

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Remote Meeting via TEAMS Platform

September 9, 2021

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, September 9, 2021.

Members Present

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

Members Absent

Diane McClearn	Dr. Franklin Perry
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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: (Beth Townsend / Jordan Frobos) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Sirmans called for approval of the August 12, 2021 minutes.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Sirmans reminded everyone that the Educator Preparation/Certification committee did not meet this month; therefore, they would have no report. He also informed the Commissioners that flowers had been sent to Matt Arthur and his family and that they were in his prayers. He thanked the Commissioners for their contributions.

VI. RULES PREVIEW AND ADOPTION

Rules Preview - Anne Marie Fenton announced that to begin a new rules cycle, we have rules that will come

before Commissioners for their initiation consideration at the October 14, 2021, Commission meeting. Windy Fortenberry previewed the Certification rules, Penney McRoy previewed the Educator Preparation rules, and Tanis Miller previewed the ethics rules.

Rules Adoption- At the July 8th Commission meeting, three proposed Educator Preparation rules were initiated and posted for a 30 day public comment period. No public comment was received. We bring these same three rules to you today for your consideration to adopt, with an effective date of October 15, 2021. Anne Marie asked for any questions and hearing none read the motion.

MOTION: (Abigail Coggin / Dr. Brandon Seigler) To 1) amend current rule in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective October 15, 2021, as follows: 505-3-.06, (2) repeal the current rules in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective October 15, 2021, as follows: 505-3-.27, and 505-3-.92, and (3) adopt the current rules in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective October 15, 2021, as follows: 505-3-.27, and 505-3-.92.

PSC ACTION: Approved

VII. COMMITTEE REPORT

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 Beth Townsend reported that the Committee reviewed 53 *Probable Cause* cases during September, 2021, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMEND</u>
21-3-923	1,4,5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-7-37	5a2,5a5,5a7	Deny	Accept
21-7-47	1,5a7	NPC	Accept
21-7-57	1, 5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-7-58	1,5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-7-72	5a2,5a7	Deny	Accept
21-7-79	1,5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-8-119	1,4,5a7	Deny	Accept
19-6-1906	1,5a7	Revoke	Accept
19-6-1908	4,5a7,8,9	Revoke	Accept
19-7-90	1,5a7	Revoke	Accept
19-7-92	1,5a7,9	NPC	Accept
19-7-95	5a7	Revoke	Accept
20-11-471	2, 9, 5a7	Revoke	Accept
21-1-653	2, 9, 5a7	Suspension 90 days	Accept
21-3-865	1, 2, 9, 5a7	Revoke	Accept

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMEND</u>
21-3-912	8, 9	Suspension 5 days	Accept
21-3-935	1,4,5a7,8,9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-4-1009	9	Reprimand	Accept
21-4-1019	2, 9	Suspension 10 days	Accept
21-5-1090	2, 9, 5a7	Revoke	Accept
21-5-1098	1,4,8,9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-5-1110	4, 9, 5a5,5a7, 5b	Revoke	Accept
21-5-1164	5, 9	Suspension 90 days	Accept
21-5-1169	7, 9, 5a7	NPC	Accept
21-5-1170	7, 9, 5a7	NPC	Accept
21-5-1171	2,9	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-5-1183	1,2,4,9,5a7	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-5-1198	8,9	NPC	Accept
21-6-1205	2, 9, 5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-6-1225	3,9	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-6-1227	2, 9, 5a7	NPC	Accept
21-6-1239	2, 9	Suspension 10 days	Accept
21-6-1248	2,9	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-6-1250	1,4,5,9	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-6-1260	1, 2, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-6-1263	4,9,5a7	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-6-1265	2,9,5a7	NPC	Accept
21-6-1266	4, 5, 9, 5a7	NPC	Accept
21-6-1267	4, 5, 9, 5a7	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-6-1268	9	Suspension 5 days	Accept
21-6-1271	4, 9, 5a7	Reprimand	Accept
21-6-1278	2,9	Suspension 5 days	Accept
21-6-1285	4, 9, 10	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-6-1287	2,9,5a7	Suspension 5 days	Accept
21-6-1308	3, 9	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-6-1342	2, 9, 5a7	Suspension 2 years	Accept
21-7-24	8, 9	Suspension 90 days	Accept
21-7-26	4, 9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-7-38	1,4,8,9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-7-88	1,4,8,9	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-8-113	5a2, 9	NPC	Accept
21-8-172	4,5a5,8,9	NPC	Accept

2. Chair Beth Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 10 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
19-10-545	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-3-844	Suspension 20 days	Accept
21-4-944	Suspension 5 days	Accept
21-4-1005	Suspension 10 days	Accept
21-4-1036	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-5-1063	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-5-1147	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-5-1157	Suspension 10 days	Accept
21-6-1320	Reprimand	Accept
21-7-28	Suspension 20 days	Accept

3. Chair Beth Townsend reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 22 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>NEGOTIATED SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMEND</u>
18-4-1368	Suspension 20 days	Accept
19-1-807	Reprimand	Accept
19-6-1812	VS - <i>Retroactive</i>	Accept
19-12-873	Suspension 2 years	Accept
19-12-884	Suspension 120 days	Accept
20-1-921	Suspension 45 days	Accept
20-1-946	NPC	Accept
20-1-951	Suspension 30 days	Reject
20-3-1339	Reprimand	Accept
20-5-1524	Reprimand	Accept
20-6-1667	Suspension 120 days	Accept
20-8-143	Reprimand	Accept
20-8-166	Suspension 20 days	Accept
20-9-215	Suspension 10 days	Accept
20-9-240	Warning	Accept
20-10-375	Suspension 5 days	Accept
20-10-392	Suspension 1 year	Accept
20-11-419	Reprimand	Accept
20-12-526	Suspension 1 year	Accept
21-1-615	NPC	Accept
21-3-803	Suspension 30 days	Accept
21-3-821	Reprimand	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>
21-6-1279	Failure to respond.	Hold New App
21-6-1281	Failure to respond.	Hold New App
21-6-1294	Failure to respond.	Hold New App
21-6-1296	Failure to respond.	Hold New App
21-6-1300	Failure to respond.	Hold New App
21-6-1313	Failed to provide requested docs.	Hold New App
21-6-1319	Failed to provide requested docs.	Hold New App
21-6-1323	Failure to respond.	Hold New App

5. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 61 new complaints received during the months of August and September 2021.

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 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>
21-6-1336	2, 9, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
21-7-39	2, 9, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender	Accept
21-7-62	2, 9, 5a7	Voluntary Surrender	Accept

7. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the 31 **Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations** consisting of the following:

21-8-204	21-8-209	21-8-221	21-8-226	21-9-249	21-9-259	21-9-264
21-8-205	21-8-217	21-8-222	21-8-227	21-9-250	21-9-260	
21-8-206	21-8-218	21-8-223	21-8-231	21-9-256	21-9-261	
21-8-207	21-8-219	21-8-224	21-8-243	21-9-257	21-9-262	
21-8-208	21-8-220	21-8-225	21-8-244	21-9-258	21-9-263	

8. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 334 cases:

<u>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</u>							
19-2-1106	20-1-1083	20-4-1469	20-7-62	20-10-347	21-2-687	21-4-984	21-5-1190
19-6-1875	20-1-1086	20-5-1488	20-7-66	20-10-352	21-2-688	21-4-986	21-6-1203
19-6-1889	20-1-1089	20-5-1534	20-7-67	20-10-353	21-2-692	21-4-1008	21-6-1216

