

# MINUTES

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Peachtree Street  
29<sup>th</sup> Floor DHR Boardroom

Atlanta, Georgia

June 9, 2005

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, June 9, 2005, at 9 a.m.

### Members Present

Stephen Dartt  
Terri DeLoach  
Amy Denty  
Jean Ebron  
Mary Gomez

Carolyn Lee Hart  
Maria Miller  
Lee Muns  
Dr. Mary Outlaw  
Dr. Holly Robinson

Dr. Craig Smith  
Sandra Thompson  
Dr. Wanda West  
Dr. Debbie Wilkes

### Members Absent

Dr. Louisa Moffitt  
Gary Bechtel

Bo Slack

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

Chair DeLoach called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and a moment of silence.

### **II. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Chair DeLoach recognized the visitors.

- Margaret Elliott, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Gayle Wooten, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Dr. Lori Ward-Rogers
- Michelle Pollok, Georgia Association of Educators
- John Hooper, Georgia School Superintendents Association

### **III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Chair DeLoach called for approval of the agenda.

**MOTION:** (Muns / Thompson) To approve the agenda.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

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

Chair DeLoach called for approval of the minutes from the May 12, 2005, Commission meeting.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

## V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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

1. Ms. Miller reported that the Committee reviewed 38 *Probable Cause* cases during its June 8, 2005, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

#	CASE NUMBER	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
1	04-10-551	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation
2	04-11-696	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct Criminal Acts	Revocation
3	05-01-1029	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension - Three Months
4	05-03-1485	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension - Three Years
5	05-03-1503	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation
6	05-03-1505	Confidential Information Professional Conduct	Reprimand
7	05-02-1212	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Denial
8	05-03-1377	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Revocation
9	05-03-1427	Criminal Acts Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct	Suspension - Six Months
10	05-03-1475	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Suspension - One Month
11	05-03-1492	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
12	05-05-1587	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Suspension - Two Months
13	05-01-915	Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report	Warning
14	05-01-966	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct Criminal Acts	Warning

#	CASE NUMBER	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
15	05-01-978	Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	Warning
16	05-01-1093	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Suspension - Three Years
17	05-02-1118	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Suspension - Three Years
18	05-02-1122	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Warning
19	05-02-1279	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
20	05-02-1283	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Reprimand
21	05-02-1290	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension - One Year
22	05-02-1295	Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct Action Taken Against an out-of-state Certificate	Revocation
23	05-03-1440	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	Suspension - Three Months
24	05-03-1453	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension - Six Months
25	05-03-1472	<del>Misrepresentation or Falsification</del> Professional Conduct	Reprimand
26	05-02-1292	Professional Conduct Misrepresentation or Falsification	Reprimand
27	05-03-1444	Professional Conduct	Suspension - One Month
28	05-03-1446	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
29	05-03-1447	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
30	05-03-1448	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
31	05-03-1483	Professional Conduct	Warning
32	05-03-	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause

#	CASE NUMBER	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
	1512	Misrepresentation or Falsification	
33	05-04-1515	Professional Conduct	Reprimand
34	05-04-1528	Professional Conduct	Reprimand
35	05-04-1530	Professional Conduct	Warning
36	05-02-1325	Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Reprimand
37	05-03-1442	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation
38	05-03-1487	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Revocation

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

2. Ms. Miller reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 2 *Initial Decisions* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

CASE NUMBER	STANDARDS VIOLATED	PROBABLE CAUSE SANCTION	ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE SANCTION	RECOMMENDATION
03-06-2263	Abuse of Students Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct	Revocation	Revocation	Accept
04-02-1169	Public Funds and Property Confidential Information Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Year	Warning	Review

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

3. Ms. Miller reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 3 *Petitions Issues* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

CASE NUMBER	REQUEST	PREVIOUS SANCTION	PREVIOUS VIOLATION	RECOMM
04-02-1143	Early Reinstatement	Current Suspension July 3, 2004 - July 3, 2006	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct Failure to Report	Deny

CASE NUMBER	REQUEST	PREVIOUS SANCTION	PREVIOUS VIOLATION	RECOMM
05-03-1441	Right to Reapply	Revoked - Aug. 4, 1995	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Deny
05-04-1533	Right to Reapply	Denied - Jan. 10, 2002 Denied Right to Reapply - March 11, 2004	Misrepresentation or Falsification	Deny

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

4. Ms. Miller reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 19 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

#	CASE NUMBER	SANCTION	SANCTIONS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
1	05-01-882	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	Accept
2	05-01-969	Revocation	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Accept
3	05-01-981	Reprimand	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Accept
4	05-01-992	Reprimand	Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	Accept
5	05-01-995	Suspension for One Month	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Accept
6	05-01-1086	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Accept
7	05-01-1088	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Accept
8	05-02-1103	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Accept
9	05-02-1114	Reprimand	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Accept
10	05-02-1190	Warning	Professional Conduct	Accept
11	05-02-1191	Reprimand	Abuse of Students Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Accept
12	05-02-1246	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Accept

#	CASE NUMBER	SANCTION	SANCTIONS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
13	05-02-1249	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Accept
14	05-02-1251	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Accept
15	05-02-1296	Denial	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Accept
16	05-02-1300	Suspension for Six Months	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Accept
17	05-02-1330	Reprimand	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Failure to Make a Required Report Professional Conduct	Accept
18	05-03-1355	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Accept
19	05-03-1368	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Accept

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

5. Ms. Miller reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 19 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee excluding case #03-09-381:

CASE NUMBER	STANDARDS VIOLATED	PROBABLE CAUSE SANCTION	NEGOTIATED SANCTION	RECOMMENDATION
03-7-118	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Month	Suspension for One Month	Accept
04-8-165	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Week	Reprimand	Accept
03-9-335	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension for Six Months	Suspension for Six Months	Accept
04-09-320	Professional Conduct	Reprimand	Reprimand	Accept
04-6-1747	Professional Conduct	Reprimand	No Probable Cause	Accept
03-9-386	Criminal Acts Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Reprimand	Warning	Accept
04-08-163	Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Month	Suspension for One Month	Accept
04-5-1582	Alcohol or Drugs	Suspension for One Year	Reprimand	Reject
04-11-706	Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Month	Suspension for One Month	Accept
03-09-381	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension for Three Months	Suspension for One Month	Reject

CASE NUMBER	STANDARDS VIOLATED	PROBABLE CAUSE SANTIION	NEGOTIATED SANCTION	RECOMMEND-ATION
04-11-650	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension for Three Months	Suspension for One Month	Accept
04-07-89	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Year	Suspension for One Month	Reject
04-12-788	Professional Conduct	Suspension for Three Months	Suspension for Two Weeks	Reject
04-10-607	Professional Conduct	Reprimand	Reprimand	Accept
04-03-1356	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Week	Suspension for One Week	Accept
04-11-688	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Week	Suspension for One Week	Accept
04-07-154	Misrepresentation or Falsification Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Suspension for Two Months	Suspension for One Month	Accept
04-5-1600	Misrepresentation or Falsification	Suspension for Three Months	Reprimand	Reject
04-8-166	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Week	Reprimand	Accept

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

Abstention: Jean Ebron – Case #04-09-320, Amy Denty – Case #04-11-706, Mary Outlaw – Case #04-12-788

**Case # 03-09-381**

**MOTION:** (Hart / Ebron) To accept the EERC recommendation to reject the negotiated sanction of one month and to approve the probable cause sanction of three months.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

Opposed: Stephen Dartt, Carolyn Hart, Jean Ebron, Dr. Debbie Wilkes, Dr. Wanda West, Mary Gomez

6. Ms. Miller reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 2 *Voluntary Surrenders and Voluntary Denials* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

CASE NUMBER	SANCTION	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
05-04-1513	Revocation	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Accept
05-02-1286	Revocation	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct Failure to Make a Required Report	Accept

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

7. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative*

**Determination Report** consisting of 74 new complaints received during the months of May and June 2005.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

#### 8. **EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 18 *Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations* consisting of the following:

Case Number	Case Number	Case Number	Case Number	Case Number	Case Number
05-5-1604	05-5-1650	05-5-1652	05-5-1654	05-5-1657	05-5-1660
05-5-1650	05-5-1651	05-5-1652	05-5-1655	05-5-1658	05-5-1661
05-5-1650	05-5-1651	05-5-1653	05-5-1656	05-5-1659	05-5-1662

