

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Piedmont Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia

July 11, 2013

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, July 11, 2013, at 12:30 p.m.

Members Present

Julia Bernath	David Johnson	Sheryl Stalvey
Dr. Penny Elkins	Scott Justus	Dr. Lawrence Walters
Dr. Adrian Epps	Kamila Luigs	Pam Walker
Bill Haskin	Christy McGill	Pam Williams

Members Absent

Bettina Polite Tate	Valerie Williams
Alice Clements	Phil Jacobs
Stephanie Leggett	Heath Garrett

I. WORK SESSION

- 1) Kelly proposed that the Commissioners have a passing induction score and a passing professional cut score. His rationale was that in October we would have new tests that would be more rigorous and aligned to tiered certification. He asked the Commission to informally agree that ETS move forward with their work preparing for our September meeting the the knowledge that we are favorably disposed to establish a passing induction and a passing professional cut score. He also proposed that the Commission informally agree on the following:
 - Those passing at the induction level would be required to pass the test at the professional level during the three years of their induction certification. Additionally, we will develop an opportunity for educators to satisfy this requirement by demonstration of performance.
 - Passing induction will likely be a score of 220 (2 standard errors of measurement below committee recommendation and passing professional will be at 250 (committee recommendation).
 - When our preparpation program providers have had the opportunity to align programs to the new tests we will very strongly consider a recommendation to the Commission to move the “passing induction to 1 standard error of measurement below committee recommendation.
 - Our position on GACE scores and how they are utilized in TPPEM will likely be that institutions will be given credit for a passing score for either passing induction or passing professional. However, another measure in TPPEM is the percentage of teachers that move from induction to professional.
 - School districts will receive more information from us in the near future.
- 2) Kelly thanked Rebecca for her work on unsats. We take action when we receive unsats and not at the ned of the certification renewal period.
- 3) Kelly thanked Mike Bochenko and Dr. Winifred Nweke for their work at the PSC. Mike has accepted a position at Valdosta State University and Dr. Nweke has accepted a position at Clayton State University.

10/15/2013

Page 2

- 4) Kelly Henson and Chair Elkins thanked Commissioner Bill Haskin and Stephanie Leggett for their work on the Commission. Both Commissioners brought a teachers perspective to the Commission. We will miss them both.
- 5) Kelly announced that we will not have a meeting in August. Our September meeting will be a little longer than normal. Please plan to adjourn at approximately 2:00 p.m. or 2:30 p.m.
- 6) Anne Marie Fenton gave the Commissioners “A Quick Glance at Important GACE Information” hand-out. She briefly explained that this contained ETS contact information, the transition from ES to ETS and remaining testing opportunities with ES. _____ gave a powerpoint presentation on setting passing scores for the GACE Paraprofessional Assessment.
- 7) Chair Elkins explained Kelly Henson’s evaluation process. Twelve PSC staff members filled out an evaluation form for Kelly. These forms were sent to Penny. She compiled them and highlighted some of the narrative responses from the staff and then sent them to the executive committee. The executive committee met last week with Kelly. He has done an outstanding job.

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: (Pam Williams / Bill Haskin) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Elkins called for approval of the minutes from the June 13, 2013, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. VISITORS

Chair Dr. Elkins welcomed the visitors.

- Margaret Elliott, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Linda Fortson, Warren Fortson Law Office
- Tayia Donald, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)

VI. EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

Chair Elkins and Kelly Henson presented the following employees with Service Awards and thanked them for their service:

Eddie Nix – 15 Years - Eddie Nix has been with the PSC since July 2002. Prior to joining the PSC Eddie worked at the Secretary of State’s Office for seven years where he served as an investigator primarily investigating cases associated with the Medical Board. Prior to his employment with the State of Georgia Eddie was employed by the Cobb County Police Department. Eddie attained the rank of Detective Captain. Eddie is native Georgian. He is product of Cobb County Schools. He received a two year degree in Criminal Justice from Kennesaw State Jr. College (now Kennesaw State University). He then continued his education at Georgia State University where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. He then went on to receive a Masters of Science in Criminal Justice from the same institution. During his service as a law enforcement professional Eddie has attended numerous training sessions and academies. The most notable of these is the FBI National Academy.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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

