzed yearly to determine the effectiveness of these programs during a three-year pilot phase.

All the rules action will be brought to Commissioners in two proposed motions 1) one that includes all rules actions as described, except the initiation of 505-3-.76 (Alternative Preparation for Educational Leaders); and 2) one to initiate the Alternative Preparation for Educational Leaders Program Rule (505-3-.76) as described.

- Executive Secretary Report
 - a) Dr. Martha Venn, Vice President, Provost of Middle Georgia State College to the Commission was given a warm welcome to the Commission
 - b) Lauren Eckman was recognized as the Keynote Speaker at the Impacting Student Learning Conference.
 - c) The May 14-15 Commission retreat was
 - d) Dr. David Hill and Kelli Young began their overview of Tiered Certification. They concluded the overview at the information session held after the Commission meeting.
- Chair Report
 - a) Chair Elkins Also welcomed Dr. Martha Venn to the Commission.
 - b) Chair Elkins thanked Vice Chair Kami Luigs for chairing the December 2014 Commission meeting.
 - c) Chair Elkins mentioned that Jack Shonkoff, Professor of Child Health and Development at Harvard University visited Mercer University. Professor Shonkoff was speaking about innovation and said that it is always important, "To be constructively dissatisfied with the best we have ever been." We are always looking to improve. It is important to hear discussions such as the discussion we are hearing and having on the Alternative Leadership Preparation rule so that all voices are heard and we strive to do better.
 - d) Chair Elkins spoke briefly about the work that the PSC has done in positioning Georgia in terms of implementing the Federal regulations for teacher preparation programs according to the timeline that they are proposing.

II. 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.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Dr. Elkins called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Phil Jacobs / Valerie Mateen) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Elkins called for approval of the minutes from the December 11, 2014, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. VISITORS

Chair Dr. Elkins welcomed the visitors.

- Leonard Williams, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Fred Kittle, member of Bartow County School Board
- Tayia Donald, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Linda Fortson, Warren Fortson Law Office
- Carmen Hernandez, Office of Planning and Budget

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Vice Chair Bettina Polite-Tate of the Educator Ethics Review Committee (EERC), gave a preliminary review of the Cases.

1. Ms. Polite-Tate reported that the Committee reviewed 24 ***Probable Cause*** cases during its January 8, 2015, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>OPPOSED / ABSTAINED</u>
12-2-896	1,3,10	Suspension - 1 yr	
12-2-901	2, 10	Suspension - 15 days	Opposed: H. Kelly
12-3-1026	1, 10	Revoke	
13-3-894	4,5,10	Revoke	
13-6-1226	4, 5,10	Revoke	
14-3-659	9,10	Revoke	Opposed: H. Kelly, L. Eckman, D. Johnson
14-3-660	9, 10	NPC	
14-3-662	9,10	NPC	
14-3-663	10	Revoke	Opposed: H. Kelly
14-7-49	2, 10	Suspension - 1 yr	
14-7-64	4, 5, 10	Suspension - 2 yrs	
14-7-129	1, 10	<i>Extend Pending Criminal Case</i>	Opposed: S. Justus

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>OPPOSED / ABSTAINED</u>
14-9-214	2,10	Revoke	
14-9-215	2,10	Revoke	
14-9-225	4,10	Suspension - 20 days	
14-9-226	4,10	Suspension - 20 days	
14-9-269	3, 10	Suspension - 1 yr	Abstain: B. Tate
14-9-273	2,10	Suspension - 30 days	
14-9-284	4,5,10	Suspension - 1 yr	
14-10-298	10	NPC	Opposed: H. Kelly
14-10-309	2,9,10	Revoke	
14-10-319	7,10,11	Suspension - 20 days	
14-10-352	7,10	NPC	
14-11-375	3,10	Suspension - 2 yrs	Abstain: J. Barrett

2. Ms. Polite-Tate reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 6 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
14-5-834	Suspension - 90 days	Accept
14-6-953	Suspension - 60 days	Accept
14-6-1018	Suspension - 20 days	Accept
14-7-45	Reprimand	Accept
14-7-77	Reprimand	Accept
14-8-145	Revocation	Accept

3. Ms. Polite-Tate reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 10 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
11-8-138	Suspension - 90 days	Accept
11-8-165	Warning	Accept
13-6-1144	Warning	Accept
13-6-1237	Reprimand	Accept
13-11-307	NPC	Accept
14-1-476	Reprimand	Accept
14-3-642	Reprimand	Accept
14-5-907	Suspension - 10 days	Accept
14-6-947	Suspension - 1 year	Accept
14-6-1041	NPC	Accept

4. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 61 new complaints received during the months of December 2014 and January 2015.

5. **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 2 Voluntary Surrenders listed below in which an Educator/Applicant voluntarily accepted a sanction of Revocation 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>
14-8-174	1, 2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
14-11-395	2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

6. **EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 28 Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations consisting of the following:

14-12-490	14-12-494	14-12-502	15-1-511	15-1-515	15-1-519	15-1-523
14-12-491	14-12-497	15-1-508	15-1-512	15-1-516	15-1-520	15-1-524
14-12-492	14-12-500	15-1-509	15-1-513	15-1-517	15-1-521	15-1-525
14-12-493	14-12-501	15-1-510	15-1-514	15-1-518	15-1-522	15-1-526

7. **EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting and *Investigative Extension* to the following 167 cases:

<u>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</u>							
11-8-130	13-2-778	13-11-312	14-3-593	14-5-830	14-7-22	14-8-151	14-9-268
11-8-200	13-3-838	13-11-327	14-3-633	14-5-838	14-7-38	14-8-156	14-9-270
11-9-337	13-3-865	13-11-356	14-3-635	14-5-863	14-7-54	14-8-156	14-9-271
11-9-343	13-3-869	13-11-370	14-3-644	14-5-891	14-7-66	14-8-157	14-9-272
11-9-392	13-3-878	13-12-373	14-3-645	14-5-897	14-7-67	14-8-164	14-9-276
11-9-398	13-3-891	13-12-375	14-3-654	14-5-898	14-7-68	14-8-169	14-9-277
11-9-399	13-4-983	13-12-376	14-3-655	14-5-903	14-7-69	14-8-172	14-10-286
11-9-402	13-4-1016	13-12-377	14-3-680	14-5-905	14-7-97	14-8-174	14-10-289
11-9-455	13-5-1032	13-12-379	14-4-723	14-5-914	14-7-107	14-8-178	14-10-293
11-9-456	13-5-1043	13-12-408	14-4-737	14-6-938	14-7-107	14-8-179	14-10-300
11-9-457	13-5-1049	13-12-423	14-4-744	14-6-939	14-7-109	14-9-189	14-10-303
11-9-458	13-5-1076	13-12-424	14-4-752	14-6-940	14-7-121	14-9-212	14-10-304
11-9-459	13-6-1176	13-12-425	14-4-757	14-6-942	14-7-121	14-9-216	14-10-305
11-12-702	13-6-1199	14-1-444	14-4-762	14-6-944	14-7-123	14-9-217	14-10-307
12-4-1120	13-6-1207	14-1-480	14-4-766	14-6-950	14-7-135	14-9-218	14-10-308
12-4-1133	13-6-1209	14-2-516	14-4-767	14-6-964	14-8-136	14-9-219	14-10-321
12-7-111	13-6-1231	14-2-558	14-4-772	14-6-969	14-8-139	14-9-244	14-10-347

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
12-7-112	13-6-1241	14-2-570	14-4-778	14-6-971	14-8-139	14-9-245	14-10-348
12-8-263	13-8-56	14-2-575	14-5-819	14-6-1002	14-8-142	14-9-255	14-10-349
12-11-530	13-9-192	14-3-581	14-5-826	14-6-1036	14-8-149	14-9-256	14-10-350
13-2-759	13-10-239	14-3-583	14-5-829	14-6-1037	14-8-149	14-9-267	

8. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 10 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

9. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 8 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. The report also advised that there were 3 cases closed without an appeal for a review hearing before the Commission.

10. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Commission reviewed the Final Decision below and voted to on the following:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL SANCTION</u>	<u>ALJ SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-5-1171	Revocation	Revocation	Accept
14-4-791	Denial	Grant	Accept

Chair Elkins called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Pam Walker excluding case #'s 14-9-226, 14-6-947, 14-7-64 and 14-3-662.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Bettina Polite-Tate –14-9-269, 14-12-434, Jim Barrett – 14-11-375, Valerie Mateen – 14-11-424, 14-12-470, Kami Luigs – 14-11-421, 14-11-425, 14-12-432, 14-12-443, 14-12-444, 14-12-445, 14-12-446, 14-12-474, 14-12-479, 14-12-480, 14-12-481, 14-12-482, 14-12-483, 14-7-64, 14-10-309, 13-6-1226, 11-8-138, 11-8-165, Dr. Martha Venn – All Cases

Negotiated Consent Order # 14-6-947

MOTION: (Phil Jacobs / Dr. Jim Barrett) To accept a 1 Year Suspension.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Dr. Martha Venn

Probable Cause Case # 14-9-226

MOTION: (Phil Jacobs/ Kami Luigs) To accept the EERC's recommendation of a 2- Day Suspension.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Dr. Martha Venn

Probable Cause Case # 14-3-662

MOTION: (Henry Kelly / Scott Justus) To accept the EERC's recommendation of a No Probable Cause.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Dr. Martha Venn, David Johnson

Opposed: Jim Barrett, Carol Rivera

Probable Cause Case # 14-7-64

MOTION: (Scott Justus / Phil Jacobs) To reject the EERC’s recommendation of a 2 Year Suspension.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Kami Luigs, Dr. Martha Venn

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

Committee Vice Chair, Phil Jacobs, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee. The Committee recommends the following approval actions.

	EPP	January 2015 Detailed Approval Recommendations	Additional Action Required
1.	Armstrong State University	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of the Teacher Leader Endorsement Program.	
2.	University of Georgia	The Committee recommends the Progress Report submitted September 17, 2014, is satisfactory in addressing the areas for improvement for the Healthcare Science and Technology Education Program and the ESOL Endorsement Program. The Committee recommends the areas for improvement be removed. The Committee recommends that while the Progress Report for the Preschool Endorsement Program submitted September 17, 2014, indicates incremental progress in addressing the Standard 2 (element a) area for improvement, the area for improvement remains. The Committee recommends the submission of a Progress Report by July 15, 2015, addressing how the program is assuring inter-rater reliability among multiple assessors when assessing candidate performance. In addition, the Progress Report should address how multiple assessors are knowledgeable of assessments and scoring guides.	

Vice Chair Luigs called for approval of the Educator Preparation/Certification Committee report as presented by Vice Chair Luigs.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Valerie Mateen, University of Georgia, Bettina Polite-Tate – Armstrong State University, Dr. Martha Venn - University of Georgia and Armstrong State University

VII. RULES

Anne Marie Fenton presented the rules.

MOTION: (Kami Luigs / Dr. Larry Walters) To: (1) amend the current rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective April 15, 2015, as follows: 505-2-.02, 505-2-.04, 505-2-.05, 505-2-.14, 505-2.19, 505-2-24, 505-2-.26, 505-2-.33, and 505-2-.144; (2) amend the current rules in Chapter 505-2-Certification, effective July 1, 2015, as follows: 505-2-.03; (3) repeal the current rules in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective April 15, 2015, as follows: 505-3-.76, 505-3-.77, and 505-3-.78; (4) initiate the current rules in Chapter 505-3-Educator Preparation, effective April 15, 2015, as follows: 505-3-.79.

PSC ACTION: Approved
Abstention: Dr. Martha Venn
Opposed: Jim Barrett

MOTION: (Phil Jacobs / Lauren Eckman) Do we have a motion to initiate rule in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective April 15, 2015, as follows 505-3-.76, in which no more than five (5) program providers will be approved and data collected and analyzed yearly to determine the effectiveness of these programs during a three-year pilot phase.

PSC ACTION: Approved
Abstention: Dr. Martha Venn
Opposed: Jim Barrett

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dr. Elkins called for the meeting to be adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved

INFORMATION SESSION

- Dr. David Hill and Kelli Young concluded their presentation on the Tiered Certification overview.
- Paul Shaw gave an orientation presentation which included frequent ethics cases and typical sanctions.

Members Present

Dr. Jim Barrett
Lauren Eckman
Dr. Penny Elkins
David Johnson

Scott Justus
Kamila Luigs
Valerie Mateen
Carol Rivera

Sheryl Stalvey
Bettina Polite Tate
Dr. Martha Venn
Dr. Lawrence Walters