

Alaska State Professional Teaching Practices Commission
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1270
Anchorage AK 99501
ADOPTED MINUTES
October 1-2, 2018

Call to Order: Maureen van Wagner called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. There were 8 members present so there was a quorum.

Members Present: Chair Maureen van Wagner, Vice Chair Diane Kardash, Tony Graham, David Piazza, Kent Runion, Janine Todd, Semra Deaner, Paul Prussing

Members Absent: David DeVaughn

Agenda Approval: David Piazza moved and Diane Kardash seconded to approve the agenda as presented. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Welcome: Janine Todd from Delta Junction and Semra Deaner from Juneau were welcomed to the PTPC as its newest members.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes: It was moved by Tony Graham and seconded by Diane Kardash to approve the April 26-27 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Reports: Melody Mann delivered her reports in the following areas.

Financial Report: Personal services were higher due to Patricia Truman serving as interim director in the spring. David Piazza asked whether newsletters are being mailed or distributed electronically. They are being distributed electronically.

Case Report: The commission was provided a summary of the cases the PTPC office has investigated since the last meeting. There were several questions from commissioners about procedures involving open cases and how cases are opened.

Activity Report: Melody Mann reported on her activities since she started this position in June. Her activities included performing background checks, approving out of state license applications, and investigating complaints. She also performed educational outreach at several in-services and conferences around the state.

Executive Session: Tony Graham moved and Diane Kardash seconded to go into executive session as permitted by AS 44.62.310(b) for the purposes of discussing the cases as listed. The motion passed unanimously. The commission moved into executive session at 10:51 am.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

AS 44.62.310 (b) If permitted subjects are to be discussed at a meeting in executive session, the meeting must first be convened as a public meeting and the question of holding an executive session to discuss matters that are listed in (c) of this section shall be determined by a majority vote of the governmental body. The motion to convene in executive session must clearly and with specificity describe the subject of the proposed executive session without defeating the purpose of addressing the subject in private. Subjects may not be considered at the executive session except those mentioned in the motion calling for the executive session unless auxiliary to the main question. Action may not be taken at an executive session, except to give direction to an attorney or labor negotiator regarding the handling of a specific legal matter or pending labor negotiations.

A motion was made by Tony Graham and seconded by Diane Kardash to move out of Executive Session at 2:28 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

Professional Teaching Practices Commission Cases

PTPC Case 18-37: The Commission accepted the voluntary surrender of the Initial Teaching Certificate of John Paul Donald Douglas.

Moved: David Piazza

Second: Kent Runion

AYE

Tony Graham

David Piazza

Kent Runion

Paul Prussing

Diane Kardash

Semra Deaner

Janine Todd

Maureen van Wagner

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

PTPC Case 18-49: The Commission accepted the Stipulated Agreement ordering a reprimand Brian P. Mason who holds a Professional Teaching Certificate.

Moved: Diane Kardash

Second: Paul Prussing

AYE

Tony Graham
Kent Runion
Paul Prussing
Diane Kardash
Semra Deaner
Janine Todd
Maureen van Wagner

NAY

RECUSE

David Piazza

Motion passed unanimously.

PTPC Case 18-56: The Commission accepted the Stipulated Agreement issuing a reprimand to Peter Gundunas who holds a Professional Teaching Certificate.

Moved: Kent Runion

Second: Janine Todd

AYE

David Piazza
Kent Runion
Paul Prussing
Diane Kardash
Semra Deaner
Janine Todd
Maureen van Wagner

NAY

RECUSE

Tony Graham

Motion passed unanimously.

PTPC Case 18-57: The Commission accepted the stipulated agreement suspending for one-year the right to renew a teaching certificate for Tina Hall effective January 19, 2018.

Moved: Diane Kardash

Second: David Piazza

AYE

Tony Graham
David Piazza

Kent Runion
Paul Prussing
Diane Kardash
Semra Deaner
Janine Todd
Maureen van Wagner

NAY
Motion passed unanimously.

PTPC Case 19-02: The Commission accepted the stipulated agreement ordering a one-year suspension of the Initial Teaching Certificate of Erica J. Williams effective July 10, 2018

Moved: David Piazza Second: Diane Kardash

AYE
Tony Graham
David Piazza
Kent Runion
Paul Prussing
Diane Kardash
Semra Deaner
Janine Todd
Maureen van Wagner

NAY
Motion passed unanimously.

PTPC Case 18-44: The commission upheld the decision of the PTPC staff to dismiss the case.

Moved: Paul Prussing Second: Janine Todd

AYE
Tony Graham
David Piazza
Kent Runion
Paul Prussing
Janine Todd
Maureen van Wagner

NAY
Diane Kardash
Semra Deaner

Motion passed

PTPC Case 18-27: The commission upheld the decision of the PTPC staff to dismiss the case.

Moved: Tony Graham Second: Diane Kardash

AYE

Tony Graham

David Piazza

Kent Runion

Paul Prussing

Diane Kardash

Semra Deaner

Janine Todd

Maureen van Wagner

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

PTPC Case 18-18: The commission rejected the petition to rescind the one-year suspension of Joni Earp Speiss.

Moved: Tony Graham Second: Semra Deaner

AYE

Tony Graham

David Piazza

Kent Runion

Paul Prussing

Diane Kardash

Semra Deaner

Janine Todd

Maureen van Wagner

NAY

Motion passed unanimously.

NASDTEC PPI Commissioner Attendee Selection:

The Commission moved Janine Todd as a the PTPC delegate to NASDTEC PPI Conference

Motion: David Piazza Second: Tony Graham

Motion passed unanimously

Model Code of Educator Ethics:

There was discussion of adding MCEE to the PTPC website. It was agreed to place a link on the PTPC website to this resource.

Move to Recess until 10/2 at 8:30 am.

Motion: Tony Graham Second: Diane Kardash

Entered into recess at 3:00 pm.

Meeting reconvened at 8:56 am on October 2, 2018. David DeVaughn and Paul Prussing were absent.

Discussion Items

DEED Report: Sandra Meredith updated the Commission on the State of Alaska's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan. She explained the new school accountability and teacher quality systems that will be put in place. The DEED website will be ADA accessible in the near future.

There were five finalists for Alaska Teacher of the Year 2019. An announcement of the winner will be in the middle of October.

The Teacher Certification was recently audited to ensure personal and financial information is being kept secure. The fee for adding endorsements to a certificate has been changed to a one-time fee for additional endorsements.

A Type W certificate has been added for educators proficient in a world language. It requires a demonstration of competency in the language of instruction.

Model Code of Ethics: Melody Mann introduced the idea of adding a section to the Code of Ethics dealing with technology and social media. There was discussion of what is personal and professional use of social media. It was also discussed whether to add a technology section to the Code of Ethics or as a separate policy. Melody will prepare a policy example to be discussed at the January PTPC meeting.

Alaska Teacher Placement/District Applications: Discussion was held about language in ATP application questions about sanctions, reprimands, and investigations. It was suggested to use the Alaska Certification application language in the Alaska Teacher Placement application. Melody Mann will contact ATP about this possible change.

E-Learning Modules: Melody Mann discussed different options for offering an ethics module on the Department of Education website.

Highly Qualified Policy: The current policy lists highly qualified teacher, while the regulations are no longer in effect. New regulations for teacher qualification will be coming out soon and this policy will be revisited.

PTPC Statement on Contractual Issues: There was discussion about adding citations to the Statement on Contractual Issues to make the statement clearer. The revised policy will be presented at the January meeting.

Open Discussion: Direction was given to the Executive Director in regards to how cases are handled.

Adjournment: Tony Graham moved and David Piazza seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved. Maureen van Wagner adjourned the meeting at 11:11 am.

Submitted by,
Kent Runion
October 2, 2018