

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Peachtree Street
DHR Board Room 29th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia
March 14, 2002

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, March 14, 2002, at 9 a.m.

Members Present

Tony Natson	John Culbreath	Kay Cribbs
Dottie McClain	Terri DeLoach	Amy Denty
Pamela Hertzog	Leon Hurley	Mary Gomez
Angela Finn	Sue Sehgal	Gary Walker
Janet Scott	Maria Miller	David Wallace

Members Absent

Vernon Payne
Pamela Thomas
Jacqueline (Gwenda) Johnson

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Culbreath called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and a moment of silence.

II. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Chairman Culbreath recognized the visitors.

- Gayle Wooten, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Margaret Copeland Elliott, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Debbie Cone, Leadership Institute
- Janie R. Carmichael, Butts County Schools
- Donald Drinniger, Douglas County
- Dianne Holt, Douglas County

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Culbreath called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (DeLoach/Hurley) To approve agenda.

ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Culbreath called for approval of the minutes from the February 14, 2002, Commission meeting.

MOTION: (Hurley/Natson) To approve the minutes.

ACTION: Approved

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Culbreath introduced Ms. Debbie Cone, Executive Director of the Leadership Institute and welcomed Commissioner Maria Miller back. Vernon Payne's wife's condition is improving.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ethics and Professional Conduct --Recommendations and Actions on Cases

Commissioner Janet Scott, Chair of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee, gave a preliminary review of the EPCC Cases.

1. Ms. Scott reported that the Committee reviewed 59 **Probable Cause** cases during its March 13, 2002, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

PC #	Case Number	PSC Action
1	01-10-783	Revocation
2	01-12-986	Revocation
3	01-12-1036 Applicant	Denial
4	01-12-1119	No Probable Cause
5	01-12-1153	Revocation
6	02-01-1238	No Probable Cause
7	01-10-729	Reprimand
8	02-01-1205	Reprimand

PC #	Case Number	PSC Action
9	01-11-916	Suspension for Six Months
10	01-11-929	Suspension for Six Months
11	01-12-1026	No Probable Cause
12	01-12-1109	Suspension for Six Months
13	01-12-1113	Suspension for Six Months
14	01-12-1116	Suspension for Six Months
15	02-01-1193	Reprimand
16	02-01-1194	Suspension for Three Months
17	02-01-1198	Suspension for Six Months
18	02-01-1284	Suspension for Six Months
19	02-02-1380	Suspension for Six Months
20	01-12-1030	Reprimand
21	01-11-865	No Probable Cause
22	01-12-1042	No Probable Cause
23	01-12-1122	No Probable Cause
24	02-01-1181	Revocation
25	02-01-1184	Suspension for One Month
26	02-01-1208	No Probable Cause
27	02-01-1209	No Probable Cause
28	02-01-1244	Reprimand
29	01-08-323	Extend Probable Cause Determination for Final 30 Days
30	01-10-614	No Probable Cause
31	01-10-749	Reprimand
32	01-11-809	Reprimand
33	01-11-826 Applicant	No Probable Cause
34	01-11-972	Revocation
35	01-12-992	No Probable Cause
36	01-12-1032 Applicant	Warning
37	01-12-1160 Applicant	No Probable Cause

PC #	Case Number	PSC Action
38	01-12-1174 Applicant	No Probable Cause
39	01-12-1175 Applicant	Warning
40	02-01-1186	Reprimand
41	02-01-1286 Applicant	Reprimand
42	01-12-1117	Suspension for One Week
43	02-01-1185	No Probable Cause
44	01-11-932	No Probable Cause
45	01-12-1038	No Probable Cause
46	01-12-1112	Suspension for One Year
47	01-12-1118	No Probable Cause
48	01-12-1157	No Probable Cause
49	01-12-1159	No Probable Cause
50	01-12-1166	No Probable Cause
51	01-12-1170	No Probable Cause
52	02-01-1189	No Probable Cause
53	02-01-1190	No Probable Cause
54	02-01-1192	No Probable Cause
55	01-12-1006	Revocation
56	02-01-1303	No Probable Cause
57	02-01-1303	No Probable Cause
58	01-11-928	Warning
59	01-10-655	Revocation

ACTION: Approved 58 cases.

Abstentions: Chair Case #26, 27; Cribbs Case #10

ACTION: Case #20.

MOTION: (Hertzog/Denty) To recommend reprimand.

ACTION: Approved, Opposed/Cribbs

2. Ms. Scott reported that the Committee reviewed three *Initial Decision* cases during its March 13, 2002, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

ID #	Case Number	PSC Action
1	00-2-965 & 01-5-1618	Accept
2	01-03-1253	Accept
3	01-03-1264	Accept

ACTION: Approved, Cases #1, 2
Cribbs Abstains Case #2

ACTION: Case #3

MOTION: (Cribbs/Denty) To accept initial decision

ACTION: Approved.

3. Ms. Scott reported that the Committee reviewed one *Petition/Certification Issue* during its March 13, 2002, meeting and brought the following recommendation on behalf of the Committee:

#	Case Number	PSC Action
1	01-12-1102	Grant

ACTION: Approved.

4. Ms. Scott reported that the Committee reviewed three *Petitions/Rule Waivers* during its March 13, 2002, meeting and brought the following recommendation on behalf of the Committee:

#	Case Number	PSC Action
1	00-9-425	Deny
2	01-09-484	Grant
3	01-06-1828	Deny

ACTION: Approved.

5. Ms. Scott reported that the Committee reviewed 13 *Settlement Agreement Consent Order/Voluntary Surrender* cases during its March 13, 2002, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

SA #	Case Number	PSC Action
1	01-08-342	Accept
2	01-09-463	Accept
3	01-09-483	Accept
4	01-10-697	Accept
5	01-10-736	Accept
6	01-10-793	Accept
7	01-11-832	Accept
8	01-11-859	Accept
9	01-11-864	Accept
10	01-11-926	Accept
11	01-11-951	Accept
12	01-11-976	Accept
13	01-12-988	Accept

ACTION: Approved 12 cases.

ACTION: Case #9.

MOTION: (Hurley/Miller) To accept reprimand.

ACTION: Approved

6. Ms. Scott reported that the Committee reviewed 3 *Negotiated Settlement Agreement* cases during its March 13, 2002, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

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SA #	Case Number	PSC Final Decision
1	01-04-1473	Accept
2	00-7-028	Accept

ACTION: Approved, Case #1.

The Commission recommended going into Executive Session to consult with Attorney Kendall Kerew Case #2, and Cases 01-5-1710, 00-10-540, which is pending litigation. Ethics Division staff members to remain.

MOTION: (Scott/Cribbs) To go into Executive Session.

ACTION: Approved

The Commission reconvened from Executive Session.

The Committee recommended the following:

MOTION: (Miller/Walker) To accept the negotiated proposal on Case #2.

ACTION: Approved

6. The Committee reviewed the **Preliminary Investigative Determination Report** consisting of 45 new complaints received during the month of **February and March**. The February/March 2001, complaint report was distributed listing the 45 cases that the committee members reviewed. 36 of 45 will be investigated.

ACTION: Approved unanimously

7. The Committee requested extensions on 99 cases so the investigations could be completed.

ACTION: Approved.

8. STUDENT LOAN SUSPENSION / REINSTATEMENTS

The committee reported 16 Student Loan Reinstatements.

9. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF RULE / LAW

The Committee reviewed the report, which advised of 11 cases by rule and one by law closed without an appeal.

10. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Committee reviewed 20 cases on the **Applications for Certification Report** and recommended approval for no probable cause findings on each case.

ACTION: Approved

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee Recommendations

Commissioner Janet Scott, Chair of the Educator Preparation Committee, gave the report of the Educator Preparation Committee.

1. Mercer University

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends approval of Mercer University's Progress Report.

MOTION: (Wallace/Sehgal) To accept the recommendation of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

ACTION: Approved

2. Georgia College and State University

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends approval of Georgia College and State University's Stipulation Report and that all stipulations be removed.

MOTION: (Walker/Sehgal) To accept the recommendation of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

ACTION: Approved

3. Kennesaw State University

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends approval of Kennesaw State University's Provisos Report and that all provisos be removed.

MOTION: (Gomez/Natson) To accept the recommendation of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

ACTION: Approved

4. Piedmont College

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation does not recommends approval of Piedmont College's Stipulation Report and that all stipulations be continued.

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MOTION: (Wallace/Gomez) To accept the recommendation of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

ACTION: Approved

5. Spelman College

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends approval of Spelman College's Stipulation Report and that all stipulations be continued.

MOTION: (Sehgal/Miller) To accept the recommendation of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

ACTION: Approved

Abstain: Gomez

6. Wesleyan College

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation does not recommends approval of Wesleyan College's Stipulation Report and that all stipulations be continued.

MOTION: (Wallace/Sehgal) To accept the recommendation of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

ACTION: Approved

7. Professional Standards Commission Technology Course Approvals

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation makes the following recommendations:

Clear Approvals

Cobb County School System

Fulton County Schools

Georgia Project for Assistive Technology

Georgia Southern University

Liberty County Schools

MOTION: (Sehgal/Miller) To accept the recommendation of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

ACTION: Approved

Approval with Stipulations: 3 month reporting period

Central Savannah River RESA

Chattahoochee-Flint RESA

Heart of Georgia RESA

Valdosta State University

Decatur City Schools

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Georgia GLOBE

MOTION: (Miller/Gomez) To accept the recommendation of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

ACTION: Approved

8. Professional Standards Commission Instructional Effectiveness Course Approvals

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation makes the following recommendations:

- Griffin RESA - Leadership for School Improvement - Approved with Stipulations
- Columbia County School System - Improving Instructional Effectiveness - Approved with Stipulations

VII. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

A. Initiation of Rules

1. The Commission proposed to amend Rule 505-2-.59 Early Childhood Education

The additions to this rule re-establish the existence of a Provisional certificate in the field of Early Childhood Education; delete the appropriate assessment(s) as a pre-requisite for the Early Childhood Education certificate; and, delete the provision of adding Early Childhood to an Elementary Certificate, due to the fact that the Elementary certificates are being phased-out.

MOTION: (Wallace/Walker) To initiate rulemaking to amend Rule 505-2-.59 and add 12 hours reading.

ACTION: Approved

2. The Commission proposed to amend Rule 505-2-.84 Middle Grades (4-8)

The additions to this rule are generated by the belief that the generic, teach anything in grades 4-8 is no longer in the best interest of our students. Additional content course work is needed for teacher preparation and subsequent assignments should follow only within those Area(s) of Concentration. Specifically, the changes to this rule: establish a fifth Middle Grades Area of Concentration in Reading; require 12 semester hours of content course work for each Area of Concentration; eliminate the assessment(s) as a pre-requisite for an Emergency certificate; and, through the In-Field Statement phase-in assignments only within Area(s) of Concentration over school years 2004-05 through 2006-07 and by 2006-07 require Areas for remedial work in grades 9-12.

MOTION: (Wallace/DeLoach) To initiate rulemaking to amend Rule 505-2-.84.

ACTION: Approved

3. The Commission proposed to amend 505-2-.100 Teaching Endorsements

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The additions to this rule, which identifies all teaching endorsements and establishes probationary requirements, simply add the newly created Endorsements to the list (and retroactively adds the Reading Endorsement, which was previously created).

MOTION: (Miller/Hurley) To initiate rulemaking to amend Rule 505-2-.100

ACTION: Approved

4. The Commission proposed to amend 505-2-.117 School Counseling

The intent of the changes to this rule are to accept the National Certified School Counselor (NCSC) credential issued by the National Board of Certified Counselors for initial Georgia certification, as well as, for renewal requirements for the School Counseling certificate.

MOTION: (Deloach/Wallace) To initiate rulemaking to amend Rule 505-2-.117

ACTION: Approved

5. The Commission proposed to amend 505-2-.119 School Psychology

The intent of the changes to this rule are to accept the Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) credential for initial Georgia certification, as well as, for renewal requirements for the School Psychology certificate.

MOTION: (Miller/Sehgal) To initiate rulemaking to amend Rule 505-2-.119

ACTION: Approved

6. The Commission proposed to initiate 505-2-.110 Middle Grades Endorsement

This proposed new rule creates an endorsement for secondary teaching certificates (7-12) which will enable certificate holders to be in-field in grades 4-8 within their base certificate area. Requirements for the Endorsement include 9 semester hours or the equivalent in staff development units in: Nature and curriculum needs of the middle grades learner; Teaching of Reading and Writing; and, a supervised practicum in grades 4-8 or one year of acceptable teaching experience in grades 4-8 while holding a valid state certificate in that field; or completion of a state-approved program in Middle Grades Endorsement.

MOTION: (Wallace/Cribbs) To initiate rulemaking to adopt Rule 505-2-.110

ACTION: Approved

7. The Commission proposed to initiate 505-2-.111 Early Childhood Mathematics Endorsement

This proposed new rule creates an endorsement for Early Childhood Mathematics. The standards/requirements for this endorsement will be built into state-approved programs. The endorsement is not required by PSC for those already holding Early Childhood certification, however it may be required by the local school system if deemed appropriate.

MOTION: (Hurley/Miller) To initiate rulemaking to adopt Rule 505-2-.111

ACTION: Approved

8. The Commission proposed to initiate 505-2-.112 Early Childhood Science Endorsement

This proposed new rule creates an endorsement for Early Childhood Science. The standards/requirements for this endorsement will be built into state-approved programs. The endorsement is not required by PSC for those already holding Early Childhood certification, however it may be required by the local school system if deemed appropriate.

MOTION: (Hurley/Miller) To initiate rulemaking to adopt Rule 505-2-.112

ACTION: Approved

9. The Commission proposed to amend 505-3-.17 Early Childhood Education Program

The additions to this rule are being recommended to strengthen the standards and requirements for Early Childhood Education preparation. The recommendation is that P-5 be retained as the certification area and that Early Childhood Education preparation be at the P-5 levels. The preparation standards are strengthened by combining the standards of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI). Specifically the combined standards emphasize the developmental appropriateness of the NAEYC standards and the content standards of the ACEI standards. In addition, the standards for the initial preparation of early childhood teachers in the teaching of reading is established at the endorsement level of proficiency in rule 505-3-.33 Reading Education.

MOTION: (Wallace/Denty) To initiate rulemaking to amend Rule 505-3-.17

ACTION: Approved

10. The Commission proposed to amend 505-3-.29 Middle Grades Education Program

The additions to this rule are being recommended to strengthen the standards and requirements for Middle Grades preparation. Reading is added as a fifth area of concentration in addition to 15 semester hours of content for each concentration area. In addition, the teaching of writing is added as a preparation standard. Presently, the preparation allows for four areas of concentration including mathematics, social sciences, science, and language arts with no designated amount of content hours. Only the teaching of reading is a requirement at the middle grades level.

MOTION: (Walker/Miller) To initiate rulemaking to amend Rule 505-3-.29

ACTION: Approved

11. The Commission amended 505-3-.33 Reading Education Program

The change to this rule is being recommended to strengthen the standards and requirements for Reading Education preparation. Basic knowledge, skills and dispositions for teaching reading in a classroom setting is made explicit in the reading endorsement so that the reading standards may be incorporated as standards for the initial preparation of early childhood education and middle grades.

MOTION: (Wallace/Walker) To initiate rulemaking to amend Rule 505-3-.33 to change the Level of Proficiency from A to B on Page Two of Table as submitted.

