

MINUTES

Professional Review Committee

October 3, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.

Video Conference, via Teams

Dr. Mark McCann, Chair

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

Ex-officio, non-voting member absent: Lishu Yin

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

I. Overview

a. Meeting called to order

Mark McCann called the meeting to order at 10:01 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

Kelly Harrison made a motion to approve the agenda. Jennifer Wise seconded the motion. The motion carried.

e. Approval of the August Meeting Minutes

Erin Hamel made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes. Kelly Harrison seconded the motion. The motion carried.

II. South Carolina Department of Education Information and Update Items

- a. On September 12, 2025, the SCDE received the following program reports from Columbia College
 - i. BA, Early Childhood
 - ii. BA, Elementary
 - iii. BA, Middle Level
 - iv. M.Ed., Educational Leadership

- v. BA, SPED Multi-categorical (K-12)
 - vi. BA, Secondary English
- b. On September 14, 2025, the SCDE received the following response to conditions reports from the University of South Carolina–Aiken (USC–Aiken)
 - i. BA, Early Childhood
 - ii. BA, Secondary, Social Studies
- c. On September 15, 2025, the SCDE received the following initial reports from the College of Charleston
 - i. BS, Secondary, Science (Physics, Biology, Chemistry)
 - ii. BS, Secondary, English
- d. On October 2, 2025, USC–Aiken submitted a request for an out-of-country placement for a teacher candidate in Spring 2026. The candidate is a military spouse and will be stationed in Japan.
- e. During the Fall 2025 the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation Conference (CAEPCon), Morris College was awarded the Emerson J. Elliott Award for Excellence in Educator Preparation Continuous Improvement. This award honors the legacy of Emerson J. Elliott, the first commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics and a leader in developing data-driven educational policy. The award recognizes educator preparation programs that demonstrate sustained dedication to improvement through robust quality assurance systems, evidence-based practices, and a culture of inquiry and accountability.
- f. Also during the Fall 2025 CAEPCon, Anderson University and Morris College received the Frank Murray Leadership Recognition for Continuous Improvement award. This honor awarded to 22 educator preparation providers (EPPs) that achieved accreditation with no stipulations or areas for improvement by demonstrating strong evidence and data trends. Named after the founding President of the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC), the award celebrates Murray’s legacy as a champion for rigorous educator preparation standards and his role in uniting the profession through the creation of CAEP.
- g. On September 15, 2025, the SCDE received Erskine College’s Response to Conditions report for the Secondary – Social Studies program.

All program reports will be shared with the PRC in October and slated for a

decision in December.

- h. On August 8, 2025, the SCDE received a notification of the following revisions at Erskine College:
 - i. Special Education: change of 11 cumulative credit hours
 - ii. Early Childhood: change of 3 cumulative credit hours
 - iii. Elementary: change of 3 cumulative credit hours

These changes will better prepare candidates to be effective classroom teachers in the state.

- i. Winthrop University's Special Education: Multi-categorical add-on program will be presented to the State Board of Education for approval at the November 4 meeting.
- j. ETS shared the document *Praxis Bridge Behind the Scenes* to provide insight into the Praxis Bridge program. Please email specific questions to the SCDE.

III. Amendment to the Agenda

Chris Burkett made a motion to amend the agenda. Julie Fernandez seconded the motion.

Kevin Eakes made a motion to allow South Carolina EPPs the ability to switch from the CEC's EI/ECSE Standards to the South Carolina Special Pre-kindergarten Standards. This only applies to programs currently undergoing program review. This motion was seconded by Chris Burkett. The motion passed.

IV. Election of PRC Members (October approval item)

- a. Two public institution members
After much discussion the PRC nominated Drs. James Ritter and Stephen Bismarck.
- b. Two private institution members
After much discussion the PRC nominated Drs. Lisa Stockdale and Kelly Harrison.

Kelly Harrison abstained from the vote.

- c. One district representative member
After much discussion the PRC nominated Dr. Candice Moore.

V. Initial Reports (October approval items)

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

- a. Allen University
 - i. BS, Elementary, *further development required*
- b. College of Charleston
 - i. BS and MAT, Elementary, state recognized with conditions
 - ii. BS, Social Studies, state recognitionKevin Eakes abstained from the votes.
- c. Furman University
 - i. MA and Ed.S., in Educational Leadership, *state recognition with conditions*
- d. South Carolina State University
 - i. BS, Chemistry, *further development required*
 - ii. BS Middle Level, *further development required*Reggie Williams abstained from the votes.

VI. Response to Conditions Report (October approval item)

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

- a. Coker University
 - i. BS, Biology, *state recognition with conditions*
- b. Francis Marion University
 - i. BS, Art, *state recognition with conditions*
- c. Lander University
 - i. BS, Social Studies, *state recognition*
- d. Newberry College
 - i. BS, Mathematics, *state recognition*
- e. South Carolina State University
 - i. BS and MAT, Biology, *state recognition with conditions*
 - ii. BS and MAT, Elementary, *state recognition with conditions*
 - iii. BS, Physical Education, *further development required*

- iv. BA and MAT, English, *further development required*
- v. BS and MAT, Mathematics, *further development required*
- vi. BS, Social Studies, *further development required*
- vii. BS SPED Learning Disabilities (K-12), *further development required*

Reggie Williams abstained from the votes.

f. Winthrop University

- i. M.Ed. and Ed.S., Educational Leadership, *state recognition*
- ii. MAT, Modern Languages – Spanish, *state recognition with conditions*
- iii. MAT, Mathematics, *state recognition*

Erin Hamel abstained from the votes.

VII. New Business

CHE shared news of a scholarship enhancement opportunity.

VIII. Good of the Order

Kevin Eakes made the motion. Erin Hamel seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:55 am.