

# MINUTES

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

### Remote Meeting via TEAMS Platform

June 13, 2024

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, June 13, 2024.

#### **Members Present**

Jimmy Atkins	Nathan Lewis	Brian Sirmans
Derek Easterling	Dr. Franklin Perry	Dr. Jennifer Wade
Jordan Frobos	Dr. Holley Roberts	Carol Williams
Kedrione Harris	Jane Rookard	Dr. Judi Wilson
Mark Kauffman	Dr. Brandon Seigler	Vonda Woodall

#### **Members Absent**

Jeanine Bunn	Jordan Frobos
Beth Townsend	Abigail Coggin

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Chair Sirmans called the meeting to order at 4:07 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/Carol Williams) To approve the agenda.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

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

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the May 9, 2024 minutes.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

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

Matt gave a review of the Spring GASPA conferment -We were well-represented at the Spring GASPA (Georgia Association of School Personnel Administrators) conference, which is a statewide gathering of over 218 HR Directors and other education colleagues.

As part of the program, we conducted a literacy-focused session to share the impact of HB538 on policy and practice within Educator Preparation and Assessment. Joining Anne Marie Fenton and Penney McRoy were University of Georgia's Dr. Karen Bryant and Savannah Chatham County Public School System's Dr. Kimberly

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Foxx. These two program providers shared their literacy implementation journey from both a higher education and GaTAPP perspective.

We had two other sessions - one featuring Certification Updates by Dr. Kelli Young, Windy Fortenberry, and Melina Ljuljanovic, and another session on Ethics, Educator Preparation, and Assessment updates by Laurin Vonada, Penney McRoy, and Anne Marie Fenton. Included in this session was a showing of one of our recently released Code of Ethics Videos. These videos for Code of Ethics Standards 1-4 are now posted on our homepage as part of our Video Series.

Bradley Golub, our Military Support Recruiter, hosted a conference booth during the conference to provide information to employing districts about hiring Veterans and Spouses of Veterans.

These types of presentations are important to keep all updated, to gather input of inform our work, and to be available to those we serve to assist where needed.

## **VI. RULES PREVIEW**

Anne Marie Fenton announced the rules for preview and the following were presented:

Windy Fortenberry presented Certification rules.

505-2-.151 - Speech-Language Associate - to create a new field of certification titled Speech-Language Associate, which is the result of task force work and in response to the Educator Preparation program rule for this field adopted during a previous rules cycle.

505-2-.08 Provisional Certificate – to amend the Provisional Certificate rule, necessitated by the creation of the Speech-Language Associate rule.

Penney McRoy presented the Educator Preparation rules.

505-3-.02 EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDER ANNUAL REPORTING AND EVALUATION – amended to incorporate a reference to EPP reporting deadlines specified in GaPSC Rule 505-3-.01 REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS. Additional changes are made for clarification.

505-3-.08 INNOVATIVE AND EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAMS - It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-3-.08 INNOVATIVE AND EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAMS, dated May 15, 2014, be REPEALED. This rule is outdated and is not compatible with GaPSC data collection and reporting systems.

Anne Marie Fenton presented the Educator Ethics rules.

505-6-.03 CHANGE OF ADDRESS – repeal as the rule is a restatement of the law and does not add or expound on the law.

505-6-.09 INVESTIGATION INSTITUTED BY SELF-REFERRAL – repeal as it is a restatement of the law and does not add or expound on the law.

## VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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

1. Vice Chair Harris reported that the Committee reviewed 89 ***Probable Cause*** cases during the June 12, 2024, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATIONS</u>
23-8-172	1,5a6	NPC
23-12-1102	9, 5a2, 5a4	Deny
23-12-1161	4,5a6	Deny
24-2-1475	1,5a6	NPC
24-2-1583	1,5a7 (2012), 5a6	Reprimand
24-3-1681	1,5a2,5a6	NPC
24-3-1682	1,4,5a4,5a6	NPC
24-3-1739	1,5a6	NPC
24-3-1752	1,4,5a6	Reprimand
24-5-1978	1,5a6, 5a7 (2022)	NPC
24-5-2005	1, 5a6	Reprimand
24-5-2020	1,5a6	Reprimand
24-5-2023	1,4,5a6	Reprimand
22-5-1431	1, 2, 9	20 days
23-4-1373	2, 9	5 days
23-4-1427	4,5,9	3 days
23-5-1517	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2022), 8,9	CCE
23-6-1727	2, 5, 9	Revoke
23-6-1729	5, 9	20 days
23-7-14	1,4,5a6, 5a7 (2019-2022), 8,9	CCE
23-8-201	1,4,5a6,8,9	Revoke
23-8-243	1,4,5a6, 5a7(2014-2018),8,9	Reprimand
23-8-280	1,4,5a6, 5a7 (1993-2022), 8 9	Revoke
23-8-321	1,4,5a2,5a6, 8,9	Reprimand
23-8-392	4,5a2,5a6,8,9	Revoke
23-8-397	1,4,5a6,8,9	Revoke
23-8-414	1,4,5a6,8,9	Revoke
23-8-417	1,4,5a6,8,9	Revoke
23-8-421	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2013-2022),8,9	5 days
23-9-434	1,4,5a6,5a7(2022),8,9	Revoke
23-9-435	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2015-2022), 8,9	NPC
23-9-478	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2020-2022), 8,9	Reprimand

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<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATIONS</u>
23-9-513	1,4,5a6,8,9	Revoke
23-9-524	1, 4, 8, 9	NPC
23-9-584	4,5a5,5a6,8,9	Revoke
23-10-766	3, 9	1 year
23-10-791	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2022), 8,9	NPC
23-10-801	9	5 days
23-10-806	3, 9	1 year
23-10-832	9	90 days
23-11-945	3, 9	1 year
23-12-1068	9	90 days
23-12-1076	9	90 days
23-12-1077	9	90 days
23-12-1107	4, 9, 10	1 year
23-12-1140	9	90 days
24-2-1411	9	Reprimand
24-2-1490	1,4,5a6,8,9	NPC
24-2-1536	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2017-2022), 8,9	20 days
24-2-1564	9	NPC
24-2-1573	2,9	Reprimand
24-2-1575	9	NPC
24-2-1576	1, 2, 9	90 Days
24-2-1578	2, 9	Reprimand
24-2-1601	1,5,5a6, 5a7 (2022), 8 ,9	Reprimand
24-3-1611	1, 4, 5, 9	CCE
24-3-1612	2, 9	5 days
24-3-1613	2,9	5 days
24-3-1618	2, 4, 9	2 years
24-3-1622	4,9	NPC
24-3-1628	1, 5, 9	20 days
24-3-1630	2,9	10 days
24-3-1668	4, 5, 9	Reprimand
24-3-1674	2 & 9	90 days
24-3-1689	4	90 days
24-3-1690	4, 9	NPC
24-3-1693	1, 4,5, 9	90 days
24-3-1709	8,9	Reprimand
24-3-1714	2, 9	20 days
24-3-1731	2, 9	Reprimand
24-3-1732	2, 9	Reprimand
24-3-1737	1, 2, 8, 9, 5a7	CCE
24-3-1754	2, 9	Reprimand
24-3-1755	6, 9	5 days
24-3-1760	2, 9	90 days
24-3-1768	2, 4, 9	1 year

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<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATIONS</u>
24-3-1771	9	10 days
24-4-1781	2, 4, 9	90 days
24-4-1782	9	10 days
24-4-1787	1, 4, 9	1 year
24-4-1788	8, 9	90 days
24-4-1791	1, 9	CCE
24-4-1818	1,4,5a4,5a6,8,9	10 days
24-4-1851	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2022), 8,9	Reprimand
24-4-1868	7, 9	20 days
24-4-1870	2, 9	90 days
24-4-1912	9	90 days
24-5-1992	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2019-2022), 8,9	Reprimand
24-5-2130	1,4,5a6, 5a7 (2021-2022), 8,9	Reprimand

2. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 1 *Petitions Issue* and brought the following recommendation on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>PREVIOUS SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
24-5-1997	Denial - Aug 25, 2022	Grant

3. Vice-Chair Harris 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>
23-8-385	Reprimand	Accept
23-9-502	2 days	Accept
23-10-699	1 year	Accept
24-1-1358	Reprimand	Accept
24-2-1413	1 year	Accept
24-2-1440	Reprimand	Accept
24-2-1496	Reprimand	Accept
24-2-1513	5 days	Accept
24-2-1566	10 days	Accept
24-2-1567	Warning	Accept
24-2-1568	Reprimand	Accept
24-2-1587	Reprimand	Accept
24-3-1631	10 days	Accept
24-3-1655	Reprimand	Accept
24-3-1753	Reprimand	Accept

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<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
24-4-1831	Reprimand	Accept