1. Ms. Walker reported that the Committee reviewed 46 *Probable Cause* cases during its July 11, 2013, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
13-1-692	1, 10	Denial
13-2-748	1,4,9	Reprimand
13-4-965	10	Reprimand
13-4-968	1	Reprimand
12-2-843	10,11	Suspension - 2 years
12-2-894	10,11	NPC
12-3-1032	7,10,11	Suspension - 2 years
12-4-1150	4,10, Unfit	Suspension - 90 days
12-4-1159	7,10	Reprimand
12-5-1246	5,10	Suspension - 10 days
12-5-1259	1, 10	Suspension - 1 year
12-6-1305	2,7,10	Revoke
12-7-74	2,10	Suspension - 20 days
12-7-79	2,10	Suspension - 1 year
12-7-98	1, 2, 10	Revoke
12-8-294	3,10	Revoke
12-8-302	4, 8, 10	Suspension - 10 days
12-10-430	5, 10	Suspension - 90 days
12-11-541	2,10	Suspension - 20 days
12-11-542	3,10	Suspension - 1 year
12-12-573	1,4,9,10	Revoke

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-12-603	1,2,10	Revoke
13-1-648	10	Reprimand
13-1-653	1,3,10	Suspension - 1 year
13-1-665	4,9,10	Reprimand
13-1-670	1,4,9	Reprimand
13-1-695	6,10	Reprimand
13-1-700	1, 4, 9	Reprimand
13-2-733	1,4,9	Suspension - 5 days
13-2-746	9,10	Suspension - 8 days
13-2-752		Suspension - 90 days
13-2-793	1, 4, 9	Reprimand
13-2-812	1,4, 9	Reprimand
13-2-814	1,4,9	NPC
13-2-816	1,4,9	Admin close
13-3-825	2, 3, 10	Reprimand
13-3-870	9,10	Suspension - 20 days
13-3-921	4,10	Suspension - 90 days
13-4-932	4, 5, 10	Suspension - 20 days
13-4-942	4, 5, 10	Suspension - 20 days
13-4-946	1	Suspension - 20 days
13-4-955	2,4,10	Suspension - 90 days
13-4-973	1, 4,9	Reprimand
13-4-976	1,2,4,9,10	Revoke
13-4-998	1,10	Revoke
13-5-1095	3,10	Suspension - 1 year

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

<u>CASE</u>	<u>PREVIOUS SANCTION</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
13-5-1030	Revocation July 2007	Deny
13-5-1092	Voluntary Surrender December 2008	Grant

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

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMEND</u>
12-9-357	Reprimand	Accept
12-11-536	Suspension - 90 days	Accept
12-11-556	Reprimand	Accept

12-12-582	Reprimand	Accept
12-12-586	Reprimand	Accept
12-12-614	Reprimand	Accept
12-12-617	Reprimand	Accept
12-12-621	Reprimand	Accept
13-1-668	Reprimand	Accept
13-3-831	Suspension - 90 days	Accept

4. Ms. Walker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 13 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
10-11-453	Suspension 90 days	Accept
11-1-695	Suspension 2 years	Accept
11-1-707	Suspension 45 days	Accept
11-7-84	NPC	Accept
11-8-220	Suspension 60 days	Accept
11-11-576	Suspension 45 days	Accept
11-12-693	NPC	Accept
11-12-719	Suspension 3 years	Accept
12-1-738	Reprimand	Accept
12-5-1262	Suspension 1 year	Accept
12-7-184	NPC	Accept
12-10-412	Suspension 10 days	Accept
13-1-687	Suspension 45 days	Reject

5. OTHER BUSINESS

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

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMEND</u>
12-12-566	Susp 1 year	Accept
NCO 11-9-268	Susp 2 years (July 29, 2013 - 2015)	Accept
13-5-1046	Expand investigation	Investigate

PID 13-7-1	Educator denied engaging in several sexual activities with a co-worker while on campus during school hours and also to/from campus events.	Investigate
PID 13-7-2	Educator admitted engaging in several sexual activities with a co-worker while on campus during school hours and also to/from campus events.	Investigate
PID 13-7-21	Expedite investigation into the alleged sexual misconduct.	Investigate
PID 13-7-23	Expedite investigation	Investigate

7. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 90 new complaints received during the months of June and July 2013.

6. VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 5 *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>RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-7-67	2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
13-4-1006	2, 5, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
13-5-1086	2, 4, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
13-5-1106	2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
13-6-1211	1, 2, 10	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

7. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 295 Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations consisting of the following:

10-9-331	12-1-733	12-7-129	12-11-516	13-1-639	13-2-802	13-4-937	13-5-1049
10-12-553	12-1-764	12-7-131	12-11-518	13-1-640	13-3-832	13-4-941	13-5-1050
10-12-562	12-2-885	12-7-153	12-11-523	13-1-642	13-3-833	13-4-944	13-5-1051
11-6-1192	12-2-891	12-7-155	12-11-525	13-1-643	13-3-838	13-4-951	13-5-1052
11-6-1227	12-2-896	12-7-207	12-11-529	13-1-646	13-3-840	13-4-953	13-5-1054
11-8-119	12-2-901	12-7-211	12-11-530	13-1-650	13-3-841	13-4-977	13-5-1056