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
19-6-1931	20-1-1090	20-5-1546	20-7-68	20-10-357	21-2-695	21-4-1012	21-6-1224
19-7-92	20-1-1091	20-5-1551	20-7-69	20-10-360	21-2-698	21-4-1021	21-6-1229
19-7-94	20-1-1096	20-5-1556	20-7-70	20-10-364	21-2-707	21-4-1024	21-6-1233
19-7-97	20-1-1103	20-5-1557	20-7-71	20-10-396	21-2-709	21-4-1027	21-6-1235
19-7-100	20-1-1105	20-5-1558	20-7-75	20-10-397	21-2-744	21-4-1030	21-6-1236
19-7-107	20-2-1178	20-5-1562	20-7-83	20-10-402	21-2-745	21-4-1031	21-6-1237
19-7-128	20-2-1179	20-5-1567	20-7-94	20-10-403	21-2-748	21-4-1032	21-6-1241
19-7-138	20-2-1250	20-5-1571	20-7-97	20-10-404	21-2-751	21-4-1034	21-6-1244
19-7-142	20-2-1254	20-5-1572	20-7-98	20-10-406	21-2-756	21-5-1039	21-6-1257
19-7-154	20-2-1261	20-5-1575	20-7-99	20-11-418	21-2-771	21-5-1041	21-6-1261
19-8-242	20-3-1313	20-5-1576	20-7-100	20-11-439	21-3-785	21-5-1042	21-6-1262
19-9-376	20-3-1315	20-5-1578	20-7-104	20-11-440	21-3-786	21-5-1046	21-6-1280
19-9-390	20-3-1316	20-5-1579	20-8-117	20-11-478	21-3-794	21-5-1052	21-6-1292
19-9-400	20-3-1318	20-5-1585	20-8-119	20-11-479	21-3-795	21-5-1053	21-6-1295
19-9-464	20-3-1319	20-5-1587	20-8-150	20-11-493	21-3-808	21-5-1065	21-6-1299
19-9-488	20-3-1321	20-5-1590	20-8-154	20-11-498	21-3-815	21-5-1079	21-6-1302
19-9-499	20-3-1322	20-5-1594	20-8-177	20-11-509	21-3-818	21-5-1086	21-6-1303
19-9-502	20-3-1325	20-5-1597	20-8-178	20-12-519	21-3-822	21-5-1087	21-6-1316
19-10-534	20-3-1326	20-5-1601	20-8-180	20-12-524	21-3-827	21-5-1088	21-6-1317
19-10-589	20-3-1330	20-5-1602	20-8-183	20-12-541	21-3-832	21-5-1091	21-6-1321
19-10-596	20-3-1331	20-5-1604	20-8-184	20-12-547	21-3-833	21-5-1101	21-6-1324
19-10-609	20-3-1335	20-6-1675	20-8-190	20-12-551	21-3-836	21-5-1105	21-6-1325
19-10-661	20-3-1338	20-6-1692	20-8-191	20-12-552	21-3-852	21-5-1106	21-6-1326
19-10-674	20-3-1379	20-6-1695	20-8-193	20-12-553	21-3-879	21-5-1107	21-6-1327
19-10-683	20-3-1384	20-6-1698	20-8-195	20-12-558	21-3-883	21-5-1108	21-6-1328
19-10-689	20-3-1386	20-6-1702	20-8-196	21-1-605	21-3-887	21-5-1111	21-6-1331
19-11-800	20-3-1387	20-6-1705	20-8-201	21-1-610	21-3-892	21-5-1112	21-6-1333
19-12-857	20-3-1411	20-6-1706	20-9-259	21-1-616	21-3-903	21-5-1113	21-6-1335
20-1-1021	20-3-1413	20-6-1707	20-9-261	21-1-617	21-3-904	21-5-1114	21-6-1341
20-1-1022	20-3-1417	20-6-1719	20-10-323	21-1-619	21-3-905	21-5-1117	21-6-1343
20-1-1023	20-4-1449	20-6-1722	20-10-335	21-1-629	21-3-906	21-5-1124	21-7-3
20-1-1047	20-4-1450	20-7-41	20-10-336	21-1-646	21-3-920	21-5-1128	21-7-5
20-1-1057	20-4-1453	20-7-44	20-10-337	21-2-661	21-3-926	21-5-1135	21-7-19
20-1-1060	20-4-1454	20-7-45	20-10-338	21-2-663	21-3-928	21-5-1146	21-7-27
20-1-1062	20-4-1455	20-7-46	20-10-339	21-2-666	21-3-929	21-5-1174	21-7-53
20-1-1069	20-4-1464	20-7-48	20-10-340	21-2-670	21-4-963	21-5-1178	21-7-54
20-1-1074	20-4-1465	20-7-54	20-10-341	21-2-677	21-4-966	21-5-1181	21-7-60
20-1-1080	20-4-1467	20-7-57	20-10-343	21-2-679	21-4-969	21-5-1185	
20-1-1081	20-4-1468	20-7-59	20-10-346	21-2-686	21-4-972	21-5-1188	

9. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 27 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

10. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 12 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before

11/5/2021

Page 7

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:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL SANCTION</u>	<u>ALJ SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
17-5-1364	Revocation	NPC	Accept
17-7-25	Suspension 90 days	NPC	Accept
18-7-113	Revocation	NPC	Accept
18-11-623 19-11-757	Suspension 2 years Revocation	NPC	Accept
19-7-163	Denial	Grant w/ Reprimand	Accept
20-2-1166	Suspension 90 days	Suspension 5 days	Accept

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

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstentions: Carol S Williams - NCO-18-4-1368, PCE-21-7-24, Abigail Coggin - NCO-20-1-946, PCE-21-4-1019, PID-21-8-203, PID-21-8-166, 167, Derek Easterling - PCEs-21-1-653, 19-7-90, 21-6-1308, Jimmy Atkins - PID-21-8-165, Jordan Frobos - PCE-21-5-1198, Jeanine Bunn - PCE-21-6-1248, PID-21-8-162, 163

B. Educator Preparation/Certification Committee – This committee did not meet in September 2021.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Our next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, October 14th, at 4 pm. We will meet in-person and virtually at 10:00. Information on the location will be posted on our website under Commission Information closer to the date. The Educator Ethics Review Committee and Educator Preparation/Certification Standing Committee meeting will meet on Wednesday, October 13th, at 4:00 pm. Chair Sirmans called for the meeting to be adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved