

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Remote Meeting via ZOOM Webinar

October 10, 2024

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, October 10, 2024.

Members Present

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

Members Absent

Jeanine Bunn	Vonda Woodall
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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: (Dr. Holley Roberts / Nathan Lewis) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the September 12, 2024 minutes.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Matt Arthur spoke about the devastation that Hurricane Helene caused and how school systems were dealing with it. He acknowledged those Commissioners whose schools were impacted and thanked them for their relief efforts.

VI. RULES INITIATION

Anne Marie Fenton presented the rules for initiation that were previewed during the September 12th Commission meeting. If initiated today, the rules will be posted for a 30 day public comment period and then

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come back to the Commission for adoption consideration at the December 12th Commission meeting, with an effective date of January 1, 2025. She asked if Commissioners had any questions or comments. Hearing none, the Chair proceeded with the motion.

MOTION: (Jane Rookard / Dr. Holley Roberts) 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, (4) initiate 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

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.

1. Chair Harris reported that the Committee reviewed 46 ***Probable Cause*** cases during the October 9, 2024, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
24-5-2230	5a2,5a6	NPC
24-7-49	1,4,5a6	Reprimand
24-7-73	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2009-2022),8,9	Deny
24-7-124	1,5a6	Reprimand
24-7-147	1,5a6	Reprimand
24-8-203	1,5a6	NPC
24-8-221	1,4,5a6, 5a7 (2022)	Reprimand
24-8-228	1,5a6	Deny
24-8-257	1,5a6	NPC
24-8-285	1,5a6	NPC
24-8-313	1, 4, 5a6	Deny
24-8-353	4,5a2,5a6	Deny
23-12-1101	1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 5a2, 5a5	Revoke
23-12-1174	4,5a6,8,9	Revoke
24-2-1483	1,4,5a6,8,9	Reprimand
24-2-1511	9	NPC
24-2-1533	1, 2, 4, 9	Suspension 10 Days
24-2-1512	9	Suspension 90 Days
24-3-1767	6, 9	Suspension 20 days
24-4-1801	9	Suspension 90 Days
24-4-1899	8, 9, 5a4	Reprimand

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
24-5-2042	9	Suspension 5 days
24-5-2145	9	Suspension 90 Days
24-5-2160	2, 4, 9	Suspension 10 Days
24-5-2170	9, 5a6	Suspension 10 days
24-5-2226	2,9	Suspension 5 days
24-6-2292	3, 9	Suspension 90 days
24-6-2317	1, 2, 9	Reprimand
24-6-2320	5, 9	Suspension 10 days
24-6-2327	4,9	Suspension 1 Year
24-6-2328	3,9	Suspension 1 Year
24-6-2335	2,9	CCE
24-6-2344	2, 9	Suspension 10 days
24-6-2352	4, 9	Suspension 90 Days
24-6-2382	9	Suspension 10 Days
24-6-2388	9	NPC
24-6-2395	2, 9	Suspension 10 days
24-6-2406	9	NPC
24-6-2434	7,9	Suspension 90 days
24-6-2443	9, 10	NPC
24-7-47	9, 5a4, 5a6	Revoke
24-7-96	1, 4, 9	NPC
24-7-104	9	Suspension 90 Days
24-8-187	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2018-2022),8,9	Suspension 20 days
24-8-292	5a2,5a6	NPC
24-8-309	1,4,5a6,5a7 (2015-2022),8,9	NPC

2. Chair Harris reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 5 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
23-11-1031	Suspension 10 days	Accept
23-12-1055	Suspension 10 days	Accept
24-4-1924	Suspension 90 days	Accept
24-5-2217	Reprimand	Accept
24-6-2331	Reprimand	Accept

3. Chair Harris 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>
23-1-861	NFA or NPC	NPC

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
23-4-1435	Reprimand	Accept
23-6-1774	20 days	Accept
23-9-531	NFA or NPC	NFA
23-9-584	NFA	NPC
=23-9-602	Warning	Accept
24-1-1339	5 days	Reject
24-5-2203	NFA or NPC	NPC

4. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the ***Preliminary Investigative Determination Report*** consisting of 102 new complaints received during the months of September and October 2024.

5. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the ***Voluntary Surrender*** 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>
23-10-810	1, 2, 4, 9	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

6. **EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 56 ***Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations*** consisting of the following:

24-9-499	24-9-506	24-10-514	24-10-544	24-10-551	24-10-558	24-10-565	24-10-572
24-9-500	24-9-507	24-10-515	24-10-545	24-10-552	24-10-559	24-10-566	24-10-573
24-9-501	24-9-508	24-10-516	24-10-546	24-10-553	24-10-560	24-10-567	24-10-574
24-9-502	24-9-510	24-10-540	24-10-547	24-10-554	24-10-561	24-10-568	24-10-575
24-9-503	24-9-511	24-10-541	24-10-548	24-10-555	24-10-562	24-10-569	24-10-576
24-9-504	24-9-512	24-10-542	24-10-549	24-10-556	24-10-563	24-10-570	24-10-577
24-9-505	24-9-513	24-10-543	24-10-550	24-10-557	24-10-564	24-10-571	24-10-578

7. **EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an ***Investigative Extension*** to the following 216 cases:

22-5-1513	24-2-1420	24-3-1711	24-4-1891	24-5-2037	24-5-2180	24-6-2319	24-6-2440
23-2-1039	24-2-1435	24-3-1712	24-4-1893	24-5-2040	24-5-2183	24-6-2332	24-7-8
23-2-1090	24-2-1446	24-3-1713	24-4-1898	24-5-2045	24-5-2190	24-6-2333	24-7-9
23-3-1191	24-2-1450	24-3-1723	24-4-1901	24-5-2052	24-5-2199	24-6-2339	24-7-24
23-4-1308	24-2-1462	24-3-1724	24-4-1903	24-5-2057	24-5-2201	24-6-2340	24-7-31
23-4-1320	24-2-1466	24-3-1728	24-4-1909	24-5-2062	24-5-2213	24-6-2348	24-7-36
23-5-1593	24-2-1476	24-3-1734	24-4-1916	24-5-2063	24-5-2214	24-6-2349	24-7-66

23-8-367	24-2-1477	24-3-1758	24-4-1932	24-5-2064	24-5-2218	24-6-2350	24-7-69
23-8-388	24-2-1481	24-3-1763	24-4-1935	24-5-2065	24-5-2220	24-6-2351	24-7-71
23-8-416	24-2-1498	24-3-1772	24-4-1937	24-5-2067	24-5-2223	24-6-2355	24-7-75
23-9-551	24-2-1519	24-3-1773	24-4-1941	24-5-2069	24-5-2228	24-6-2368	24-7-80
23-10-730	24-2-1535	24-3-1774	24-4-1948	24-5-2080	24-5-2236	24-6-2371	24-7-82
23-10-824	24-2-1571	24-4-1779	24-4-1953	24-5-2092	24-5-2237	24-6-2374	24-7-83
23-11-1002	24-2-1577	24-4-1780	24-4-1962	24-5-2096	24-6-2246	24-6-2377	24-7-118
23-12-1080	24-3-1615	24-4-1795	24-4-1969	24-5-2100	24-6-2262	24-6-2385	24-7-120
23-12-1089	24-3-1621	24-4-1803	24-5-1983	24-5-2102	24-6-2263	24-6-2398	24-7-125
24-1-1217	24-3-1623	24-4-1809	24-5-1998	24-5-2113	24-6-2273	24-6-2405	24-7-127
24-1-1254	24-3-1625	24-4-1814	24-5-2002	24-5-2125	24-6-2280	24-6-2415	24-7-128
24-1-1274	24-3-1637	24-4-1816	24-5-2003	24-5-2129	24-6-2281	24-6-2416	24-7-134
24-1-1276	24-3-1648	24-4-1822	24-5-2016	24-5-2140	24-6-2284	24-6-2417	24-7-142
24-1-1316	24-3-1663	24-4-1836	24-5-2017	24-5-2142	24-6-2290	24-6-2419	24-7-144
24-1-1377	24-3-1664	24-4-1844	24-5-2018	24-5-2144	24-6-2292	24-6-2421	24-7-151
24-1-1380	24-3-1671	24-4-1852	24-5-2022	24-5-2147	24-6-2299	24-6-2427	24-7-155
24-1-1382	24-3-1687	24-4-1853	24-5-2025	24-5-2155	24-6-2305	24-6-2429	24-7-156
24-1-1395	24-3-1688	24-4-1864	24-5-2027	24-5-2168	24-6-2313	24-6-2430	24-8-161
24-1-1396	24-3-1695	24-4-1867	24-5-2028	24-5-2169	24-6-2316	24-6-2437	24-8-162
24-1-1402	24-3-1696	24-4-1882	24-5-2029	24-5-2175	24-6-2318	24-6-2439	24-8-183

8. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 31 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

9. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 21 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge.

