

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Two Piedmont Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia

July 13, 2017

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, July 13, 2017, at 12:30 p.m.

Members Present

Danielle Bruce

Lauren Eckman

Leon Grant, III

Rodney Green

Dr. Isiah Hill, Jr.

Scott Justus

Henry Kelly

Kamila Luigs

Diane McClearn

Dr. Jacqueline McDowell

Amanda Miliner

Teri Schneider

Susan Thayer

Beth Townsend

Christy Van Meter

Dr. Martha Venn

Members Absent

David Smith

Sheryl Stalvey

I. WORK SESSION

- Kelly welcomed new Commissioners Dr. Jacqueline McDowell, Beth Townsend and Danielle Bruce and had them introduce themselves to the Commission.
- Jimmy Jordan, Director of Membership for the Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE) gave a presentation on Teacher Recruitment and the upcoming Future Georgia Educators Day sponsored by PAGE.
- Dr. David Hill gave a presentation on the Wallace Foundation Grant Program Report.
- Anne Marie Fenton and Chuck McCampbell gave a presentation on Ethics Assessment Data Review.
- Anne Marie Fenton gave a presentation on edTPA.
- Angie Gant presented the GaPSC Approval Decision Options that was proposed for adoption today. She addressed questions and concerns from Commissioners.
- Anne Marie Fenton presented the following rules for initiation addressed questions and comments:

505-2-.02 CLASSIFICATION

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.02 CLASSIFICATION, dated January 15, 2016, be AMENDED to update the fields for which a Permit may be issued.

505-2-.10 PERMIT

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.10 PERMIT, dated October 15, 2016, be AMENDED to edit language for consistency from renewal to extension, add the requirement to complete the appropriate GACE Ethics Exit assessment as a requirement to extend the initial Permit, change the title of the permit from Educational Leadership to Superintendent, add an exemption option for the GACE Program Admission Assessment (PAA) and content assessment for the Superintendent permit, and remove the Retired Educator permit option.

505-2-.34 ADD A FIELD

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.34 ADD A FIELD, dated July 1, 2017, be AMENDED to update the GACE passing level required for adding a teaching field and outline the requirement for adding the Superintendent Certificate field to an established certificate in Educational Leadership.

505-2-.153 EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.153 EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE, dated October 15, 2016, be AMENDED to update the title of the Superintendent permit and to add the Superintendent certificate requirement for individuals in that position.

505-2-.154 SUPERINTENDENT CERTIFICATE

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.154 SUPERINTENDENT CERTIFICATE be INITIATED with a new name and new number to create a certificate that will identify leaders currently serving as a superintendent.

505- 6 -.01 THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR EDUCATORS

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-6.01 THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR EDUCATORS, dated June 15, 2015, be AMENDED to consolidate the standards from eleven (11) to ten (10), including eliminating abandonment of contract as a separate standard, and adding the definition for breach of contract.

- Chair Luigs welcomed each new Commissioner to the Commission. She congratulated a) Dr. David Hill for receiving the state award for the GELFA organization (Georgia Educational leadership Faculty Association), b) Kelly Henson for being the recipient of the NASDTEC Distinguished Leader Award at the June meeting of NASDTEC, and c) Anne Marie Fenton on her appointment to serve as president of NASDTEC for 2017-2018 and for being the recipient of the Doug Bates Award in October 2016.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Luigs called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and a moment of silence.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Luigs called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Scott Justus / Lauren Eckman) To approve the agenda.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Luigs called for approval of the minutes from the June 8, 2017, Commission meeting.

PSC ACTION: Approved

V. VISITORS

Chair Luigs welcomed the visitors.

- Leonard Williams, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Jimmy Jordan, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Bettina Davies, Cauthorn, Nohr & Owen
- Paige Tompkins, UGA & Georgia Association for colleges of Teacher Education
- Stephanie Simeon
- Linda Fortson, Warren Fortson Law Office
- Don Splinter, Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL)
- Jim Barrett, former Commissioner
- Christy McGill and husband, former Commissioner
- Cindi Chance, Georgia Association for Career and Technical Education

VI. RECOGNITION OF COMMISSIONERS

Chair Luigs and Kelly Henson thanked Dr. Jim Barrett and Christy McGill for their service on the Commission and presented them with their photos taken at the beginning of their term. Both Commissioners spoke briefly to the Commission regarding their time and work on the Commission.

Christy has served on the Commission since July 2011 and has served in an exemplary fashion on our Ed Prep/Certification Committee. Christy utilized her experience as an outstanding teacher to create a well-grounded realistic approach to our work. Christy was a strong, stable voice on our Commission.

Jim has served on the Commission since August 2014 and has done excellent work on our Educator Ethics Committee. Of particular note is Jim’s excellent work on Ethics Modules for Pre-Service Teachers and on the Abandonment of Contract Task Force. Additionally, we will miss Jim’s thoughtful questions.

VII. 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 67 **Probable Cause** cases during January 12, 2017, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
16-10-615	1,5a7	Deny
16-12-846	1	Deny
17-3-1152	4,5a2,5a7	Deny
17-5-1392	1,4	Reprimand
17-5-1461	1	Reprimand
17-5-1500	5a7	NPC

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
15-6-1094	4, 10	Suspension 20 days
15-6-1107	5 & 10	Suspension 20 days
15-8-234	5,10	Suspension 45 days
15-9-390	1, 2, 10	Revoke
16-5-1335	4 & 10	Suspension 1 year
16-6-1512	1,5,10	Voluntary Surrender
16-6-1513	1,5,10	Voluntary Surrender
16-6-1526	1,4,9,10	Reprimand
16-11-646	10, 11	Suspension 90 days
16-11-663	4,10	Suspension 90 days
16-11-715	1,2,4,10,5a7	Revoke
16-12-829	4,5,6, 10	Reprimand
17-1-951	1, 2, 4, 10	Revoke
17-2-1014	3,10	Revoke
17-2-1053	2, 10,5a7	Suspension 1 year
17-2-1060	4, 10	Suspension 20 days
17-2-1082	2, 10	Suspension 2 years
17-2-1086	1,10	NPC
17-3-1107	4, 10	Suspension 90 days
17-3-1189	1,9,10	Suspension 1 year
17-3-1198	3, 5, 10	Suspension 1 year
17-3-1201	8, 10	Suspension 90 days
17-3-1202	2, 10	Suspension 20 days
17-3-1203	4, 10	Suspension 30 days
17-3-1244	9,10, 5a7	NPC
17-3-1249	2,10,5a7	Suspension 1 year
17-4-1259	1, 2, 10, 5a7	Revoke
17-4-1260	2, 10	Suspension 60 days
17-4-1265	3, 10, 4	Suspension 1 year
17-4-1268	4, 10	Suspension 5 days
17-4-1273	3,10	Revoke
17-4-1274	10, 5a7	Revoke
17-4-1275	1, 10	Suspension 1 year
17-4-1277	4, 10,5a2,5a5	Suspension 2 years
17-4-1279	1,2,10,5a2,5a5	Revoke
17-4-1280	4, 10, 5a2	Suspension 20 days
17-4-1281	10, 5a2,5a5	Suspension 20 days
17-4-1287	2, 9, 10	Suspension 1 year
17-4-1288	2, 9, 10	NPC
17-4-1289	2, 10	NPC
17-4-1295	2,10,5a7	Revoke
17-4-1305	1, 2, 10	Revoke
17-4-1307	5, 10	NPC
17-4-1308	2, 10	Reprimand

<u>CASE</u>	<u>STANDARDS VIOLATED</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
17-4-1311	1, 10	NPC
17-4-1330	1,4,9,10	Suspension 20 days
17-5-1369	2, 10	Suspension 1 year
17-5-1389	7, 10	Suspension 20 days
17-5-1399	4, 10	Suspension 1 year
17-5-1408	2, 10	Suspension 20 days
17-5-1410	2, 10	Suspension 1 year
17-5-1426	4,5,10	Suspension 90 days
17-5-1436	4, 10	Reprimand
17-5-1437	4, 10	Reprimand
17-5-1438	4, 10	Reprimand
17-5-1439	1, 10	Suspension 1 year
17-5-1447	2, 10	Suspension 90 days
17-5-1448	5, 10	Suspension 1 year
17-5-1489	1,4,9,10	Revoke
17-5-1491	1,4,9,10	Suspension 20 days
17-6-1643	1,4,9,10	Reprimand

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 RECOMMENDATION</u>
17-4-1314	Revocation	Deny
17-5-1416	Revocation	Deny

