

MINUTES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Georgia Power
Atlanta, Georgia
November 1, 2001

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, November 1, 2001 at 9 a.m., Georgia Power, Atlanta, Georgia.

Members Present

Jacqueline (Gwenda) Johnson	John Culbreath	David Wallace
Dottie McClain	Terri DeLoach	Amy Denty
Maria Miller	Leon Hurley	Mary Gomez
Kay Cribbs	Pamela Thomas	
Angela Finn		

Members Absent

Vernon Payne
Tony Natson

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Culbreath called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m. and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and a moment of silence.

II. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Chairman Culbreath recognized the visitors.

- Gayle Wooten, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Mike McGonigle, Georgia Association of Educators
- Mary Thompson, Guest of Terri DeLoach

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Culbreath called for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: (Thomas/Cribbs) - To approve agenda.

ACTION: Approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Culbreath called for approval of the minutes from the October 4, 2001, Commission meeting meeting. Corrected copy will be presented at the December 6, 2001 meeting for approval.

MOTION: (Thomas/Hurley) to approve with motion corrections.

ACTION: Approved with changes

V. RULE MAKING

Phil Blackwell presented the following rulemaking item for approval of the Commission:

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Professional Standards Commission, in accordance with the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act, (1) rescind Rules in Chapter 505-3 Teacher Education, effective December 1, 2001, as per attached index; and (2) adopt new Rules in Chapter 505-3 Teacher Education, effective December 1, 2001, as per attached index.

Discussion

The purpose of the proposed changes to Chapter 505-3 is to bring the standards for approval of educator preparation programs in line with recent changes in Georgia (new technology requirement; Georgia Teacher Alternative Preparation Program) as well as with new standards for Unit and Program Approval adopted by the National Council for the Preparation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

Two categories of changes being proposed in the recommended new rule:

1. Revision of 505-3-.01, Requirements and Standards for Approving Professional Education Units and Programs Preparing Education Personnel.

The effect of the proposed changes would be to:

- a. Expand the definition of Professional Education Unit to include Local Education Agencies, Regional Educational Service Agencies, and other agencies who might propose alternative initial preparation programs or endorsement programs for approval by the Professional Standards Commission.
 - b. Clarify the relationship between the Professional Standards Commission and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) with respect to unit approval (provide for joint rather than concurrent NCATE/PSC reviews).
 - c. Align state program approval standards with standards published by national specialty organizations.
 - d. Update the Georgia Specific Requirements to include new legislative requirements.
2. Revision of field-specific program approval rules to incorporate standards published by the national specialty organizations, when these are available.

For program fields for which national specialty organization standards are not available, no new standards are proposed at this time.

MOTION: (Thomas/Hurley) to adopt rules as proposed.

ACTION: Approved

VI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- A. Chairman Culbreath notified the Commission of Thomas Harrison's resignation from the Commission to allow him to devote more time to Columbus State University matters. .
- B. Chairman Culbreath welcomed the new Commission member, Gary Walker.
- C. Vernon Payne sent his appreciation for the prayers and concerns expressed during his wife's illness.
- D. In the absence of Janet Scott, Leon Hurley will serve as acting chair of the Ethics Standing Committee.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Commissioner Leon Hurley, the acting chair of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee, gave a preliminary review of the PPRC Cases.

1. Dr. Hurley reported that the Committee reviewed 62 *Probable Cause* cases during its October 31, 2001, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

PC #	Case Number	PSC Action
1	01-4-1515	Reprimand
2	01-5-1550	Reprimand
3	01-8-337	Reprimand
4	01-8-320	Revocation
5	01-8-396	No Probable Cause
6	01-8-415	No Probable Cause
7	01-8-416	No Probable Cause
8	01-9-557	No Probable Cause
9	01-8-255	Warning
10	01-8-352	Suspension for One Year
11	01-8-369	No Probable Cause
12	01-8-256	Suspension for Six Months
13	01-8-353	Suspension for Six Months
14	01-8-371	Suspension for Six Months
15	01-8-372	Suspension for Six Months
16	01-8-374	Reprimand
17	01-9-500	No Probable Cause
18	01-7-39	Warning
19	01-8-251	Suspension for Three Months
20	01-8-387	No Probable Cause
21	01-5-1557	Reprimand
22	01-7-174	Revocation
23	01-7-192	No Probable Cause
24	01-8-235	No Probable Cause
25	01-8-271	Revocation

PC #	Case Number	PSC Action
26	01-8-276	No Probable Cause
27	01-8-284	No Probable Cause
28	01-8-306	No Probable Cause
29	01-8-359	No Probable Cause
30	01-8-379	No Probable Cause
31	01-8-386	Warning
32	01-8-398	No Probable Cause
33	01-6-1932	No Probable Cause
34	01-7-89	No Probable Cause (Special Letter)
35	01-8-366	Warning
36	01-8-367	Warning
37	01-8-269	Reprimand
38	01-7-146	Suspension for One Month
39	01-7-147	Suspension for One Month
40	01-8-211	Suspension for Six Months
41	01-6-1870	Suspension for One Year (To begin following current Suspension)
42	01-7-111	No Probable Cause
43	01-7-126	No Probable Cause
44	01-7-136	No Probable Cause
45	01-7-173	No Probable Cause
46	01-7-178	No Probable Cause
47	01-7-186	No Probable Cause
48	01-8-218	No Probable Cause
49	01-8-252	No Probable Cause
50	01-8-254	No Probable Cause
51	01-8-313	Warning
52	01-8-314	No Probable Cause
53	01-8-321	No Probable Cause
54	01-8-336	No Probable Cause
55	01-8-354	No Probable Cause
56	01-8-368	No Probable Cause
57	01-8-409	No Probable Cause

PC #	Case Number	PSC Action
58	01-8-410	Reprimand
59	01-8-411	Warning
60	01-6-1828	Denial
61	01-7-192	Denial
62	01-8-397	Suspension for One Year

MOTION: (McClain/DeLoach) To accept the recommendations of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee on all 62 probable cause cases.

ACTION: Approved.

2. Dr. Hurley reported that the Committee reviewed 2 *Initial Decisions* during its October 31, 2001, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

ID #	Case Number	PSC Action
1	00-8-277	Accept
2	00-07-0245	Accept

MOTION: (McClain/Miller) To accept the recommendations of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee on both Initial Decision cases.

ACTION: Approved.

3. Dr. Hurley reported that the Committee reviewed 4 *Petition* during its October 31, 2001, meeting and brought the following recommendation on behalf of the Committee:

#	Case Number	PSC Action
1	01-6-1926	Deny Right to Re-apply
2	01-07-183	Grant Right to Re-apply

#	Case Number	PSC Action
3	01-5-1685	Deny Right to Re-apply
4	01-5-1681	Grant Right to Re-apply

MOTION: (McClain/DeLoach) To accept the recommendation of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee on all 4 petition cases.

ACTION: Approved.

4. Dr. Hurley reported that the Commission reviewed 11 *Settlement Agreement* Consent Order/Voluntary Surrender cases during its October 31, 2001, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

SA #	Case Number	PSC Action (Accept or Reject)
1	01-4-1521	Accept
2	01-5-1580	Accept
3	015-1660	Accept
4	01-6-1818	Accept
5	01-6-1859	Accept
6	01-7-019	Accept
7	01-7-037	Accept
8	01-7-088	Accept
9	01-7-190	Accept
10	01-8-212	Accept
11	01-8-360	Accept

MOTION: (McClain/Thomas) To accept the recommendations of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee on all 11 Settlement cases.

ACTION: Approved.

5. Dr. Hurley reported that the Commission reviewed 2 negotiated *Settlement Agreement* cases during its October 31, 2001, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<u>SA #</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>PSC Action</u>
1	01-02-1200	Accept
2	00-11-805	Accept

MOTION: (Thomas/Cribbs) To accept the recommendations of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee on both Settlement cases.

ACTION: Approved.

6. The Committee reviewed the **Preliminary Investigative Determination Report** consisting of 65 new complaints received during the month of **October 2001**. The October 2001, complaint report was distributed listing the 65 cases that the committee members reviewed. The committee recommended that 21 cases be not warranted, remanded or returned, and 44 cases investigated.

MOTION: (McClain/DeLoach) To accept the recommendations of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee on all 65 new complaints.

ACTION: Approved unanimously

7. **EXTENSIONS**

The Commission granted extensions on 132 cases so the investigations could be completed.

MOTION: (McClain/Cribbs) To accept the recommendations of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee on all 132 Extension cases.

ACTION: Approved.

8. **STUDENT LOAN SUSPENSION / REINSTATEMENTS**

None.

9. **FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF RULE / LAW**

The Committee reviewed the report, which advised that 8 cases were closed by rule and 5 cases were closed by law without an appeal.

10. **APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT**

The Committee reviewed 45 cases on the *Applications for Certification Report* and recommended approval for no probable cause findings on each case.

MOTION: (Deloach/Thomas) To accept the recommendations of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee on all 45 cases.

ACTION: **Approved**

11. MONITORING REPORT

The Committee reviewed one monitoring case and recommended the following actions for approval by the Professional Standards Commission:

NO.	CASE	PSC ACTION
1	00-3-1147	Approved

MOTION: (Wallace/Thomas) To accept the recommendations of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee on the case.

ACTION: **Approved.**

12. OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee reviewed case #99-3-283 in which the Committee recommended no legal advice.

NO.	CASE	PSC ACTION
1	99-3-283	Approved

MOTION: (McClain/Deloach) To accept the recommendation of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee.

ACTION: **Approved**
Thomas Abstained

VIII. REVIEW HEARING

A. Elizabeth McMenemy Case No. 00-11-82

Wayne Magnum, PSC Hearing Officer, gave Ms. McMenemy and PSC's attorney Kendall Kerew, each 20

minutes to present oral arguments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: (Deloach/Hurley) To go into Executive Session to make a decision in this case.

ACTION: Approved

Return to open session.

MOTION: (Deloach/Gomez) To suspend Ms. McMenemy's certificate for one month with monitoring for 1 year.

ACTION: Approved

VII. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

Dr. Toth gave the following Executive Secretary's report:

- A.** Gary Walker was welcomed as a new commission member. Mr. Walker replaced Debbie Lane as one of the commission representatives of the private sector. He is currently a financial consultant and previously served as an assistant superintendent in the Cartersville City School System, Superintendent of the Valdosta City School System, and he has served the state Close The Gap committee.
- B.** A recommendation has been made to the governor to fill Thomas Harrison's Commission vacancy, which is expected to be acted on by the January meeting of the Commission.
- C.** Commissioner, Janet Scott, and Chief Investigator, John Grant, are currently attending a code of ethics meeting in San Diego.
- D.** The PSC has been asked to sponsor a Closing the Gap conference in conjunction with the Closing The Gap Commission and the Georgia Partnership of Education. The Education Commission of the States has agreed to provide funds for conference speakers who have had success with Closing The Gap.
- E.** A group of consultants is currently completing an organizational study of the PSC. A preliminary report has been reviewed and the final report should be ready for presentation to the commission at the December meeting.
- F.** Another group of consultants is currently studying the agency and will be developing a communications plan to guide the agency in recruiting and retaining teachers and making the teaching field more attractive. When this report is ready it will also be presented to the Commission.
- G.** A meeting was recently held with Ron Newcomb, the Governor's Policy Advisor on Education, Tom

Upchurch with the Georgia Partnership on Education, and the Presidents of the Professional Association of Georgia Educators, Georgia Association of Educators, Georgia School Boards Association, and Georgia School Superintendents Association, to talk about the work that Fran Watkins and the Educator Preparation staff have been doing with a committee on teacher induction, mentoring and Teacher Support Specialists. A report is expected to be given at the November 15th Education Coordinating Council Meeting. Dr. Toth provided an overview of some of the statistics in the report.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Cribbs/Gomez) To adjourn the meeting.

ACTION: The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.