4. Vice-Chair Harris reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 20 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
19-11-720	Reprimand	Accept
21-8-192	Reprimand	Accept
22-5-1493	Reprimand	Accept
23-2-1054	Reprimand	Accept
23-3-1215	NFA / NPC	Accept
23-4-1389	NFA / NPC	Accept
23-8-130	Reprimand	Accept
23-8-150	NFA / NPC	Accept
23-8-319	7 days	Accept
23-8-393	1 year	Accept
23-9-445	Reprimand	Accept
23-9-451	5 days	Accept
23-9-521	60 days	Accept
23-10-626	10 days	Accept
23-10-642	Reprimand	Accept
23-10-692	4 days	Accept
23-10-821	15 days	Accept
23-11-941	NFA / NPC	Accept
23-11-1014	27 days	Accept
23-12-1062	60 days	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>
NCO 22-11-674	1 year	Accept
24-1-1223	Urine sample which tested positive for cocaine.	1 year
23-8-304	No effective service.	Hold New App
23-8-412	Failure to respond.	Hold New App
23-9-552	No effective service.	Hold New App
23-12-1075	No effective service.	Hold New App
24-3-1670	No effective service.	Hold New App
24-2-1523	Additional information on criminal case.	NPC
24-2-1524	Additional information on criminal case.	NPC
24-2-1525	Additional information on criminal case.	NPC

<u>CASE</u>	<u>FINDINGS OF FACTS</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
24-2-1523	Additional information on criminal case.	NPC

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 120 new complaints received during the months of May and June 2024.

## 7. 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>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
22-5-1534	1, 2, 9	VS	Accept
24-4-1802	2, 4, 9	VS	Accept
24-4-1890	1, 5a7	Vol Denial	Accept
24-4-1904	1, 2, 9, 5a7	VS	Accept
24-4-1905	1, 2, 9, 5a7	VS	Accept

## 8. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 142 *Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations* consisting of the following:

24-5-2081	24-5-2110	24-5-2157	24-5-2176	24-5-2224	24-6-2278	24-6-2302	24-6-2320
24-5-2082	24-5-2111	24-5-2158	24-5-2177	24-5-2225	24-6-2279	24-6-2303	24-6-2321
24-5-2083	24-5-2112	24-5-2159	24-5-2178	24-5-2226	24-6-2280	24-6-2304	24-6-2322
24-5-2084	24-5-2142	24-5-2160	24-5-2179	24-5-2227	24-6-2282	24-6-2305	24-6-2323
24-5-2085	24-5-2143	24-5-2161	24-5-2180	24-5-2228	24-6-2287	24-6-2306	24-6-2324
24-5-2086	24-5-2144	24-5-2162	24-5-2181	24-6-2244	24-6-2289	24-6-2307	24-6-2325
24-5-2087	24-5-2145	24-5-2163	24-5-2182	24-6-2245	24-6-2290	24-6-2308	24-6-2326
24-5-2088	24-5-2146	24-5-2164	24-5-2183	24-6-2246	24-6-2291	24-6-2309	24-6-2327
24-5-2089	24-5-2147	24-5-2165	24-5-2184	24-6-2247	24-6-2292	24-6-2310	24-6-2328
24-5-2090	24-5-2148	24-5-2166	24-5-2185	24-6-2248	24-6-2293	24-6-2311	24-6-2329
24-5-2091	24-5-2149	24-5-2167	24-5-2186	24-6-2249	24-6-2294	24-6-2312	24-6-2330
24-5-2103	24-5-2150	24-5-2168	24-5-2187	24-6-2250	24-6-2295	24-6-2313	24-6-2331
24-5-2104	24-5-2151	24-5-2169	24-5-2188	24-6-2272	24-6-2296	24-6-2314	24-6-2332
24-5-2105	24-5-2152	24-5-2170	24-5-2189	24-6-2273	24-6-2297	24-6-2315	24-6-2333
24-5-2106	24-5-2153	24-5-2171	24-5-2190	24-6-2274	24-6-2298	24-6-2316	24-6-2334
24-5-2107	24-5-2154	24-5-2172	24-5-2191	24-6-2275	24-6-2299	24-6-2317	24-6-2335
24-5-2108	24-5-2155	24-5-2173	24-5-2201	24-6-2276	24-6-2300	24-6-2318	
24-5-2109	24-5-2156	24-5-2175	24-5-2204	24-6-2277	24-6-2301	24-6-2319	

## 9. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

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

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180 cases:

22-5-1513	23-10-794	23-12-1061	24-1-1276	24-2-1422	24-2-1535	24-3-1664	24-3-1747
23-2-1039	23-10-824	23-12-1078	24-1-1274	24-2-1441	24-2-1539	24-3-1671	24-3-1748
23-2-1090	23-10-826	23-12-1095	24-1-1316	24-2-1443	24-2-1550	24-3-1687	24-3-1750
23-3-1191	23-11-851	23-12-1089	24-1-1348	24-2-1469	24-2-1571	24-3-1686	24-3-1751
23-4-1308	23-11-864	23-12-1080	24-1-1350	24-2-1445	24-2-1577	24-3-1688	24-3-1777
23-4-1320	23-11-842	23-12-1082	24-1-1347	24-2-1446	24-2-1585	24-3-1734	24-4-1809
23-4-1428	23-11-879	23-12-1104	24-1-1362	24-2-1466	24-2-1584	24-3-1705	24-4-1826
23-4-1426	23-11-878	23-12-1101	24-1-1354	24-2-1462	24-3-1614	24-3-1698	24-4-1823
23-5-1593	23-11-876	23-12-1146	24-1-1369	24-2-1450	24-3-1623	24-3-1696	24-4-1810
23-5-1664	23-11-877	23-12-1170	24-1-1377	24-2-1447	24-3-1626	24-3-1711	24-4-1816
23-7-63	23-11-927	23-12-1177	24-1-1380	24-2-1512	24-3-1625	24-3-1724	24-4-1827
23-7-95	23-11-959	23-12-1174	24-1-1402	24-2-1476	24-3-1615	24-3-1702	24-4-1814
23-8-367	23-11-960	23-12-1171	24-1-1382	24-2-1519	24-3-1621	24-3-1713	24-4-1822
23-8-388	23-11-987	23-12-1175	24-1-1395	24-2-1477	24-3-1619	24-3-1723	24-4-1844
23-8-416	23-11-988	23-12-1191	24-1-1396	24-2-1478	24-3-1649	24-3-1695	24-4-1836
23-9-551	23-11-1002	23-12-1183	24-2-1421	24-2-1493	24-3-1634	24-3-1728	24-4-1839
23-10-635	23-11-1013	24-1-1217	24-2-1417	24-2-1511	24-3-1648	24-3-1712	24-4-1842
23-10-735	23-11-1031	24-1-1225	24-2-1424	24-2-1498	24-3-1637	24-3-1703	24-4-1835
23-10-739	23-11-1030	24-1-1231	24-2-1435	24-2-1483	24-3-1641	24-3-1741	24-4-1853
23-10-749	23-11-1033	24-1-1237	24-2-1425	24-2-1481	24-3-1650	24-3-1738	
23-10-730	23-11-1038	24-1-1239	24-2-1420	24-2-1533	24-3-1636	24-3-1742	
23-10-776	23-11-1053	24-1-1238	24-2-1418	24-2-1541	24-3-1640	24-3-1749	
23-10-779	23-12-1055	24-1-1254	24-2-1419	24-2-1540	24-3-1663	24-3-1746	

#### 10. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 11 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

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

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 11 case now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge.

#### 12. FINAL DECISIONS RENDERED BY AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to accept the ALJ's sanction on the following:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL SANCTION</u>	<u>ALJ SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
18-9-425	Revocation	Suspension of 3 years & \$500.00 fine	Accept

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

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

Abstentions: Derek Easterling-PIDs 24-5-2103, 24-5-2150, 24-5-2152, 24-5-2156, 24-5-2162, 24-5-2181, 24-5-



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2184, 24-5-2185, 24-5-2186, 24-5-2187, 24-5-2225, 24- 6-2277, 24-6-2319, PCEs 23-4-1426, 23-4-1428, 24-4-1938, Jeanine Bunn-PCA 23-11-851, Dr. Franklin Perry-PIDs 24-5-2109, 24-5-2110, 24-5-2111, Jimmy Atkins-PCEs 24-4-1778, 24-5-2116, Jordan Frobos 24-5-2161, Jane Rookard, PIDs 24-5-2176, 24-6-2177, 24-5-2178, 24-5-2179, 24-6-2316, PCEs 24-4-1798, 24-4-1799,

**B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee** did not meet in June.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Our next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, July 11, 2024, at 4 pm. We will meet remotely and the information will be posted on our website under Commission Information. The Educator Preparation and Certification Committee will meet on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at 4:00 pm. The Educator Ethics Review Committee will meet on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at 4:30 pm. Chair Sirmans called for the meeting to be adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved