

Minutes

Professional Review Committee

May 16, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.

Video Conference, via Teams

Dr. Kevin Eakes, Chair

Committee Member Present: Kevin Eakes, Reggie Williams, Chris Burkett, Erin Hamel, Cathy Scott, Mark McCann, Gretchen Whitman, Julie Fernandez, Kelly Harrison, Marla Sanders, and Jennifer Wise

Committee Members Absent: Michiko McClary, and Jerome Davis

Ex officio, non-voting member Present: Lishu Yin

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

I. Overview

a. Meeting called to order

Kevin Eakes called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.

b. Quorum of members determined

Kevin Eakes confirmed a quorum of members present for the meeting.

c. Welcome from the Chair

Kevin Eakes offered a welcome to the group and provided a brief overview of the meeting.

d. Approval of the Agenda

Reggie Williams made a motion to approve the agenda. Jennifer Wise seconded the motion. The motion carried.

e. Approval of the April Meeting Minutes

The April meeting minutes were unanimously passed.

II. South Carolina Department of Education Information and Update Items

- a. On April 17, the Ed Prep Team received notification from Coastal Carolina University regarding the removal of three courses and the implementation of three new courses within the Early Childhood Education program. This is a cumulative change of 18 credit hours. This

notification will be shared with the State Board of Education as an information item at the August meeting.

b. On April 24, the Ed Prep Team received the following reports from South Carolina State University:

- Biology (undergraduate and graduate), Response to Conditions Report
- Chemistry, Initial Report
- Elementary (undergraduate and graduate), Response to Conditions Report
- SPED: LD (K-12), Response to Conditions Report
- PE, Response to Conditions Report
- Middle level, Initial Report
- Secondary - English (undergraduate and graduate), Response to Conditions Report
- Secondary - Math (undergraduate and graduate), Response to Conditions Report
- Secondary - Social Studies, Response to Conditions Report

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

c. On April 28 the Ed Prep Team received a letter of notification from Morris College outlining their decision to sunset the secondary education programs in English, Biology, Mathematics, and Social Studies effective May 3, 2025. Candidates currently enrolled in the program will be advised to change their major. This letter will be shared with the State Board of Education as an information item at the August meeting.

d. On May 1, the Ed Prep Team received the response to conditions report for Winthrop's MAT in Secondary – Mathematics program. This report will be shared with the PRC in August and slated for a decision in October.

e. On May 6, the State Board of Education approved Teach Anderson, Oconee, Pickens (Teach AOP) as an alternative route provider.

f. On May 8, Furman University sent a notification letter to the SCDE detailing the sunset of the Elementary Teacher Certification (Residency) program and the School Leadership (District Level) program.

g. During the 2024-25 legislative session, the General Assembly passed updates to regulation 43-64. Jacki and Jessica will have more information for EPPs at the May 22 Office Hours meeting.

III. New Alternative Certification Preparation Program (May approval item)

a. Aiken-Alt

i. Certification fields of: Early Childhood, Elementary, Special Education: Multi-Categorical, Middle Level Language Arts, Middle Level Mathematics, Middle Level Science, Middle Level Social Studies, Secondary English, Secondary Mathematics, Secondary Science, Secondary Social Studies

After much discussion the PRC voted to recommend approval to the State Board for Aiken-Alt to become an alternative route provider.

IV. Election of PRC chair-elect for 2025-26 (May approval item)

Cathy Scott was nominated and agreed to serve as the PRC chair-elect for 2025-26.

V. Initial Reports (May approval items)

The PRC reviewed the following initial program reports and rendered the following decisions:

a. Coastal Carolina University

i. Bachelor of Arts, Secondary – Social Studies, *state recognized*.
Cathy Scott abstained from the vote.

b. College of Charleston

i. Bachelor of Science, Special Education: Multi-Categorical (PK and K-12), *state recognized*. Kevin Eakes abstained from the vote.

c. Winthrop University

i. Bachelor of Science and MAT in Special Education: Multi-Categorical (PK only) – *state recognized*. Erin Hamel abstained from the vote

VI. Response to Conditions Reports (May approval items)

The PRC reviewed the following response to conditions reports and rendered the following decisions:

a. University of South Carolina - Aiken

i. Bachelor of Arts, Secondary – Social Studies, *state recognized with conditions*
ii. Bachelor of Arts, Early Childhood, *state recognized with conditions*

VII. Initial Reports (June approval items)

- a. Clemson University
 - i. Bachelor of Arts and MAT Teacher Residency, Early Childhood Education
 - ii. Bachelor of Arts and MAT Teacher Residency, Elementary Education
 - iii. Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Science, MAT Teacher Residency, and MAT, Secondary – Mathematics
 - iv. Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Science, MAT Teacher Residency, and MAT, Secondary – Science (Biology, Chemistry, and Physics)
 - v. Bachelor of Arts and MAT Teacher Residency, SPED: Multi-Categorical (PK only)
- b. Coastal Carolina University
 - i. Bachelor of Science, Secondary - Biology
 - ii. Bachelor of Arts, Secondary - Chemistry
 - iii. Bachelor of Arts, Secondary – English
 - iv. Bachelor of Science, Secondary – Mathematics
 - v. Bachelor of Arts, Secondary – Physics
- c. College of Charleston
 - i. Bachelor of Science, Secondary – Mathematics
- d. The Citadel
 - i. Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education with a concentration in Biology or Chemistry; MAT in Secondary Education with a concentration in Biology
 - ii. Bachelor of Science and MAT in Secondary Education with a concentration in Social Studies
 - iii. MAT in Secondary Education with a concentration in Mathematics
 - iv. MAT in Middle Level
 - v. MAT in Secondary Education with a concentration in English

The PRC will discuss and make recommendations concerning these program reports at their June meeting.

VIII. Response to Conditions Report (June approval item)

- a. Francis Marion University
 - i. Bachelor of Arts in Elementary

The PRC will discuss and make a recommendation concerning this program report at their June meeting.

IX. New Business

The PRC would like to review the Alternative Certification Standards at the August 2025 meeting.

X. Good of the Order

Reggie Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jennifer Wise seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:44 am.