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

#### 9. **EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 98 cases:

Case Number	Case Number	Case Number	Case Number	Case Number	Case Number	Case Number	Case Number
05-02-1287	05-03-1454	05-03-1511	05-02-1228	05-02-1319	05-03-1416	05-05-1622	05-05-1637
05-02-1294	05-02-1282	05-04-1529	05-02-1234	05-02-1342	05-03-1419	05-05-1623	05-05-1638
05-03-1452	05-03-1439	05-01-932	05-02-1245	05-03-1356	05-03-1420	05-05-1624	05-05-1642
05-03-1474	05-03-1456	05-01-933	05-02-1256	05-03-1357	05-03-1458	05-05-1626	05-05-1644
05-03-1479	05-03-1482	05-02-1116	05-02-1258	05-03-1361	05-03-1459	05-05-1627	05-05-1645
05-03-1501	05-03-1506	05-02-1124	05-02-1266	05-03-1362	05-05-1597	05-05-1628	05-05-1647
05-03-1471	05-04-1531	05-02-1125	05-02-1268	05-03-1363	05-05-1599	05-05-1629	05-05-1648
05-04-1532	04-11-677	05-02-1129	05-02-1270	05-03-1364	05-05-1602	05-05-1630	
04-11-632	05-02-1293	05-02-1209	05-02-1272	05-03-1367	05-05-1612	05-05-1631	
05-01-998	05-03-1449	05-02-1218	05-02-1273	05-03-1406	05-05-1613	05-05-1632	
05-02-1291	05-03-1455	05-02-1219	05-02-1314	05-03-1409	05-05-1614	05-05-1633	
05-02-1327	05-03-1473	05-02-1223	05-02-1315	05-03-1411	05-05-1616	05-05-1634	
05-03-1443	05-03-1486	05-02-1227	05-02-1317	05-03-1413	05-05-1619	05-05-1636	

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

#### 10. **APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 28 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

**PSC ACTION:**

#### 11. **REVIEW HEARING EXTENSIONS**

The Commission reviewed the *Review Hearing Extensions Report* concerning 3 hearing cases. An Administrative Law Judge rendered Initial Decisions on each case referenced in the report. The report indicates Orders were issued by the Commission to extend time by 30 additional days to preserve the Commission's time to conduct review hearings.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved



**12. STUDENT LOAN SUSPENSION / REINSTATEMENTS**

The Commission reviewed the report, which indicated that there were 9 certificates suspended from May 12, 2005 through June 9, 2005. There were 8 certificates that had been *reinstated* because restitution is now being made on those student loans. There were 5 issues where notification had been received to suspend, however, releases were received prior to the actual suspension being implemented. Restitution is now being made on those student loans.

**13. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW**

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 17 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. The report also advised that there was 1 case closed without an appeal for a review hearing before the Commission.

**B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee**

Committee Chair, Dr. Craig Smith, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

1. **Recommendation to the Commission for Metropolitan RESA** - The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Metropolitan RESA Early Childhood Mathematics Endorsement and Reading Endorsement programs be granted Developmental Approval. A progress report addressing all areas for improvement shall be submitted by September 15, 2005.
2. **Recommendation to the Commission for Clayton College & State University** - The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Clayton College & State University Music Education program be granted Developmental Approval. A progress report addressing all areas for improvement shall be submitted by September 15, 2005.
3. **Recommendation to the Commission for Georgia College & State University** -
  - A. The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends Continuing Approval for the Georgia College & State University educator preparation programs listed below. In addition, the Standing Committee recommends submission of a progress report addressing all areas for improvement for these programs by December 15, 2005.
    - Early Childhood Education (I & A)
    - Health & Physical Education (I& A)
    - Middle Grades Education (I & A)
    - Reading Endorsement
    - Interrelated Special Education (I)
    - Media Specialist (I)
    - Music Education (I)
    - Secondary Education (I & A)
  - B. The Standing Committee recommends Continuing Approval with Conditions for the initial and advanced Educational Leadership programs. The Committee further recommends submission of a progress report addressing the not met standards and areas for improvement by December 15, 2005.
4. **Recommendation to the Commission for Kennesaw State University** - The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends Continuing Approval for the following Kennesaw State University educator

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preparation programs:

- Art Education (I)
- Chemistry Education (I)
- English Education (I)
- Health and Physical Education (I)
- Middle Grades Education (I & A)
- Pre-School Special Ed. Endorsement
- TSS Endorsement
- Biology Education (I)
- Early Childhood Education (I & A)
- French & Spanish Education (I)
- Math Education (I)
- Music Education (I)
- Social Studies Ed. - Broad Field (I)
- Special Education: Interrelated (I)

The Committee recommends Continuing Approval with Conditions for the ESOL Endorsement and Reading Endorsement Programs. The Committee further recommends that a Focused Visit on the not met standards be conducted by May 2006.

5. **Recommendation to the Commission for Augusta State University** - The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Augusta State University Progress Report submitted March 1, 2005 demonstrates unsatisfactory progress due to a lack of evidence cited. The Committee further recommends the submission of a report documenting candidates' impact on P-12 student learning during their field experiences and clinical practice by January 1, 2006.

7. **Recommendation to the Commission for Clark Atlanta University** - The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the April 1, 2005 Clark Atlanta University Progress Report demonstrates progress is being made. The Committee recommends submission of a report providing evidence of the changes proposed in the April 1, 2005 report by September 15, 2005. The Committee also recommends that the Focused Visit scheduled for fall 2005 be delayed pending PSC review of the September 15, 2005 progress report.

8. **Recommendation to the Commission for Georgia Southern University** - The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Georgia Southern University Music Education Program Progress Report submitted April 15, 2005 demonstrates that progress is being made. In preparation for the spring 2006 on-site approval review, the Committee recommends that the professional education unit focus on providing evidence of how pedagogical skills are integrated in Music Education courses. The unit should also focus on providing evidence that Music Education Candidates have a positive impact on P-12 student learning.

9. **Recommendation to the Commission for Paine College** - The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Paine College Progress Report submitted May 1, 2005 demonstrates satisfactory progress has been made; areas for improvement may be removed.

**MOTION:** (Muns / Robinson) To accept the Educator Ethics committee recommendations as presented in the report.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

## **VI. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT**

The Executive Secretary presented the following:

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**A.** The Georgia Association of Educators has requested that we hold a Public Hearing on the Special Education Rules. The hearing will be held on Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005, at 9 a.m. at Two Peachtree, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Fitness Center, Atlanta, Georgia.

**B.** The Board of Regents has approved Macon State College to offer a Four Year Early Childhood Education degree in collaboration with North Georgia College and State University.

**C.** Dr. Gary Walker, Director of Educator Ethics, gave all the commissioners the Educator Ethics Workload Report and spoke briefly about it. He also announced that he has been working with the Georgia Public Broadcasting to develop a DVD on Educator Ethics. This DVD should be ready for distribution to schools in September 2005.

**D.** Maria Miller represented the PSC at the State Boards Education Liaison Committee Meeting that was held on June 6, 2005. She gave a brief description of the topics discussed at the meeting including the Committee for a New Georgia web-site and the International Baccalaureate degree.

**E. MOTION:** (Thompson / Miller) To adopt the Rules for Certification and Educator Preparation excluding the Rules for the School Psychologist as presented.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**F.** Dr. Toth announced that he has hired Jane Huntley to head the Master Teacher program and Phyllis Paine to assist her.

**G.** NASDTEC 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: Making the Grade: Links to Success– Commissioners Stephen Dartt and Louisa Moffitt attended the conference along with PSC staff members Dr. F.D. Toth, Rick Eiserman, Cyndy Stephens, Dr. Fran Watkins and Tom Hall in San Antonio, Texas.

**H.** The PSC is waiting to hear from the Attorney General's office to give us approval to sign the contract with National Evaluation System.

## **VII. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Dr. Holly Robinson shared with the commission the new brochure for the Georgia Public Policy Foundation and indicated that Dr. Wanda West was pictured in it.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** (Muns / Gomez) To adjourn the meeting.

**PSC ACTION:** The meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.