

MINUTES

Professional Review Committee

April 10, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

Video Conference, via Teams

Dr. Mark McCann, Chair

Committee Members Present: Mark McCann, Cathy Scott, Chris Burkett, Kelly Harrison, Erin Hamel, Marla Sanders, Lisa Stockdale, Jennifer Wise, Stephen Bismarck, Julie Fernandez, Gretchen Whitman, and Candice Moore

Committee Members Absent: James Ritter

Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Member Present: Lishu Yin

Office of Educator Services (OES) Staff Present: Jacki Walsh, Russell Clark and Jessica McLees

I. Overview

a. Meeting called to order

Mark McCann called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

b. Quorum of members determined

Mark McCann confirmed a quorum of members present for the meeting.

c. Welcome from the Chair

Mark McCann offered a welcome to the group and provided a brief overview of the meeting.

d. Approval of the Agenda

Chris Burkett made a motion to approve the agenda. Jennifer Wise seconded the motion. The motion carried.

e. Approval of the March Meeting Minutes

Cathy Scott made a motion to approve the March meeting minutes. Jennifer Wise seconded the motion. The motion carried.

II. South Carolina Department of Education Information and Update Items

- #### **a.**
- On March 9, 2026, Columbia College submitted the following Response to Conditions reports: Early Childhood Education, Middle Level, and Secondary

- English.

- b. On March 10, 2026, Columbia College submitted the Elementary Education Response to Conditions report.
- c. On March 10, 2026, USC-Aiken submitted the SPED: Multi-categorical (PK only) initial program report.
- d. On March 11, 2026, Winthrop University submitted their BA and MAT – English Response to Conditions Reports.
- e. On March 13, 2026, Allen University submitted their Response to Conditions report for BA in Elementary.
- f. On March 13, 2026, The Citadel submitted their Response to Conditions reports for the BS and MAT in Chemistry and Biology, MAT in Math, and MAT in Middle.
- g. Erskine College submitted their Response to Conditions program report for their BA in Social Studies program. All initial and response to conditions program reports will be shared with the PRC in April and slated for a decision in June.
- h. On March 15, 2026, Meeting Street Schools submitted a proposal to serve as a new alternative certification program. The “Meeting Street Schools Excellence in Teaching Certification Program” is currently under review by the SCDE.
- i. At the May 2026 meeting, the PRC will set the 2026-27 meeting dates and elect the 2026-27 Vice Chair.
- j. As the SCDE plans for future iterations of the EPP Report Card, the Agency is looking to form a workgroup to help us define and understand EPP data surrounding the quality of clinical experiences. An email asking for EPP volunteers was sent March 20 with a deadline to receive recommendations by April 10.
- k. On April 2 the SCDE emailed all Deans and Directors of Teacher Education to invite them to an in-person meeting on Tuesday, September 22 at SCDE headquarters. This meeting will provide an opportunity for parties to share updates and initiatives. An RSVP link will be emailed closer to the event date.

III. SCDE Update on Read to Succeed Pre-Service Requirements

The Read to Succeed Act, as amended by Act 114 of 2023-24, mandates the alignment of pre-service coursework with the science of reading and foundation literacy skills to ensure that teacher candidates have the knowledge and skills necessary to teach reading effectively to students in South Carolina classrooms. In support of this revised focus of the Read to Succeed Act, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) Office of Instructional Supports completed a comprehensive revision of the **South Carolina Literacy Competencies** to align with scientific principles of reading instruction and the 2024 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards for English Language Arts. With the substantive revision of these literacy standards, the SCDE Office of Educator Services required all educator preparation providers (EPPs) to review their approved Read to Succeed courses and course sequences for alignment with the revised competencies. EPPs were required to submit Early Childhood, Elementary, and Special Education program alignment no later than May 1, 2025, and Middle and Secondary program alignment no later than August 1, 2025. The Office of Educator Services has completed a detailed review of the alignment documentation and provides this update on the status of each provider and program in complying with the amended focus of the of Read to Succeed Act.

IV. New Alternative Certification Route Program Proposal (April approval item)

- a. Lexington School District Two, Champions Pathway to Alternative Certification for Teachers (CPACT)

Dr. Tammy Small, Coordinator of Staffing, Credentialing, & Alt Programs for Lexington 2, joined the PRC to answer questions. After much discussion the PRC voted to approve the program proposal. Jennifer Wise abstained from the vote.

V. 2026-27 PRC Meeting Dates (May approval item)

The PRC will vote on the 2026-27 meeting dates at the May meeting.

VI. Election of 2026-27 PRC Vice Chair (May approval item)

The PRC will elect the 2026-27 vice chair at the May meeting.

VII. New Program Proposals (May approval item)

- a. Clemson University
 - i. BS, World Languages: German
 - ii. MAT, World Languages: German
 - iii. MAT Teacher Residency, World Languages: German

iv. BS, Early Childhood and Special Education: Multi-categorical

The PRC will render a decision on these new programs at their May meeting.

VIII. Initial Reports (June approval items)

a. USC Aiken

i. BA, Special Education: Multi-categorical (PK only)

The PRC will render a decision on this initial report at their June meeting.

IX. Response to Conditions Report (June approval items)

a. Allen University

i. BA, Elementary

b. Coker University

i. BS, Biology

c. Columbia College

i. BA, Early Childhood

ii. BA, Elementary

iii. BA, English

iv. BA, Middle Level

d. Erskine College

i. BA, Social Studies

e. The Citadel

i. BS and MAT, Biology and Chemistry and BS, Chemistry

ii. MAT, Mathematics

iii. MAT, Middle Level

f. Winthrop University

i. BA and MAT, English

The PRC will render decisions on these program reports at their June meeting.

X. New Business

CHE will release their updated Productivity Report at the end of April.

CHE will host their annual Symposium June 11 and 12, 2026.

XI. Good of the Order

Chris Burkett made the motion. Marla Sanders seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:54 am.