11-8-130	12-3-974	12-8-227	12-11-531	13-1-655	13-3-842	13-4-980	13-5-1057
11-8-200	12-3-978	12-8-228	12-11-538	13-1-658	13-3-845	13-4-981	13-5-1061
11-9-284	12-3-1026	12-8-243	12-11-540	13-1-663	13-3-850	13-4-982	13-5-1062
11-9-298	12-4-1120	12-8-259	12-11-545	13-1-679	13-3-851	13-4-983	13-5-1063
11-9-304	12-4-1133	12-8-260	12-11-547	13-1-689	13-3-852	13-4-984	13-5-1064
11-9-337	12-4-1137	12-8-261	12-11-548	13-1-691	13-3-853	13-4-985	13-5-1065
11-9-343	12-4-1140	12-8-263	12-11-552	13-1-696	13-3-854	13-4-987	13-5-1066
11-9-355	12-4-1141	12-8-264	12-11-554	13-1-704	13-3-859	13-4-993	13-5-1069
11-9-358	12-5-1241	12-8-267	12-11-555	13-1-719	13-3-861	13-4-994	13-5-1076
11-9-359	12-5-1251	12-8-269	12-12-561	13-2-721	13-3-865	13-4-996	13-5-1079
11-9-392	12-5-1266	12-8-278	12-12-565	13-2-723	13-3-867	13-4-999	13-5-1080
11-9-396	12-5-1280	12-8-296	12-12-567	13-2-725	13-3-869	13-4-1005	13-5-1082
11-9-397	12-6-1290	12-8-299	12-12-570	13-2-737	13-3-872	13-4-1007	13-5-1087
11-9-398	12-6-1301	12-8-304	12-12-583	13-2-755	13-3-878	13-4-1012	13-5-1088
11-9-399	12-6-1328	12-9-336	12-12-590	13-2-756	13-3-880	13-4-1013	13-5-1089
11-9-401	12-6-1329	12-9-346	12-12-591	13-2-757	13-3-881	13-4-1015	13-5-1094
11-9-402	12-7-7	12-9-358	12-12-592	13-2-759	13-3-891	13-4-1016	13-5-1096
11-9-418	12-7-12	12-10-413	12-12-593	13-2-761	13-3-894	13-4-1017	13-5-1097
11-9-419	12-7-38	12-10-419	12-12-594	13-2-771	13-3-901	13-4-1018	13-5-1098
11-9-420	12-7-48	12-10-434	12-12-595	13-2-772	13-3-902	13-4-1019	13-5-1104
11-9-421	12-7-071	12-10-441	12-12-597	13-2-773	13-3-904	13-4-1025	13-5-1108
11-9-424	12-7-72	12-10-444	12-12-599	13-2-774	13-3-905	13-4-1028	13-5-1111
11-9-455	12-7-75	12-10-446	12-12-600	13-2-776	13-3-907	13-5-1032	13-5-1112
11-9-456	12-7-76	12-10-477	12-12-606	13-2-778	13-3-915	13-5-1033	13-5-1114
11-9-457	12-7-77	12-10-480	12-12-607	13-2-780	13-3-917	13-5-1034	13-5-1127
11-9-458	12-7-81	12-10-482	12-12-610	13-2-784	13-4-925	13-5-1035	13-5-1133
11-9-459	12-7-89	12-11-505	12-12-613	13-2-786	13-4-927	13-5-1040	13-5-1134
11-11-598	12-7-96	12-11-507	12-12-626	13-2-787	13-4-928	13-5-1042	13-5-1135
11-11-600	12-7-111	12-11-510	13-1-633	13-2-788	13-4-930	13-5-1043	13-5-1136
11-12-702	12-7-112	12-11-514	13-1-634	13-2-789	13-4-933	13-5-1046	13-5-1137
11-12-710	12-7-121	12-11-515	13-1-637	13-2-801	13-4-934	13-5-1047	

8. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting and *Investigative Extension* to the following 18 cases:

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS					
13-7-3	13-7-6	13-7-13	13-7-17	13-7-20	13-7-27
13-7-4	13-7-8	13-7-15	13-7-18	13-7-22	13-7-28
13-7-5	13-7-11	13-7-16	13-7-19	13-7-24	13-7-29

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 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 1 cases closed without an appeal for a review hearing before the Commission.