ACTION: Approved

12. The Commission proposed to initiate 505-3-.45 Middle Grades Endorsement Program

This proposed new rule specifies the standards and requirements for Middle Grades Endorsement preparation. Currently, secondary teachers can add middle grades certification by completing a course in the nature and needs of the middle school child, the teaching of reading, methods of teaching middle grades and a practicum. The addition of the endorsement recognizes the additional preparation that is specific for the middle grades child.

MOTION: (Miller/Walker) To initiate rulemaking to adopt Rule 505-3-.45

ACTION: Approved

13. The Commission proposed to initiate 505-3-.08 Requirements and Standards for Training Pre-Candidates, Candidates and Facilitators in Georgia's National Board Certified Teachers Program

This is a proposed new rule. Recent and historical research point to the quality of educators, and particularly of teachers, as the largest single factor influencing student learning. Evidence indicates that instruction provided by National Board Certified Teachers (NBCT) results in improved student learning. High-quality National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Pre-Candidate and Candidate Activities can be essential in facilitating the development of NBCTs and can result in improved student learning in Georgia public schools. The proposed standards are intended to be used by educators and other trainers to design, implement, and evaluate quality training and coaching activities for PSC-approved Pre-Candidate, Candidate, and Facilitator Development Activities for educators seeking state or state-managed subsidies for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification process.

The standards for Georgia's National Board Certified Teachers Program's Pre-Candidate, Candidate and Facilitator Development Activities are grouped into three categories of National Staff Development Council's (NSDC) Standards for Staff Development and incorporate the Standards for NBPTS' Five Core Propositions. The standards articulate the kind of research and practice necessary to design programs that achieve results. Also, the NSDC and NBPTS standards clarify the kind of professional development activities that would benefit all educators who are exploring National Board certification.

MOTION: (Cribbs/McClain) To initiate rulemaking to adopt Rule 505-3-.08

ACTION: Approved; Hurley Opposed

14. The Commission proposed to initiate 505-3-.49 Early Childhood Mathematics Endorsement Program

This proposed new rule is being recommended to complement the mathematics content for Early Childhood Education preparation in Rule 505-3-.17. The intent is to strengthen the mathematics content offered in the initial

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preparation program for early childhood education and provide a thorough grounding in appropriate mathematics content, particularly for the 4-5 grade levels. The endorsement certificate granted as a result of completing the approved program will provide recognition of additional preparation in the content area.

MOTION: (Walker/Miller) To initiate rulemaking to adopt Rule 505-3-.49

ACTION: Approved

15. The Commission proposed to initiate 505-3-.50 Early Childhood Science Endorsement Program

This proposed new rule is being recommended to complement the science content for Early Childhood Education preparation in Rule 505-3-.17. The intent is to strengthen the science content offered in the initial preparation program for early childhood education and provide a thorough grounding in appropriate science content, particularly for the 4-5 grade levels. The endorsement certificate granted as a result of completing the approved program will provide recognition of additional preparation in the content area.

MOTION: (DeLoach/Miller) To initiate rulemaking to adopt Rule 505-3-.50

ACTION: Approved

B. The Commission considered a one-year extension for Agnes Scott College with the on-site review scheduled for the fall of 2003. The Department of Education must continue to provide quarterly reports to the PSC based on the Remediation Plan filed in response to its provisional approval status.

MOTION: (Cribbs/Wallace) To approve one-year extension for Agnes Scott College

ACTION: Approved

C. Governor Barnes received a very good reception at our Teachers Are Leaders: The Georgia Institute for National Board Certified Teachers Conference, held on March 8, 9 at the Westin. Cyndy Stephens, Gail Sherer and the Teacher Workforce Staff did an excellent job.

D. Dr. Toth recognized Mr. Phil Blackwell for an outstanding job of relocation the Agency.

E. Dr. Toth discussed:

- Legislative Changes (See attached)
- Budget Issues
- Ethics Video
- Next months meeting at St. Simons Island
- Leadership Institute

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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MOTION: (Miller/Gomez) To adjourn the meeting.

ACTION: The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.