

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

200 Piedmont Avenue, SE

Atlanta, Georgia

November 8, 2018

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, November 8, 2018.

Members Present

Danielle Bruce	Dr. Isiah Hill, Jr	Amanda Miliner
Lauren Eckman	Scott Hollowell	Teri Schneider
Barbara Ellingson	Scott Justus	Beth Townsend
Chris Erwin	Diane McClearn	Dr. Martha Venn
Leon Grant, III	Dr. Jacqueline McDowell	Katrina Young
Rodney Green		

Members Absent

Kamila Luigs
Christy Van Meter

I. WORK SESSION

- Executive Secretary Report – a) Barbara Ellingson was recently appointed to the PSC Commission. She is an 8th math teacher in White County and has been an educator for 30 years. Kelly welcomed her to the Commission; b) Kelly updated the Commission on the process of selecting a new Executive Secretary. He plans to submit several names to the new Governor’s transition team once it is in place. The Commission will be able to interview candidates and select the new Executive Secretary; c) Inclement weather season is upon us. If our offices are closed there will be no Commission meeting. As always, if your situation is not conducive to travel, please let us know. We do not want you to travel if conditions might be dangerous; d) As we have discussed in the past, when Commissioners receive emails from educators, please continue to forward them to the PSC. Commissioners are not expected to answer these emails. Please note that we respond to them in a timely manner and, many times, educators receive multiple emails from us. This week many of you received an email from educator that we have responded to at least 20 times. Our answer remains the same and we have told this educator this. We will no longer respond to emails from this educator regarding this issue.
- Julie Beck, Program Director for Non-Traditional Preparation, presented a GA TAPP update. She gave a PowerPoint presentation titled GA TAPP Teacher Academy for Preparation and Pedagogy.
- Penney McRoy, Director of Educator Preparation, updated the Commission on the Wallace Foundation Grant.
 - Wallace approved our plans and budget for years 3 and 4.
 - The redesign of the Tier II program is nearing completion and the program is scheduled to begin in summer 2019.
 - The Elevating Educational Leadership Conference was well attended (94 actual/ over 100 registered).
 - The work on the Leader Tracking System is progressing on-schedule.

The Dispositions Task Force is continuing their work with an estimated completion date of July 30, 2019.

- Angie Gant, Program Director for Program Approval gave a PowerPoint presentation updating the Commission on P20 Collaboratives, a system of support to provide a seamless transition for pre-service candidates as they seek to become professional educators, as well as to provide continued professional learning for practicing educators and leaders. The state is divided into 9 regions that are clustered around institutions or agencies that prepare teachers. Topics of interest include recruitment and training for future teachers, induction for in-service teachers, etc.
- Anne Marie Fenton, Director of Rules Management and Educator Assessment, presented the results and recommendations GACE Standard Setting for American Sign Language that the Commissioners will be asked to vote on during the official Commission meeting. The recommendation is for the Commission to consider adopting the American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI) with an Induction passing score of 3 (GACE scale score 220) and a Professional passing score of 3+ (GACE scale score 250). In addition, the committee discussed the development of an accompanying test of all select response items to ensure ASL pedagogical knowledge, cultural understanding, and other areas, about which conversations will continue.
- Chair Report – Vice Chair Lauren Eckman shared artwork by 3 Georgia Academy for the Blind students which included a portrait of Vice Chair Eckman. Their work was shown at a nationally juried exhibition last month and one won an honorable mention for grades 10-12. The Insights Art Contest is sponsored by the American Printing House for the Blind and was held at the Hyatt Regency in Louisville, KY October 4th-6th. Art teacher, Kristen Applebee, took four students to the exhibition and awards ceremony. They took a tour of the American Printing House for the Blind and saw one of their peer's art pieces in the APH 2019 calendar in the gift shop. They went to the Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft as well as the Kentucky Science Center before getting celebrity treatment at the awards banquet.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Eckman called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and a moment of silence.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Vice-Chair Eckman called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Beth Townsend/Dr. Isiah Hill, Jr.) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice-Chair Eckman called for approval of the minutes from the October 11, 2018, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. VISITORS

Vice-Chair Eckman welcomed the visitors.

- Leonard Williams, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Don Splinter, Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL)

- Tayia Donald, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Deja Velasquez, Office of Planning & Budget (OPB)

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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

1. Chair Justus reported that the Committee reviewed 71 **Probable Cause** cases during November 8, 2018, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
17-8-208	1,4	Reprimand
18-4-1342	1, 5a7	Deny
18-6-1748	1, 5a7	Reprimand
18-6-1750	1, 5a7	Reprimand
18-8-169	1	Reprimand
18-8-176	4, 5a2, 5a5, 5a7	Deny
18-8-218	2, 9 (2018)	Deny
18-8-221	1, 5a7	Reprimand
18-9-405	1, 4, 5a7	Reprimand
18-9-406	1, 4, 5a7	Reprimand
18-9-411	1, 4, 5a7, 9	Reprimand
17-8-184	4,5a2,5a7,9,10 (2017)	Revoke
17-8-303	5a2, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
17-12-843	1,5a7	Revoke
17-12-850	4, 5a2,5a7,9,10 (2017)	Suspension 20 days
18-1-927	2, 4, 10 (2017)	Suspension 2 years
18-3-1122	4, 8, 9 (2018)	Suspension 90 days
18-3-1252	7, 9, 10	Suspension 90 days
18-4-1313	3, 4, 5, 9, 5a7	Revoke
18-4-1380	4, 10	Suspension 90 days
18-5-1469	4, 9	Suspension 20 days
18-5-1518	6, 9	Suspension 10 days
18-5-1525	2,4,8,9,5a2,5a5,5a7	Suspension 1 year
18-5-1589	1,5a7	Revoke
18-6-1641	1,9	Suspension 1 year
18-6-1703	5a2,5a7,8,9	NPC
18-7-2	7, 9, 10	Suspension 90 days
18-7-9	2, 4, 9	Suspension 90 days
18-7-12	3, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year
18-7-16	4, 9 (2018)	NPC

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
18-7-27	1,4,8,9	NPC
18-7-28	1,4, 5a7,8,9	Revoke
18-7-52	1,4,5a7,8,9	NPC
18-7-56	2, 9, 5a7 (2018)	Suspension 2 years
18-7-58	4, 9	NPC
18-7-64	1, 2, 4, 9, 5a7 (2018)	Revoke
18-7-113	1,4,8,9,5a7	Revoke
18-7-114	2, 4, 9, 5a7	Suspension 90 days
18-7-116	3, 9	Suspension 1 year
18-7-117	3, 9 (2018)	Suspension 1 year
18-7-118	4, 9	Suspension 90 days
18-8-120	1, 2,4,9, 5a7 (2018)	Revoke
18-8-129	1, 2, 5, 5a7, 10 (2017)	Revoke
18-8-131	1, 2, 5, 5a7, 9 (2018)	Revoke
18-8-133	4,9	Suspension 20 days
18-8-134	4, 9	Suspension 20 days
18-8-174	1, 9, 5a7	Suspension 2 years
18-8-175	4, 8, 9, 5a2, 5a5	Suspension 20 days
18-8-178	1,9	Suspension 1 year
18-8-185	2,8,9	Reprimand
18-8-215	2, 9	Suspension 5 days
18-8-216	2, 9 (2018)	Suspension 20 days
18-8-219	2, 4, 7, 9 (2018)	Suspension 90 days
18-8-220	2,9	Suspension 5 days
18-8-229	4, 5, 9 (2018)	Suspension 1 year
18-8-232	5a7, 4, 10	Suspension 1 year
18-8-233	9	Suspension 1 year
18-8-235	4, 9,	Suspension 1 year
18-8-238	9	NPC
18-8-261	4, 5, 9	Suspension 1 year
18-8-266	1, 4, 8, 9	Suspension 20 days
18-8-267	1, 4, 9 (2018)	Suspension 20 days
18-8-278	3, 9	Suspension 1 year
18-8-280	3, 4, 9	Suspension 10 days
18-8-282	1,4,8,9,5a7	Suspension 20 days
18-8-283	1,4,8,9,5a7	Suspension 20 days
18-8-288	2, 4, 5a7, 9 (2018)	Revoke
18-8-290	3, 9 (2018)	Suspension 1 year
18-8-291	2, 5a7, 9 (2018)	Suspension 1 year
18-8-292	1,4,8,9	Revoke
18-9-341	5a2, 5a5, 9 (2018)	Revoke

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2. Chair Justus 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 RECOMMEND</u>
18-5-1425	Revocation	Deny
18-6-1676	Denial	Deny