3. Chair Justus 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>
15-9-464	Revocation	Accept
15-10-522	Suspension - 1 year	Accept
17-1-948	Suspension - 20 days	Accept
17-2-990	Suspension - 30 days	Accept
17-2-1007	Reprimand	Accept
17-2-1015	Suspension - 5 days	Accept
17-3-1109	Reprimand	Accept
17-3-1127	Suspension - 45 days	Accept
17-3-1219	Reprimand	Accept
17-4-1282	Reprimand	Accept

4. Chair Justus 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 RECOMMENDATION</u>
12-9-358 15-2-698	Suspension 2 years	Accept
13-4-983	Warning	Accept
15-3-722	Suspension 5 days	Accept
15-3-735	Suspension 30 days	Accept
15-3-743	Suspension 15 days	Accept
15-5-980	Suspension 30 days	Accept
15-5-996	Suspension 1 year	Accept
15-5-1031	Suspension 30 days	Accept
15-9-461	Reprimand	Accept
15-10-517	Suspension 30 days	Accept
15-11-634	Suspension 90 days	Accept
15-12-659	Suspension 1 year	Accept
16-2-874	VS	Accept
16-3-1031	Suspension 2 years	Accept
16-4-1191	Suspension 43 days	Accept
16-5-1238	Warning	Accept
16-6-1519	Suspension 19 days	Reject
16-9-421	Suspension 90 days	Accept
16-9-477	Reprimand	Accept
16-10-596	Suspension 5 days	Accept
16-11-664	NPC	Accept
16-11-694	Warning	Accept

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Other Business Report* as follows:

<u>CASE</u>	<u>Findings of Fact</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
14-4-756	Educator deceased	Admin Closure
16-10-584	No info received from applicant	Hold New Application
17-1-940	No info received from applicant	Hold New Application
17-2-1072	No info received from applicant	Hold New Application
17-3-1139	No info received from applicant	Hold New Application
17-3-1153	No info received from applicant	Hold New Application
17-3-1158	No info received from applicant	Hold New Application
17-3-1161	No info received from applicant	Hold New Application
17-4-1317	No info received from applicant	Hold New Application
17-4-1322	No info received from applicant	Hold New Application

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 178 new complaints received during the months of June and July 2017.

7. VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of 4 *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>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
16-6-1512	1, 5, 10	Accept
16-6-1513	1, 5, 10	Accept
17-1-954	2, 4, 10	Accept
17-4-1300	2, 10	Accept

8. EXTENSIONS – PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of 65 *Extensions - Preliminary Investigative Determinations* consisting of the following:

17-6-1765	17-7-6	17-7-15	17-7-24	17-7-33	17-7-42	17-7-51	17-7-60
17-6-1766	17-7-7	17-7-16	17-7-25	17-7-34	17-7-43	17-7-52	17-7-61
17-6-1767	17-7-8	17-7-17	17-7-26	17-7-35	17-7-44	17-7-53	
17-6-1768	17-7-9	17-7-18	17-7-27	17-7-36	17-7-45	17-7-54	
17-7-1	17-7-10	17-7-19	17-7-28	17-7-37	17-7-46	17-7-55	
17-7-2	17-7-11	17-7-20	17-7-29	17-7-38	17-7-47	17-7-56	
17-7-3	17-7-12	17-7-21	17-7-30	17-7-39	17-7-48	17-7-57	
17-7-4	17-7-13	17-7-22	17-7-31	17-7-40	17-7-49	17-7-58	
17-7-5	17-7-14	17-7-23	17-7-32	17-7-41	17-7-50	17-7-59	

9. EXTENSIONS - INVESTIGATIONS

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended granting an *Investigative Extension* to the following 358 cases:

<u>WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS</u>							
14-6-981	16-4-1133	16-9-489	17-1-915	17-4-1267	17-5-1402	17-5-1502	17-6-1699
14-10-321	16-4-1199	16-9-490	17-1-916	17-4-1278	17-5-1412	17-5-1503	17-6-1700
14-12-492	16-4-1211	16-9-491	17-1-918	17-4-1283	17-5-1414	17-6-1516	17-6-1701
14-12-493	16-4-1214	16-9-493	17-1-921	17-4-1286	17-5-1417	17-6-1530	17-6-1702
15-3-733	16-4-1215	16-10-555	17-1-928	17-4-1298	17-5-1419	17-6-1539	17-6-1703
15-3-761	16-4-1222	16-10-559	17-1-947	17-4-1299	17-5-1420	17-6-1548	17-6-1704
15-3-821	16-5-1258	16-10-573	17-2-967	17-4-1300	17-5-1422	17-6-1553	17-6-1705
15-3-836	16-5-1269	16-10-576	17-2-986	17-4-1303	17-5-1429	17-6-1565	17-6-1706
15-4-947	16-5-1276	16-10-614	17-2-998	17-4-1304	17-5-1431	17-6-1571	17-6-1707
15-5-957	16-5-1277	16-10-617	17-2-1002	17-4-1312	17-5-1450	17-6-1596	17-6-1708
15-5-982	16-5-1278	16-10-622	17-2-1003	17-4-1318	17-5-1451	17-6-1644	17-6-1711

WRITTEN COMPLAINT EXTENSIONS							
15-5-1003	16-5-1281	16-10-632	17-2-1018	17-4-1323	17-5-1452	17-6-1645	17-6-1712
15-5-1045	16-5-1289	16-10-633	17-2-1078	17-4-1327	17-5-1453	17-6-1646	17-6-1713
15-6-1093	16-5-1329	16-11-683	17-2-1079	17-4-1331	17-5-1454	17-6-1647	17-6-1714
15-6-1095	16-5-1335	16-11-687	17-3-1114	17-4-1332	17-5-1455	17-6-1648	17-6-1717
15-6-1100	16-5-1365	16-11-692	17-3-1116	17-4-1334	17-5-1458	17-6-1650	17-6-1718
15-6-1129	16-5-1367	16-11-728	17-3-1123	17-4-1335	17-5-1459	17-6-1651	17-6-1719
15-6-1173	16-5-1371	16-11-740	17-3-1124	17-4-1336	17-5-1460	17-6-1652	17-6-1720
15-6-1203	16-6-1416	16-11-745	17-3-1135	17-4-1337	17-5-1463	17-6-1654	17-6-1721
15-7-18	16-6-1491	16-11-747	17-3-1137	17-4-1338	17-5-1464	17-6-1655	17-6-1722
15-7-35	16-6-1517	16-11-748	17-3-1142	17-4-1339	17-5-1465	17-6-1657	17-6-1723
15-7-55	16-6-1529	16-11-751	17-3-1144	17-4-1344	17-5-1466	17-6-1659	17-6-1725
15-7-83	16-6-1543	16-11-755	17-3-1160	17-4-1347	17-5-1467	17-6-1660	17-6-1726
15-8-208	16-6-1557	16-11-756	17-3-1162	17-4-1348	17-5-1468	17-6-1661	17-6-1727
15-9-371	16-6-1566	16-12-793	17-3-1163	17-5-1353	17-5-1469	17-6-1662	17-6-1728
15-9-396	16-6-1568	16-12-796	17-3-1167	17-5-1358	17-5-1470	17-6-1664	17-6-1729
15-10-510	16-7-28	16-12-809	17-3-1168	17-5-1359	17-5-1471	17-6-1665	17-6-1732
15-10-532	16-7-94	16-12-810	17-3-1170	17-5-1361	17-5-1472	17-6-1666	17-6-1769
15-11-592	16-7-113	16-12-812	17-3-1174	17-5-1362	17-5-1475	17-6-1667	17-6-1771
15-11-599	16-8-152	16-12-815	17-3-1177	17-5-1363	17-5-1477	17-6-1668	17-6-1772
15-11-604	16-8-157	16-12-832	17-3-1210	17-5-1364	17-5-1478	17-6-1669	17-6-1773
15-11-621	16-8-181	17-1-848	17-3-1211	17-5-1374	17-5-1479	17-6-1671	17-6-1774
15-12-658	16-8-222	17-1-849	17-3-1214	17-5-1379	17-5-1480	17-6-1672	17-6-1775
15-12-682	16-8-291	17-1-864	17-3-1215	17-5-1380	17-5-1481	17-6-1673	17-6-1776
16-1-730	16-8-318	17-1-869	17-3-1220	17-5-1383	17-5-1482	17-6-1674	17-6-1777
16-1-732	16-9-385	17-1-875	17-3-1223	17-5-1384	17-5-1484	17-6-1675	17-6-1778
16-1-735	16-9-420	17-1-880	17-3-1224	17-5-1385	17-5-1485	17-6-1676	17-6-1779
16-1-836	16-9-430	17-1-884	17-3-1225	17-5-1387	17-5-1490	17-6-1678	17-6-1780
16-2-849	16-9-450	17-1-885	17-3-1236	17-5-1390	17-5-1492	17-6-1679	17-6-1781
16-2-859	16-9-453	17-1-888	17-3-1238	17-5-1391	17-5-1493	17-6-1681	17-6-1782
16-2-883	16-9-461	17-1-889	17-3-1242	17-5-1393	17-5-1494	17-6-1683	17-6-1783
16-2-919	16-9-466	17-1-898	17-3-1246	17-5-1394	17-5-1495	17-6-1684	17-6-1784
16-3-994	16-9-468	17-1-907	17-4-1257	17-5-1395	17-5-1497	17-6-1685	17-9-1731
16-3-995	16-9-476	17-1-912	17-4-1261	17-5-1396	17-5-1498	17-6-1697	
16-3-1010	16-9-480	17-1-914	17-4-1263	17-5-1398	17-5-1501	17-6-1698	

10. **APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 26 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

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

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 14 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. The report also advised that there were 2 cases closed without an appeal for a review hearing before the Commission.

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

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The Commission reviewed the Final Decisions Rendered by an Administrative law Judge which consisted of the the 2 cases listed below.

<u>CASE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL SANCTION</u>	<u>ALJ SANCTION</u>	<u>EERC RECOMMENDATION</u>
15-7-10	90 days	90 days	Accept
16-2-868	Deny	Grant	Accept

Chair Luigs called for approval of the Educator Ethics Review Committee report as presented by Chair Justus.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstentions: Teri Schneider – 15-9-461, 17-6-1589, 17-6-1602, 17-6-1603, 17-6-1604, Amanda Miliner - 17-6-1517, 16-9-421, 17-4-1273, Christy Van Meter – 17-6-1556, 17-6-1605, Susan Thayer - 17-3-1163, 17-6-1508, 17-6-1509, 17-6-1525, 17-6-1527, 17-6-1629, 12-9-358, 15-2-698, 15-3-743, 16-11-664, 16-10-615, 15-9-390, 17-5-1426, Kami Luigs – 17-6-1510 thru 17-6-1513, 17-6-1574 thru 17-6-1585, 17-6-1744, 17-3-1203, 17-3-1201, 17-5-1410, 17-5-1369, 17-4-1289, 17-4-1287, 17-4-1288, 17-5-1408, 17-3-1198, 17-3-1202, Dr. Jacqueline McDowell, Beth Townsend, Danielle Bruce – All Cases

Probable Cause Case # 17-2-1060

MOTION: (Rodney Green / Scott Justus) To reject the EERC recommendation of a 20 Day Suspension and issue a 1 Year Suspension.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Opposed: Henry Kelly

Abstentions: Dr. Jacqueline McDowell, Beth Townsend, Danielle Bruce

Probable Cause Case # 17-2-1053

MOTION: (Lauren Eckman / Scott Justus) To reject the EERC recommendation of a 1 Year Suspension and issue a Revocation.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstentions: Dr. Jacqueline McDowell, Beth Townsend, Danielle Bruce

B. The Educator Preparation/Certification Standing Committee did not give a report.

VIII. APPROVAL DECISION OPTIONS

Angie Gant presented the Approval Decision Options.

MOTION: (Lauren Eckman / Scott Justus) To accept the GaPSC Approval Options document to be used for future approval decisions for EPPs and programs.

PSC ACTION: Approved

IX. RULES

Anne Marie Fenton presented the following:

MOTION: (Lauren Eckman / Susan Thayer) To 1) initiate the current rules in Chapter 505-2- Certification, effective October 15, 2017, as follows: 505-2-.154; (2) amend the current rules in Chapter 505-2- Certification,

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effective October 15, 2017, as follows: 505-2-.02, 505-2-.10, 505-2-.34, and 505-2-.153; and (3) amend the current rules in Chapter 505-6- Educator Ethics, effective January 1, 2018, as follows: 505-6-.01.

PSC ACTION: Approved

Abstentions: Dr. Jacqueline McDowell, Beth Townsend, Danielle Bruce

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Luigs called for the meeting to be adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

PSC ACTION: Approved