

# MINUTES

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

### Remote Meeting via TEAMS Platform

February 11, 2021

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, February 11, 2021.

#### **Members Present**

Jimmy Atkins	Barbara Ellingson	Teri Schneider
Dr. Steve Barker	Jordan Frobos	Dr. Brandon Seigler
Jeanine Bunn	Dr. Karla Hull	Brian Sirmans
Abigail Coggin	Diane McClearen	Beth Townsend
Daniel Dooley	Dr. Franklin Perry	Dr. Jennifer Wade
Derek Easterling	Dr. Holley Roberts	Carol Williams

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Sirmans called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

#### **II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the agenda.

**MOTION:** (Teri Schneider / Derek Easterling) To approve the agenda.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

#### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the minutes from the January 14, 2021, Commission meeting.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

#### **IV. VISITORS**

Chair Sirmans welcomed the visitors.

#### **V. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT**

Executive Secretary, Matt Arthur, gave a legislative update. He congratulated Abigail Coggin on her new role as 2021 chairwoman of the Newton County Board of Education. The board unanimously voted to appoint her in this role on January 19<sup>th</sup>. She will serve through the school board's January 2022 meetings. He introduced David Pumphrey, Chief Investigator, who gave a presentation on how a case makes it way to the Commission. David also serves on the NASDTEC Professional Practices Committee as the Southern Region representative.

#### **VI. CHAIR REPORT**

Last month we met members of the Educator Ethics staff. Today we are going to meet 3 members from Administration - Anne Marie Fenton, Director of Rules Management and Educator Assessment, Chuck

McCampbell, Chief Information Officer and Kristina Stroede, Director of Management and Business Operations.

## **VII. RULES PREVIEW**

Anne Marie Fenton previewed the rules for Commissioners. Commissioners had no questions regarding the rules previewed. A motion was not needed for the Rules Preview. These rules will come before Commissioners in March for their consideration to initiate.

## **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

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

1. Chair Townsend reported that the Committee reviewed 44 ***Probable Cause*** cases during February 10, 2021, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

<b><u>CASE</u></b>	<b><u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u></b>	<b><u>RECOMMENDATION</u></b>
20-7-92	5a7	Reprimand
20-8-207	1,5a7	Reprimand
20-9-275	4,5a5,5a7	Deny
20-9-297	1, 4, 9, 5a7	Reprimand
20-9-299	1	Reprimand
20-9-300	1,4,5a7	Reprimand
20-10-330	1,4,5a7	NPC
20-10-348	1,5a7	Reprimand
20-10-401	5a2,5a7	Reprimand
20-11-429	1,4,5a7	NPC
20-12-520	1,5a7	Reprimand
19-10-516	1, 4, 8, 9, 5a7	Suspension 2 years
19-10-517	3, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
20-1-1108	5, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
20-2-1175	9	Suspension 1 year
20-2-1234	4, 9, 5a7	Suspension 90 days
20-2-1239	4, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
20-6-1638	4, 9, 5a7	Reprimand
20-6-1639	4, 9, 5a7	Reprimand
20-8-159	1,4,5a7,8,9	NPC
20-10-366	1, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
20-10-376	3 9, 5a7	NPC
20-10-386	2, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
20-11-417	4, 9, 5a7	Suspension 90 days
20-11-418	1, 2, 9, 5a7	Extend pending

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
		criminal outcome
20-11-422	5, 6, 9, 5a7	Reprimand
20-11-424	2, 9	Suspension 5 days
20-11-425	9	Suspension 90 days
20-11-447	3, 9, 5a7	NPC
20-11-448	3, 9, 5a7	NPC
20-11-449	9	NPC
20-11-450	9	NPC
20-11-454	1,2,9,5a7	Revoke
20-11-455	9	Suspension 90 days
20-11-460	5a2,5a5,5a7	Revoke
20-11-467	4,9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
20-11-470	2, 9, 5a7	Suspension 5 days
20-11-474	2,9,5a7	NPC
20-11-490	8,9,5a7	NPC
20-11-500	1, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
20-11-505	1, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
20-12-531	2, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
20-12-555	9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
20-12-565	1,4,5a7,8,9	NPC

2. Chair Townsend 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>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
20-11-484	Denial	Grant
20-11-503	Revocation	Grant

3. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 9 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
19-4-1451	Suspension 1 year	Accept
19-6-1929	Suspension 20 days	Accept
20-1-1008	Suspension 5 days	Accept
20-1-1009	Suspension 5 days	Accept
20-9-257	Reprimand	Accept
20-9-273	Reprimand	Accept
20-10-324	Reprimand	Accept
20-10-400	Reprimand	Accept
20-11-491	Reprimand	Accept

4. Chair Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 3 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
19-3-1197	Suspension 2 years	<b>Accept</b>
19-9-433	Reprimand	<b>Accept</b>
20-5-1583	Suspension 1 year 5 days	<b>Accept</b>

#### 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 19-4-1543	Administrative Close	Admin Close
19-10-505	Expand current investigation	Expand
20-9-241	Expand current investigation	Expand
20-12-552	Expand current investigation	Expand
19-5-1696	Failure to respond.	Hold New App
20-1-931	Failed to provide requested documents.	Hold New App
20-1-980	Failure to respond.	Hold New App
20-10-378	Failure to respond.	Hold New App
20-11-435	Failure to respond.	Hold New App

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 44 new complaints received during the months of January and February 2021

#### 7. VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS

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 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>
20-12-515	2, 9, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
20-12-557	1, 2, 9, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

#### 8. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 37 *Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations* consisting of the following:

21-1-638	21-1-644	21-1-649	21-2-654	21-2-659	21-2-690	21-2-696	21-2-707
21-1-639	21-1-645	21-1-650	21-2-655	21-2-663	21-2-691	21-2-699	21-2-708

21-1-641	21-1-646	21-1-651	21-2-656	21-2-664	21-2-692	21-2-700	
21-1-642	21-1-647	21-1-652	21-2-657	21-2-676	21-2-693	21-2-701	
21-1-643	21-1-648	21-1-653	21-2-658	21-2-689	21-2-694	21-2-702	

## 9. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 377 cases:

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
19-1-946	19-7-95	19-10-672	20-3-1325	20-5-1558	20-7-50	20-9-228	20-10-404
19-1-961	19-7-97	19-10-674	20-3-1326	20-5-1561	20-7-54	20-9-231	20-10-406
19-1-963	19-7-98	19-10-683	20-3-1329	20-5-1562	20-7-56	20-9-241	20-10-408
19-2-1073	19-7-100	19-10-689	20-3-1330	20-5-1567	20-7-57	20-9-244	20-11-426
19-2-1106	19-7-102	19-11-752	20-3-1331	20-5-1571	20-7-59	20-9-259	20-11-427
19-3-1244	19-7-103	19-11-800	20-3-1333	20-5-1572	20-7-62	20-9-261	20-11-431
19-3-1277	19-7-105	19-12-851	20-3-1335	20-5-1575	20-7-66	20-9-276	20-11-434
19-3-1287	19-7-106	19-12-855	20-3-1337	20-5-1576	20-7-67	20-9-284	20-11-437
19-4-1400	19-7-107	19-12-857	20-3-1338	20-5-1578	20-7-68	20-9-285	20-11-438
19-4-1402	19-7-128	19-12-867	20-3-1354	20-5-1579	20-7-69	20-9-286	20-11-439
19-4-1545	19-7-138	20-1-924	20-3-1356	20-5-1582	20-7-70	20-9-287	20-11-440
19-5-1613	19-7-140	20-1-939	20-3-1370	20-5-1585	20-7-71	20-10-306	20-11-441
19-5-1616	19-7-142	20-1-940	20-3-1376	20-5-1587	20-7-75	20-10-308	20-11-442
19-5-1620	19-7-144	20-1-1021	20-3-1379	20-5-1588	20-7-81	20-10-320	20-11-443
19-5-1695	19-7-154	20-1-1022	20-3-1380	20-5-1590	20-7-83	20-10-323	20-11-444
19-5-1700	19-8-194	20-1-1023	20-3-1384	20-5-1594	20-7-89	20-10-331	20-11-452
19-5-1701	19-8-213	20-1-1047	20-3-1386	20-5-1597	20-7-94	20-10-335	20-11-471
19-6-1814	19-8-219	20-1-1057	20-3-1387	20-5-1598	20-7-95	20-10-336	20-11-473
19-6-1815	19-8-242	20-1-1060	20-3-1411	20-5-1601	20-7-96	20-10-337	20-11-475
19-6-1818	19-8-258	20-1-1061	20-3-1413	20-5-1602	20-7-97	20-10-338	20-11-477
19-6-1821	19-8-259	20-1-1062	20-3-1417	20-5-1604	20-7-98	20-10-339	20-11-478
19-6-1872	19-8-309	20-1-1066	20-3-1420	20-6-1620	20-7-99	20-10-340	20-11-479
19-6-1875	19-9-375	20-1-1069	20-3-1424	20-6-1621	20-7-100	20-10-341	20-11-480
19-6-1878	19-9-376	20-1-1074	20-3-1425	20-6-1636	20-7-101	20-10-342	20-11-481
19-6-1886	19-9-381	20-1-1080	20-4-1430	20-6-1675	20-7-104	20-10-343	20-11-482
19-6-1887	19-9-383	20-1-1081	20-4-1447	20-6-1677	20-8-117	20-10-344	20-11-483
19-6-1889	19-9-390	20-1-1083	20-4-1449	20-6-1692	20-8-119	20-10-346	20-11-487
19-6-1890	19-9-392	20-1-1086	20-4-1450	20-6-1695	20-8-141	20-10-347	20-11-493
19-6-1891	19-9-400	20-1-1089	20-4-1453	20-6-1698	20-8-150	20-10-352	20-11-495
19-6-1896	19-9-407	20-1-1090	20-4-1454	20-6-1702	20-8-153	20-10-353	20-11-496
19-6-1897	19-9-447	20-1-1091	20-4-1455	20-6-1705	20-8-154	20-10-356	20-11-497
19-6-1898	19-9-450	20-1-1096	20-4-1464	20-6-1706	20-8-172	20-10-357	20-11-498
19-6-1899	19-9-461	20-1-1103	20-4-1465	20-6-1707	20-8-177	20-10-360	20-11-499
19-6-1900	19-9-464	20-1-1105	20-4-1467	20-6-1708	20-8-178	20-10-361	20-11-509
19-6-1903	19-9-488	20-1-1107	20-4-1468	20-6-1719	20-8-179	20-10-364	20-11-510
19-6-1906	19-9-499	20-2-1178	20-4-1469	20-6-1722	20-8-180	20-10-365	20-11-511
19-6-1908	19-9-502	20-2-1179	20-4-1473	20-7-6	20-8-182	20-10-371	20-12-519
19-6-1915	19-10-505	20-2-1245	20-5-1488	20-7-17	20-8-183	20-10-372	20-12-521

<b>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</b>							
19-6-1922	19-10-533	20-2-1250	20-5-1506	20-7-27	20-8-184	20-10-374	20-12-522
19-6-1931	19-10-534	20-2-1254	20-5-1514	20-7-36	20-8-185	20-10-379	20-12-523
19-7-56	19-10-545	20-2-1261	20-5-1519	20-7-37	20-8-190	20-10-381	20-12-524
19-7-71	19-10-557	20-3-1313	20-5-1521	20-7-41	20-8-191	20-10-382	
19-7-72	19-10-589	20-3-1315	20-5-1534	20-7-44	20-8-193	20-10-383	
19-7-87	19-10-596	20-3-1316	20-5-1535	20-7-45	20-8-195	20-10-393	
19-7-90	19-10-597	20-3-1318	20-5-1546	20-7-46	20-8-196	20-10-396	
19-7-92	19-10-609	20-3-1319	20-5-1551	20-7-47	20-8-198	20-10-397	
19-7-93	19-10-657	20-3-1321	20-5-1556	20-7-48	20-9-215	20-10-402	
19-7-94	19-10-661	20-3-1322	20-5-1557	20-7-49	20-9-222	20-10-403	

#### 10. **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*.

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

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 20 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge.

#### 12. **FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW**

The Commission reviewed the *Final Decision* report shown below:

<b><u>CASE</u></b>	<b><u>ORIGINAL SANCTION</u></b>	<b><u>ALI SANCTION</u></b>	<b><u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u></b>
18-6-1667	Suspension 1 year	NPC	<b>Accept</b>
18-10-528	Reprimand	Reprimand	<b>Accept</b>
19-8-345	Suspension 90 days	Suspension 90 days	<b>Accept</b>
20-3-1400	Denial	Grant	<b>Accept</b>

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Chair, Beth Townsend.

#### **PSC ACTION:**

Abstentions: Derek Easterling-PID-21-1-586, PCE-20-11-505, Jennifer Wade-PCE-20-6-1639, Beth Townsend-PCEs-20-6-1638, 19-10-517, Abigail Coggin-NCO-19-3-1197, Barbara Ellingson-PID-21-1-620, Jeanine Bunn-PIDs-21-1-594 thru 21-1-601, 21-1-604, 21-1-624, 21-1-625, PCE-20-2-1175, Jimmy Atkinfs-PCE-20-11-467

#### **B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee**

Committee Chair, Diane McClearn, presented the report of the Educator Preparation/Certification Committee.

Educator Preparation and Certification Committee Report February 10, 2021		
	EPP	February 2021 Detailed Approval Recommendations
1.	<b>Young Harris College</b>	The Committee recommends granting the request for deferral of the Spring 2022 Continuing Approval Review until Spring 2023.
2.	<b>Middle Georgia RESA</b>	The Committee recommends Developmental Approval of the Personalized Learning Endorsement.

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the Educator Preparation/Certification report as presented by Chair Diane McClearen.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Our next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, at 4 pm. We will meet remotely and the information will be posted on our website under Commission Information. The Educator Ethics Review Committee and Educator Preparation/Certification Standing Committee meeting will meet on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 pm. Chair Sirmans called for the meeting to be adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved