

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Remote Meeting via TEAMS Platform

March 10, 2022

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, March 10, 2022.

Members Present

Jimmy Atkins	Jordan Frobos	Jane Rookard
Dr. Steve Barker	Kedriane Harris	Dr. Brandon Seigler
Jeanine Bunn	Dr. Karla Hull	Brian Sirmans
Abigail Coggin	Nathan Lewis	Carol Williams
Daniel Dooley	Dr. Franklin Perry	
Derek Easterling	Dr. Holley Roberts	

Members Absent

Beth Townsend
Dr. Jennifer Wade

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. Karla Hull / Kedriane Harris) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approve

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the February 10, 2022 minutes.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

- March Birthdays – Laurin Vonada and Daniel Dooley
- Prior to COVID, we held “A Day with PSC” in-person each year at each of the 16 RESAs, in which staff would travel to share updates, reminders, and resources from each area of the agency. We have now shifted to a virtual model and are combining 3-4 RESAs together for each virtual session. On Monday, we held the first segment, which was co-hosted by North GA RESA, Northeast GA RESA, and Pioneer RESA. We had over 90 district, local school, and EPP personnel register, with 66 in attendance. RESAs

and their areas are very glad we are offering these updates sessions again. The next Day with the PSC is scheduled for March 21st, and will be co-hosted by Chattahoochee-Flint RESA, Coastal Plains RESA, and Southwest GA RESA.

- Educator Ethics has revised our General Complaint form. School systems and the general public used this form to file a complaint. We now have a separate form for school systems. On the General Complaint form, we removed the Standards Violated section as this section, at times, limited our ability to pursue violations at a hearing. The new form gives the Commission the discretion it needs to determine which standards have been violated.

Educator Ethics added an LUA Complaint form for school systems, RESAs, etc. This form allows an employer to provide more detailed information about the complaint, such as disciplinary measures and separation reasons. This will help the Commission determine whether or not to investigate or if the complaint should be remanded back to the school system for further follow-up. Over time, we hope that having a fuller picture from the beginning will reduce the number of cases.

- Legislative Update – a) Governor Kemp is looking after the State of Georgia and its’ employees. He signed a mid-year budget that includes raises for State, university and k-12 school employees on Wednesday, March 9th. The General Assembly approved the election-year spending plan last week. b) PSC staff has been to the capitol quite a bit regarding House Bill 1357 which addresses the standards and procedures for certification programs. This bill has not moved forward.

VI. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Sirmans thanked the Matt Arthur and the GaPSC staff for their hard work and advocating for Georgia students and educators.

VII. RULES ADOPTION AND INITIATION

Anne Marie Fenton presented the rules for adoption and rules for initiation.

Rules Adoption

505-3-.29 SCIENCE EDUCATION PROGRAM-It is proposed that GaPSC 505-3-.2-9 SCIENCE EDUCATION PROGRAM, dated May 15, 2014, be REPEALED and that a new rule with the same number and the same title be ADOPTED. The new rule reflects current standards published by National Science Teaching Association/Association for Science Teacher Education standards (2020) and A Framework for K-12 Science Education – Practices, Crosscutting Concepts, and Core Ideas (2012).

This was initiated at the January 13th Commission meeting. This rule, will become effective April 15, 2022, if adopted.

MOTION: (Abigail Coggin / Jane Rookard) To (1) repeal the current rule in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective April 15, 2022, as follows: 505-3-.29, and (2) adopt the current rule in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective April 15, 2022, as follows: 505-3-.29.

PSC ACTION: Approved

RULES INITIATION

505-2-.03 PRE-SERVICE TEACHING CERTIFICATE- It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.03 PRE-SERVICE TEACHING CERTIFICATE, dated July 1, 2020, be AMENDED to update the application procedures for a Pre-Service certificate and adjust the title of a linked rule.

505-2-.08 PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE-It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.08 PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE, dated January 1, 2021, be AMENDED to adjust the numbering of sections and update the title of a linked rule.

505-2-.26 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ASSESSMENTS-It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.26 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ASSESSMENTS, dated July 1, 2020, be AMENDED to adjust the numbering of a section.

505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES-It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES, dated July 1, 2021, be AMENDED to clarify the criteria for acceptable electronic transcripts.

505-2-.193 COMPUTER SCIENCE MICRO-ENDORSEMENT-It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.193 COMPUTER SCIENCE MICRO-ENDORSEMENT be INITIATED to create a micro-endorsement type that will allow qualified individuals to teach specific computer science courses in grades P-12.

If initiated, these proposed rules will be posted for a 30 day public comment and come back before you in May for your adoption consideration.

MOTION: (Derek Easterling / Jordan Frobos) To: (1) amend the current rules in Chapter 505-2- Certification, effective July 1, 2022, as follows: 505-2-.03, 505-2-.08, 505-2-.26, and 505-2-.27; and (2) initiate the current rule in Chapter 505-2- Certification, effective July 1, 2022, as follows: 505-2-.193.

PSC ACTION: Approved

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Vice Chair, Dr. Steve Barker of the Educator Ethics Review Committee (EERC), gave a preliminary review of the Cases.

- 1. Dr. Barker reported that the Committee reviewed 65 *Probable Cause* cases during March 10, 2022, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
21-9-329	1,4,5a2,5a7	Reprimand
21-9-347	1,5a7	Deny
21-10-463	5a5,5a7	Reprimand
21-11-593	9	Deny

CASE	STANDARDS VIOLATED	RECOMMENDATION
21-12-678	5a2,5a5,5a7	Deny
21-12-683	5a2,5a5,5a7	Deny
22-1-739	4, 5a5, 5a7	Reprimand
22-1-785	1,5a7	Reprimand
22-1-799	1,5a7	NPC
22-2-888	5a7	NPC
20-1-1090	4, 5a2,5a7,8,9	Revoke
20-1-1096	4,5a2,5a7	Revoke
20-1-1105	4,5a2, ,5a5, 5a7,8,9	Revoke
20-2-1178	1,4,5a7,8,9	Revoke
20-3-1315	4,5a2, ,5a5, 5a7,8,9	Revoke
20-3-1326	1,4,5a7,8,9	Revoke
20-3-1379	1,5a7,9	Reprimand
20-3-1386	1,4,5a7,9 (pre2018), 10(pre2018)	Reprimand
20-4-1465	1,4,5a7,8,9	Revoke
20-4-1467	1,4,5a7,8,9	Revoke
20-4-1469	1,4,5a7,8,9	Revoke
20-5-1488	1,4,5a7,8,9	Revoke
20-5-1587	4,5a5,8, 9 (pre2018), 10(pre2018)	Reprimand
20-5-1594	1,4,5a7,8,9	Reprimand
20-11-478	1,4,5a7,8,9	NPC
21-8-193	3, 9, 5a7	Reprimand
21-8-194	3, 9, 5a7	Reprimand
21-8-198	1,5a7,8,9	Suspension 1 year
21-8-222	9	Suspension 90 days
21-8-226	4, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
21-9-263	9, 5a7	Suspension 90 days
21-9-264	9, 5a7	Suspension 90 days
21-11-520	3, 9	Suspension 30 days
21-11-521	3, 9	Suspension 60 days
21-11-522	3, 9	Suspension 5 days
21-11-524	1, 8, 9	Suspension 10 days
21-11-525	2, 4, & 9	Suspension 2 years
21-11-546	1,4,5a7,8,9	Reprimand
21-11-589	2, 9	Suspension 5 days
21-11-590	2, 9	Reprimand
21-11-600	1, 2, 9, 5a7	Extend pending criminal outcome
21-12-615	1,4,5a7,8, 9 (pre2018), 10(pre2018)	Suspension 2 years
21-12-617	9	NPC
21-12-624	9	Reprimand
21-12-645	2,9	Suspension 10 days
21-12-649	2, 9	NPC
21-12-654	2,9	Suspension 20 days

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
21-12-655	1, 8, 9	Extend pending criminal outcome
21-12-656	1, 9	Suspension 1 year
21-12-675	2, 9	NPC
21-12-677	2, 4, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
21-12-679	1, 2, 9	Extend pending criminal outcome
21-12-691	2,9	Suspension 5 days
21-12-697	9	Suspension 90 days
21-12-707	3,9	Suspension 10 days
21-12-711	1, 2, 4, 5a7, 9	NPC
22-1-754	2, 9	Suspension 1 year
22-1-755	1, 9	Extend pending criminal outcome
22-1-759	2, 9	NPC
22-1-769	1, 9	Extend pending criminal outcome
22-1-772	1, 2, 4, 9	Extend pending criminal outcome
22-1-774	2, 9	Reprimand
22-1-793	1,4,5a7 9 (pre2018), 10 (pre 2018)	NPC
22-1-817	9	Suspension 5 days
22-1-820	9	Reprimand

2. Dr. Barker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 12 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
21-7-63	Reprimand	Accept
21-9-288	Reprimand	Accept
21-10-396	Reprimand	Accept
21-10-480	Suspension 5 days	Accept
21-10-485	Reprimand	Accept
21-10-501	Suspension 10 days	Accept
21-11-556	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-12-613	Reprimand	Accept
21-12-658	Reprimand	Accept
21-12-699	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-12-718	Reprimand	Accept
22-1-764	Reprimand	Accept

3. Dr. Barker reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 16 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
18-3-1124	Reprimand	Accept
20-2-1146	Suspension 60 days	Accept
20-9-221	NPC	Accept
20-9-285	Warning	Accept
20-9-287	Warning	Accept
20-10-382	Reprimand	Accept
20-12-552	Suspension 1 year 20 days	Accept
21-2-780	Warning	Accept
21-3-876	Suspension 90 days	Accept
21-5-1083	Reprimand	Accept
21-5-1095	Reprimand	Accept
21-5-1129	Suspension 3 days	Accept
21-7-36	Reprimand	Accept
21-7-72	Reprimand	Accept
21-9-268	Reprimand	Accept
21-9-270	Suspension 90 days	Accept

4. 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>
21-12-692	Additional complaint	Investigate
22-1-773	Additional complaint	Investigate
20-3-1313	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-3-1316	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-3-1322	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-3-1338	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-3-1411	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-5-1576	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-5-1579	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-5-1590	No effective service	Hold New App
20-5-1601	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-6-1698	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-6-1719	Failure to respond	Hold New App
20-7-48	No effective service	Hold New App
20-7-54	No effective service	Hold New App
20-7-67	Failed to provide requested docs	Hold New App
20-7-68	Failed to provide requested docs	Hold New App
20-7-83	Failure to respond	Hold New App
21-10-425	Failure to respond	Hold New App

<u>CASE</u>	<u>FINDINGS OF FACTS</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
21-10-469	Failure to respond	Hold New App
21-11-603	Failed to provide requested docs	Hold New App

5. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 92 new complaints received during the months of February 2022 and March 2022.

6. VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 3 *Voluntary Surrenders* listed below in which an Educator/Applicant voluntarily accepted a sanction of Revocation 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>
21-12-706	1, 2, 9	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
22-1-741	9	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
22-1-818	2, 9	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

7. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 82 *Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations* consisting of the following:

22-2-927	22-2-973	22-2-1003	22-2-1019	22-3-1031	22-3-1043	22-3-1054	22-3-1065
22-2-928	22-2-974	22-2-1004	22-2-1020	22-3-1033	22-3-1044	22-3-1055	22-3-1066
22-2-929	22-2-975	22-2-1005	22-2-1021	22-3-1034	22-3-1045	22-3-1056	22-3-1067
22-2-930	22-2-976	22-2-1006	22-2-1022	22-3-1035	22-3-1046	22-3-1057	22-3-1068
22-2-931	22-2-977	22-2-1007	22-2-1023	22-3-1036	22-3-1047	22-3-1058	22-3-1075
22-2-932	22-2-978	22-2-1008	22-2-1024	22-3-1037	22-3-1048	22-3-1059	
22-2-933	22-2-979	22-2-1009	22-2-1026	22-3-1038	22-3-1049	22-3-1060	
22-2-934	22-2-988	22-2-1010	22-2-1027	22-3-1039	22-3-1050	22-3-1061	
22-2-935	22-2-998	22-2-1011	22-2-1028	22-3-1040	22-3-1051	22-3-1062	
22-2-971	22-2-999	22-2-1017	22-2-1029	22-3-1041	22-3-1052	22-3-1063	
22-2-972	22-2-1000	22-2-1018	22-2-1030	22-3-1042	22-3-1053	22-3-1064	

8. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 327 cases:

<u>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</u>						
20-2-1179	20-8-196	21-2-695	21-5-1101	21-8-153	21-10-425	21-12-646
20-3-1319	20-8-201	21-2-698	21-5-1106	21-8-154	21-10-432	21-12-648
20-3-1387	20-9-259	21-2-709	21-5-1111	21-8-158	21-10-440	21-12-649
20-3-1411	20-9-261	21-2-744	21-5-1112	21-8-166	21-10-442	21-12-651
20-4-1450	20-10-323	21-2-745	21-5-1113	21-8-178	21-10-444	21-12-653

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS						
20-4-1453	20-10-336	21-2-748	21-5-1114	21-8-182	21-10-445	21-12-654
20-5-1546	20-10-337	21-2-751	21-5-1117	21-8-186	21-10-447	21-12-655
20-5-1556	20-10-338	21-2-756	21-5-1124	21-8-190	21-10-448	21-12-656
20-5-1562	20-10-340	21-2-771	21-5-1135	21-8-195	21-10-449	21-12-657
20-5-1567	20-10-341	21-3-785	21-5-1174	21-8-211	21-10-450	21-12-659
20-5-1572	20-10-346	21-3-786	21-5-1181	21-8-212	21-10-461	21-12-661
20-5-1576	20-10-352	21-3-794	21-5-1185	21-8-213	21-10-466	21-12-663
20-5-1578	20-10-353	21-3-795	21-5-1188	21-8-215	21-10-469	21-12-664
20-5-1585	20-10-357	21-3-808	21-6-1203	21-8-237	21-10-471	21-12-666
20-5-1590	20-10-360	21-3-815	21-6-1216	21-9-253	21-10-510	21-12-667
20-6-1675	20-10-364	21-3-822	21-6-1235	21-9-274	21-11-519	21-12-675
20-6-1695	20-10-396	21-3-827	21-6-1236	21-9-283	21-11-528	21-12-677
20-6-1702	20-10-397	21-3-832	21-6-1241	21-9-289	21-11-530	21-12-679
20-6-1705	20-10-402	21-3-836	21-6-1280	21-9-290	21-11-532	21-12-680
20-6-1706	20-10-404	21-3-879	21-6-1292	21-9-292	21-11-533	21-12-681
20-6-1707	20-10-406	21-3-883	21-6-1295	21-9-293	21-11-540	21-12-685
20-6-1722	20-11-418	21-3-887	21-6-1298	21-9-295	21-11-545	21-12-686
20-7-41	20-11-439	21-3-892	21-6-1299	21-9-298	21-11-557	21-12-687
20-7-46	20-11-440	21-3-903	21-6-1316	21-9-308	21-11-558	21-12-688
20-7-57	20-11-478	21-3-904	21-6-1317	21-9-318	21-11-563	21-12-691
20-7-59	20-11-479	21-3-905	21-6-1325	21-9-319	21-11-564	21-12-692
20-7-62	20-11-493	21-3-920	21-6-1326	21-9-320	21-11-565	21-12-693
20-7-66	20-11-498	21-3-928	21-6-1333	21-9-321	21-11-571	21-12-694
20-7-69	20-12-519	21-3-929	21-6-1341	21-9-342	21-11-576	21-12-697
20-7-70	20-12-524	21-4-966	21-7-12	21-9-351	21-11-578	21-12-707
20-7-75	20-12-541	21-4-969	21-7-16	21-9-358	21-11-579	21-12-711
20-7-94	20-12-547	21-4-984	21-7-30	21-9-365	21-11-589	21-12-716
20-7-97	20-12-551	21-4-986	21-7-46	21-9-366	21-11-590	21-12-717
20-7-98	20-12-553	21-4-994	21-7-56	21-9-368	21-11-596	21-12-719
20-7-99	20-12-558	21-4-1012	21-7-71	21-9-369	21-11-600	21-12-720
20-7-100	21-1-605	21-4-1024	21-7-73	21-10-375	21-11-607	21-12-721
20-7-104	21-1-610	21-4-1027	21-7-84	21-10-384	21-12-614	21-12-722
20-8-117	21-1-617	21-4-1031	21-7-86	21-10-389	21-12-617	21-12-723
20-8-119	21-1-619	21-4-1032	21-7-98	21-10-391	21-12-618	21-12-724
20-8-154	21-1-646	21-4-1034	21-8-104	21-10-392	21-12-620	
20-8-177	21-2-661	21-5-1039	21-8-116	21-10-395	21-12-621	
20-8-178	21-2-663	21-5-1041	21-8-118	21-10-406	21-12-624	
20-8-180	21-2-666	21-5-1042	21-8-125	21-10-410	21-12-625	
20-8-183	21-2-670	21-5-1046	21-8-126	21-10-411	21-12-626	
20-8-190	21-2-677	21-5-1052	21-8-141	21-10-415	21-12-628	
20-8-191	21-2-679	21-5-1053	21-8-150	21-10-418	21-12-634	
20-8-193	21-2-686	21-5-1065	21-8-151	21-10-419	21-12-640	
20-8-195	21-2-687	21-5-1087	21-8-152	21-10-424	21-12-645	