10. 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>
23-9-593	Suspension 90 days	NPC	Accept

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

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstentions: Derek Easterling-PIDs 24-8-279, 24-8-347, PCA 24-5-2226, PCE 24-5-2170, 24-6-2292, 24-5-2160, Jimmy Atkins-24-9-375, 24-9-486, 24-9-488, PCA 24-8-313, Abigail Coggin-PID 24-8-277, Jane Rookard-NCO-24-1-1339

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

Committee Chair, Dr. Holley Roberts, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

1. Bibb County School District – As a result of incremental progress evident in the May 9, 2024, Progress Report, the Committee recommends the stipulations remain in Standard 5.1 and Standard 5.3 for the EPP, and that the areas for improvement (AFIs) remain in Standard 1.1 for the Gifted In-Field, Reading, and Teacher Support and Coaching Endorsements. The Committee recommends the submission of a progress report due October 9, 2025, addressing the remaining stipulations and AFIs. The progress report should identify key assessments, and include data from these key assessments. The progress report should provide evidence of the analysis of data from key assessments to demonstrate how the EPP uses data to inform operational effectiveness. The progress report should demonstrate how key assessments align to the TAPS standards, and how the EPP assures candidates demonstrate application of the TAPS standards in the three aforementioned endorsement programs.
2. Brewton-Parker College – As a result of satisfactory progress evident in the July 19, 2024, Progress Report, the Committee recommends the AFIs be removed in Standard 4.1 and Standard 5.2 for the EPP.
3. Pioneer RESA – As a result of satisfactory progress evident in the August 13, 2024, Progress Report, the Committee recommends the following AFIs be removed for the EPP.

Teaching

- Standard 3.2
- Standard 4.1
- Standard 5.1
- Standard 5.2
- Standard 5.3
- Standard 5.4

Service/Leadership

- Standard 3.3
- Standard 4.1
- Standard 4.2

In addition, as a result of satisfactory progress evident in the August 13, 2024, Progress Report, the Committee recommends the following AFIs be removed for the Alternative Preparation for Tier I Educational Leadership and GaTAPP programs, as well as the ESOL Endorsement.

Alternative Preparation for Tier I Educational Leadership

- Standard 1.1
- Standard 1.2
- Standard 6.7

GaTAPP Program

- Standard 1.1
- Standard 1.2
- Standard 1.3
- Standard 1.4
- Standard 6.2
- Standard 6.4

- Standard 6.5
- Standard 6.6
- Standard 6.10

ESOL Endorsement

- Standard 1.1
- Standard 1.2
- Standard 1.3
- Standard 1.4

As a result of incremental progress evident in the August 13, 2024, Progress Report, the Committee recommends the AFIs remain in Standard 1.1, Standard 1.2, and Standard 1.3 for the Gifted In-field Endorsement.

As a result of incremental progress evident in the August 13, 2024, Progress Report, the Committee recommends that all Not Met standards cited during the Spring 2023 Continuing Approval Review be reclassified as Met.

The Committee recommends the submission of a progress report due April 10, 2025, addressing the remaining AFIs in the Gifted In-field Endorsement. The progress report should provide evidence of candidate performance. The EPP should provide evidence that candidates in the Gifted In-field Endorsement know their content and are able to apply the content. The progress report should provide evidence for how the EPP assures candidates in the Gifted In-field Endorsement are able to assess, plan for instruction, and utilize a variety of instructional strategies to engage and improve learning for students.

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the Educator Preparation and Certification Committee report as presented by Dr. Holley Roberts.

PSC ACTION: Approved
Abstentions – Dr. Jennifer Wade-Pioneer RESA

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Our next Commission meeting will be held in-person on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 10 am. We will meet remotely and the information will be posted on our website under Commission Information. The Educator Ethics Review Committee will meet at 4:30 pm and Educator Preparation and Certification Committee will meet at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, November 13, 2024. Chair Sirmans called for the meeting to be adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved