

MINUTES

Professional Review Committee

August 7, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

Video Conference, via Teams

Dr. Cathy Scott, Chair

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

Committee Members Absent: Gretchen Whitman and Candice Moore

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

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

I. Overview

a. Meeting called to order

Cathy Scott called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

b. Quorum of members determined

Cathy Scott confirmed a quorum of members present for the meeting.

c. Welcome from the Chair

Cathy Scott 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 June Meeting Minutes

Mark McCann made a motion to approve the June meeting minutes. Lisa Stockdale seconded the motion. The motion carried.

II. South Carolina Department of Education Information and Update Items

a. On June 15, the SCDE received the following program reports

i. Presbyterian College submitted the following initial program reports:

- Special Education: Multi-categorical (K-12)
- Special Education: Multi-categorical (PK only)

- ii. USC-Beaufort submitted the following initial program reports
 - Secondary – English
 - Secondary – Mathematics
 - Early Childhood
 - Elementary
- iii. College of Charleston submitted their response to conditions reports
 - BS and MAT, Elementary
 - BS, Middle Level

These program reports will be shared with the PRC in August and slated for a decision in October.

- b. On June 23, Newberry College submitted a statement of intent to create an MED in Educational Leadership.
- c. On June 24, Francis Marion University submitted two new program proposals resulting in principal certification, a M.Ed. in Educational Leadership and a Post-Master's in Educational Leadership. Both proposals will be shared with an external peer review team.
- d. On June 25, the SCDE received the following program reports from South Carolina State University:
 - i. Initial Report
 - Special Education: Emotional Disabilities (K-12)
 - ii. Response to Conditions Reports
 - Special Education: Learning Disabilities (K-12)
 - Physical Education
 - English (undergraduate)
 - Middle Level
 - Elementary (undergraduate)
 - Social Studies
 - Chemistry
 - English (graduate)
 - Elementary (graduate)
 - Mathematics (graduate)
 - Biology(graduate)
 - Biology (undergraduate)
 - Mathematics (undergraduate)

These reports will be shared with the PRC in October and slated for a decision in December.

- e. On June 29, Lander University notified the SCDE of a change in CIP code and program coursework in their Chemistry, English, Mathematics, and Social Studies programs. The changes allow the College of Education increased program oversight as well as a stronger alignment with methodologies and best practices. These changes have been approved by CHE and are in effect for Fall candidates. The credit hour changes are as follows:
 - i. Chemistry – 16.5 credit hours
 - ii. English – 13.5 credit hours
 - iii. Mathematics – 13.5 credit hours
 - iv. Social Studies – 6.5 credit hours
- f. On July 28, Francis Marion University notified the SCDE of curricula changes to the MAT in Early Childhood and MAT in Elementary. The EPP added:
 - i. EDUC 540: Nature and Needs of Gifted and Talented Students (3 credit hours)
 - ii. EDUC 455: Introduction to Educational Programs for Children of Poverty (3 credit hours)The EPP removed:
EDUC 774: Accelerated Master's Program Clinical Experience 2 (3 credit hours)
- g. On July 29, the SCDE received the following new program proposals:
 - i. Lander University submitted a new program proposal for a MAT in Early Childhood Education.
 - ii. Charleston Southern University submitted a new program proposal for a M.Ed. in Special Education: Multi-categorical education.

Both proposals will be shared with external peer review teams.
- h. On August 4, Converse College submitted their Response to Conditions reports for their Special Education: Hearing Impairment program; PK and K-12. Reports will be shared with the PRC in October and slated for a decision in December.
- i. On August 4, the State Board of Education met and approved the following:
 - i. The national accreditation decision for USC-Upstate
 - ii. Clemson University's new educator preparation program in Early Childhood and Special Education: Multi-categorical

- iii. Clemson University's new educator preparation program in World Languages: German
 - iv. USC Aiken's Middle Level Mathematics program modification
 - v. Professional Certificate Renewal Guidelines
 - j. At the September State Board of Education meeting the Office of Education Services will present a request to approve additional partnership locations for Teach Right USA.
 - k. On Monday, August 24, the Ed Prep Team will hold a Praxis 101 webinar with our ETS partners. An invitation to the webinar will be sent to all EPP contacts maintained by the Office of Educator Services on Monday, August 10.
 - l. The Ed Prep Team appreciates the PRC's guidance regarding EPP compliance with the updated Read to Succeed legislation. The SCDE now has the approved coursework in the fields of Early Childhood, Elementary, Special Education, Middle Level, and Secondary on file for all South Carolina traditional EPPs.
- III. **NAEYC Accreditation Request from Francis Marion University (FMU)**

The PRC discussed and approved FMU's request. FMU will continue with the NAEYC accreditation process for their Early Childhood Education program and will keep the PRC abreast of their progress.
- IV. **Discussion of South Carolina Provider Requirements, 2.4 Continuing Program Recognition and Spring 2026 EPP Accreditation Visits**
 - a. Erskine College
 - b. South Carolina State University

The PRC reviewed the South Carolina Provider Requirement 2.4 and discussed the programs not in compliance with 2.4. The PRC will continue this discussion at their September meeting.
- V. **Initial Reports** (October approval item)
 - a. Converse University
 - i. MAT, Middle Level
 - b. Presbyterian College
 - i. BS, Early Childhood
 - ii. BS, Elementary
 - iii. BS, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
 - iv. BS, Middle Level
 - v. BS, Mathematics
 - vi. BS, Social Studies

- The PRC will render a decision on these initial program reports at their October meeting.

- a. College of Charleston
 - i. BS and MAT, Elementary
 - ii. BS, Middle Level
- b. Furman University
 - i. MA and Ed.S., Educational Leadership

The PRC will render a decision on these response to conditions program reports at their October meeting.

The CHE's academic affairs team is working with public EPPs to update the new program approval and modification approval policies and procedures. CHE hopes to share the draft of the new policies and procedures with CAAL in August.

Erin Hamel made the motion. Mark McCann seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:03 am.