9. 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*.

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

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 16 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. .

11. **FINAL DECISIONS RENDERED BY AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE**

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

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Vice Chair, Dr. Steve Barker.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstentions: Dr. Steve Barker-PID 22-2-933, PCE 21-11-520, 21-11-521, 21-11-522, Derek Easterling-PID 22-1-851, 854, 855, 856, 869, 22-2-882, 915, 928, 932, 957, Brian Sirmans-21-12-645, Jeanine Bunn-PID 22-2-930, PCE 20-3-1379, 21-9-263, 21-12-711, 22-1-817, Dr. Franklin Perry – 22-2-906, 907, 908, Joran Frobos-PID 22-2-906, 907, 908, Jane Rookard-PID 22-1-872, 22-2-911, 929

B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee

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

1. Brenau University – As a result of satisfactory progress indicated in the December 7, 2021, progress report, the Committee recommends the removal of the areas for improvement (AFIs) in Standard 2.1, Standard 5.2 and Standard 5.3 for the EPP.

As a result of incremental progress indicated in the December 7, 2021, progress report, the Committee recommends the AFI remain in Standard 1.1 for the EPP, and the following programs.

- Biology Education
- Elementary Education
- History Education
- K-5 Mathematics Endorsement
- Autism Endorsement

The Committee recommends the submission of a progress report due December 9, 2022, addressing all remaining AFIs. The Progress Report should demonstrate evidence of a cohesive plan containing disaggregated data from key assessments. Additionally, the Progress Report should address how data will be disaggregated to demonstrate that candidates understand the InTASC standards.

2. Middle Georgia State University – As a result of unsatisfactory progress indicated in the November 12, 2021, progress report, the AFI in Standard 5.2 remains for the EPP. The Committee recommends the submission of a progress report due September 16, 2022, addressing the AFI in Standard 5.2 providing evidence of the implementation of the Spring 2022 plans for making modifications to key assessments, and for establishing inter-rater reliability. Additionally, the Progress Report should include the results of the training modules on reliability and validity.
3. Okefenokee RESA – As a result of satisfactory progress indicated in the December 10, 2021, progress

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report, the Committee recommends the removal of the AFIs cited during the Spring 2019 Continuing Approval Review in Standard 4.1 and Standard 5.3 for the EPP.

4. Oconee RESA – The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for the Teacher Leader Endorsement.
5. University of North Georgia – The Committee recommends Developmental Approval for the Computer Science Endorsement.

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

PSC ACTION: Approved

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Our next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, April 14th, 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, April 13th, at 4:00 pm. Chair Sirmans called for the meeting to be adjourned at 4:26 p.m.