Chair Walker called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Pam Walker excluding case # 12-8-302.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Phil Jacobs-all cases, Heath Garrett-all cases, Kamila Luigs – case #'s 13-6-1171, 13-6-1172, 13-6-1173, 13-6-1174, 13-6-1175, Julia Bernath – case # 13-4-932, Pam Walker – case #'s 13-6-1240, 13-6-1241 and 12-5-1246

Probable Cause Case # 12-8-302

MOTION: (Kami Luigs / Pam Williams) To Accept the EERC’s recommendation of a 10 Day Suspension.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Phil Jacobs, Heath Garrett

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

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

	Unit Number	July 2013 Detailed Approval Recommendations	Additional Action Required
1.	5210	<p>The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for two initial preparation programs and six endorsement programs. English Education (6-12; Initial; Certification-only) English Education (6-12; Initial; B.A.) ESOL Endorsement Gifted Endorsement K-5 Mathematics Endorsement K-5 Science Endorsement Online Teaching Endorsement Teacher Leadership Endorsement</p>	
2.	5360	<p>The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for one initial preparation program: Reading Specialist Education Program (P-12; Initial; M.Ed.)</p>	
		<p>The Committee recommends Continuing Approval for twenty initial preparation programs and two endorsement programs: Art Education (P-12; Initial; M.A.T.) Biology Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) Business Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) Chemistry Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.)</p>	

	Unit Number	July 2013 Detailed Approval Recommendations	Additional Action Required
		Early Childhood Education (P-5; Initial; Baccalaureate) Educational Leadership (P-12; Initial; Specialist) English Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) French Education (P-12; Initial; M.A.T.) Health and Physical Education (P-12; Initial; M.A.T.) History Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) Mathematics Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) Media Specialist Education (P-12; Initial; Master's) Middle Grades Education (4-8; Initial; Baccalaureate) Middle Grades Education (4-8; Initial; M.A.T.) Music Education (P-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) Physics Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) Political Science Education (6-12; Initial; M.A.T.) Spanish Education (P-12; Initial; M.A.T.) Special Education General Curriculum (P-12; Initial; Baccalaureate) Special Education General Curriculum (P-12; Initial; M.A.T.) English to Speakers of Other Languages Endorsement Reading Endorsement: Classroom Teacher of Reading	
3.	2920	The Committee recommends the Progress Report submitted February 11, 2013 is Satisfactory, areas for improvement shall remain. The Committee recommends the submission of a Progress Report by February 1, 2014.	A Progress Report is due February 1, 2014.
4.	5070	The Committee recommends the Progress Report submitted March 8, 2013 is Satisfactory, areas for improvement shall remain.	The Progress Report is due February 1, 2014.
5.	10105	The Committee recommends the submission of a Transition Plan from the President of the institution by September 1, 2013. The Committee recommends the submission of a Progress Report by November 1, 2013 addressing the areas for improvement cited during the 2011 review. The Committee recommends deferral of the Spring 2014 GaPSC Initial Performance Review. The review date will be determined after Commission review and analysis of the Transition Plan.	

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

PSC ACTION: Approved
 Abstention: Phil Jacobs, Heath Garrett

VIII. RULES

Anne Marie Fenton presented the rules for adoption.

MOTION: (Kami Luigs / Dr. Adrian Epps) To initiate rulemaking procedures in accordance with the Georgia

10/15/2013

Page 10

Administrative Procedures Act so as to provide for (1) amending the current rules in Chapter 505-2 Certification, effective October 15, 2013, follows: 505-2-.10, 505-2.39, and 505-2-.96; (2) rescinding the current rule in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective October 15, 2013, as follows: 505-3-.82; and (3) initiating the current rule in Chapter 505-3 Educator Preparation, effective October 15, 2013, as follows: 505-3-.82.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Heath Garrett, Phil Jacobs

IX. PARAPROFESSIONAL STANDARD SETTING

The Executive Secretary presented the following:

We wish to initiate the standard setting process for the GACE Paraprofessional Assessment. We propose that the passing score be set at a value that is equal to two conditional standard errors of measurement lower than the passing score recommended by the GACE Standard Setting Committee. For the form of the GACE Paraprofessional Assessment that was evaluated by the GACE Standard Setting Committee, this represents a passing score of 48 items correct out of 75 total.

MOTION: (Kami Luigs / Dr. Adrian Epps) To set the passing score on the GACE Paraprofessional Assessment at a value that is equal to two conditional standard errors of measurement lower than the passing score recommended by the GACE Standard Setting Committee.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Heath Garrett, Phil Jacobs

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dr. Elkins called for the meeting to be adjourned at 2:00 pm.

PSC ACTION: Approved