3. Chair Justus reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 17 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
17-5-1451	Suspension 20 days	Accept
18-2-978	Reprimand	Accept
18-4-1314	Suspension 5 days	Accept
18-5-1564	Reprimand	Accept
18-6-1643	Suspension 5 days	Accept
18-6-1659	Suspension 90 days	Accept
18-6-1700	Reprimand	Accept
18-6-1755	Reprimand	Accept
18-7-18	Suspension 20 days	Accept
18-7-68	Reprimand	Accept
18-7-80	Reprimand	Accept
18-7-108	Suspension 20 days	Accept
18-8-150	Suspension 20 days	Accept
18-8-161	Reprimand	Accept
18-8-248	Reprimand	Accept
18-8-254	Reprimand	Accept
18-8-259	Reprimand	Accept

4. Chair Justus reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 14 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
14-6-979	NPC	Accept
16-11-663	Suspension 15 days	Accept
17-5-1489	Suspension 1 year	Accept
17-6-1516	Suspension 90 days	Accept
17-6-1775	Suspension 5 days	Accept
17-7-148	NPC	Accept
17-8-322	Suspension 30 days	Reject
17-9-358	NPC	Accept
17-10-522	Reprimand	Reject

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
17-12-777	Suspension 15 days	Accept
17-12-791	Suspension 20 days	Accept
18-1-943	Suspension 10 days	Accept
18-3-1160	NPC	Accept
18-3-1197	Reprimand	Accept

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>
17-11-730	Failed to respond	Hold New Application
18-1-958	Failed to respond	Hold New Application
18-6-1705	Failed to respond	Hold New Application
18-7-30	Failed to respond	Hold New Application
18-7-92	Failed to respond	Hold New Application
18-8-187	Failed to respond	Hold New Application
18-8-209	Failed to respond	Hold New Application
18-8-244	Failed to respond	Hold New Application
18-8-264	Expand current investigation	Expand Investigation
18-9-308	Expand current investigation	Expand Investigation
18-9-315	Expand current investigation	Expand Investigation
18-9-322	Expand current investigation	Expand Investigation

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 65 new complaints received during the months of October 2018 and November 2018.

7. VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

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>
18-8-130	2, 9	VS	Accept
18-9-302	2, 9	VS	Accept

8. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 33 *Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations* consisting of the following:

18-11-618	18-11-623	18-11-628	18-11-633	18-11-638	18-11-643	18-11-648
18-11-619	18-11-624	18-11-629	18-11-634	18-11-639	18-11-644	18-11-649
18-11-620	18-11-625	18-11-630	18-11-635	18-11-640	18-11-645	18-11-650
18-11-621	18-11-626	18-11-631	18-11-636	18-11-641	18-11-646	
18-11-622	18-11-627	18-11-632	18-11-637	18-11-642	18-11-647	

9. **EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 194 cases:

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
15-5-982	17-12-775	18-3-1132	18-4-1405	18-5-1591	18-7-42	18-7-115	18-8-171
15-5-1003	17-12-833	18-3-1140	18-4-1406	18-6-1608	18-7-43	18-7-119	18-8-172
15-6-1129	17-12-842	18-3-1180	18-4-1408	18-6-1639	18-7-44	18-8-123	18-8-179
15-6-1203	17-12-861	18-3-1211	18-4-1409	18-6-1649	18-7-45	18-8-124	18-8-184
15-7-18	17-12-871	18-3-1215	18-4-1410	18-6-1666	18-7-46	18-8-126	18-8-188
15-11-599	17-12-885	18-3-1217	18-4-1412	18-6-1672	18-7-47	18-8-132	18-8-190
16-2-919	17-12-886	18-3-1220	18-4-1413	18-6-1675	18-7-49	18-8-136	18-8-191
16-4-1211	18-1-961	18-3-1253	18-4-1416	18-6-1678	18-7-50	18-8-137	18-8-226
16-8-152	18-1-962	18-3-1254	18-4-1417	18-6-1688	18-7-57	18-8-138	18-8-227
17-7-130	18-1-967	18-3-1256	18-4-1420	18-6-1692	18-7-62	18-8-140	18-8-234
17-8-168	18-1-969	18-3-1257	18-4-1422	18-6-1699	18-7-66	18-8-141	18-8-264
17-8-175	18-1-970	18-3-1260	18-5-1442	18-6-1707	18-7-67	18-8-144	18-8-265
17-8-214	18-2-977	18-3-1266	18-5-1452	18-6-1721	18-7-71	18-8-146	18-8-271
17-8-221	18-2-979	18-3-1270	18-5-1470	18-6-1739	18-7-73	18-8-148	18-8-279
17-8-280	18-2-988	18-4-1285	18-5-1471	18-6-1740	18-7-76	18-8-152	18-8-281
17-8-307	18-2-1007	18-4-1298	18-5-1501	18-6-1742	18-7-78	18-8-153	18-8-284
17-11-613	18-2-1028	18-4-1333	18-5-1512	18-6-1752	18-7-79	18-8-154	18-8-285
17-11-623	18-2-1047	18-4-1339	18-5-1534	18-6-1758	18-7-94	18-8-155	18-8-286
17-11-630	18-2-1054	18-4-1368	18-5-1538	18-7-5	18-7-96	18-8-156	18-8-293
17-11-707	18-2-1079	18-4-1381	18-5-1554	18-7-6	18-7-98	18-8-160	
17-11-712	18-2-1089	18-4-1382	18-5-1567	18-7-11	18-7-99	18-8-162	
17-11-725	18-2-1100	18-4-1393	18-5-1573	18-7-23	18-7-100	18-8-163	
17-12-749	18-2-1109	18-4-1394	18-5-1575	18-7-34	18-7-101	18-8-164	
17-12-757	18-3-1116	18-4-1398	18-5-1582	18-7-37	18-7-103	18-8-166	
17-12-772	18-3-1124	18-4-1400	18-5-1584	18-7-41	18-7-105	18-8-170	

10. **APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 19 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

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

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 35 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. The report also advised that there were 4 cases closed without an appeal for a review hearing before the Commission.

12. FINAL DECISIONS RENDERED BY AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 35 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. The report also advised that there were 4 cases closed without an appeal for a review hearing before the Commission.

<u>CASE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL SANCTION</u>	<u>ALJ SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
16-11-717	Suspension 2 years	NPC	Accept
17-4-1297	Suspension 90 days	Suspension 90 days	Accept
18-1-954	Denial	Grant w/ Reprimand	Accept
18-3-1221	Denial	Grant	Accept

Vice Chair Eckman called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Chair Scott Justus excluding case 18-8-174.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstentions: Barbara Ellingson – entire report, Rodney Green-18-7-114, Scott Hollowell-18-7-118, Scott Justus-18-8-280, Teri Schneider-18-7-64, 18-10-460, 18-5-1425, Amanda Miliner-18-7-12, Leon Grant-18-8-229, Beth Townsend-18-8-278, 18-10-549, Danielle Bruce-18-7-117, 18-4-1313

Probable Cause Case # 18-8-174

MOTION: (Scott Justus / Teri Schneider) To reject the EERC's recommendation of a 2 Year Suspension and issue a Revocation.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Opposed: Katrina Young, Danielle Bruce, Scott Hollowell

Abstention: Barbara Ellingson

B. Educator Preparation/Certification Standing Committee

Committee Chair, Dr. Marti Venn, presented the report of the Educator Preparation/Certification Standing Committee report.

<u>EPP</u>	<u>November 2018 Detailed Approval Recommendations</u>
Augusta University	The committee recommends continuing approval of the Educator Preparation Provider reviewed during the Spring 2012 Continuing Approval Review.

Vice Chair Eckman called for approval of the Educator Preparation / Certification Report as presented by Chair Dr. Marti Venn.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Barbara Ellingson

VII. GACE STANDARD SETTING-AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

Anne Marie Fenton presented the motion for the GACE Standard Setting for American Sign Language.

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MOTION: (Teri Schneider / Dr. Jacqueline McDowell) To Adopt the American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI) with an Induction passing score of 3 (GACE scale score 220) and a Professional passing score of 3+ (GACE scale score 250).

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstention: Barbara Ellingson

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Eckman announced that our next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 13th, at 200 Piedmont Avenue, SE, 4th Floor Boardroom, Atlanta, Georgia. The Educator Ethics Review Committee will meet at 9:30 am and the Educator Preparation/Certification Standing Committee will meet at 9:00 am. She called for the meeting to be adjourned at 12:13 pm.