# Subcommittee for the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development Central High School 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room 359 N. West Street, Jackson MS 39201 January 4, 2017

In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(10) and § 25-41-5, a subcommittee of the members of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Commission) met 9:00 a.m., on Wednesday, January 4, 2017, in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room of Central High School located at 359 N. West Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

Members in Attendance: Kenny Goza, Mary Margarett King, and Susan McClelland Commission Counsel: Erin Meyer, Special Assistant Attorney General

## Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Personnel Attending:

James Thompson, Office of Educator Misconduct Investigator Joseph A. Runnels, Special Assistant Attorney General, Counsel to OEM

### **Other Individuals Attending:**

Robert Hall, Respondent/Educator Lisa Ross, Esq., Counsel for the Respondent/Educator

### I. Case of Donna Rice, Educator License No: 224072

Kenny Goza serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee called the hearing to order at 9:01 a.m.

James Thompson presented the Commission Hearing Subcommittee with an executed Agreed Order of Voluntary Surrender from the educator, Donna Rice, in which the educator admits to violating Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(13)(a) and §37-9-57. Mr. Thompson requested the Commission Hearing Subcommittee accept and ratify the Voluntary Surrender, which will suspend Ms. Rice's license for a period of one year from the date of ratification.

On a motion by Susan McClelland, seconded by Mary Margarett King the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to accept and ratify the Agreed Order of Voluntary Surrender executed by educator, Donna Rice.

This matter concluded at 9:04 a.m.

#### II. Robert Hall, Educator License No.: 186669

Kenny Goza serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee called the continuation of this hearing to order at 9:21 a.m.

The Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act prohibits educational agencies from disclosing student's personally identifiable information without parental permission. Based on the discussion from Joseph Runnels counsel for the Office of Educator Misconduct, and over no objection by Lisa Ross, Counsel for the Educator/Respondent, the Commission considered going into executive session to prevent the release of student information.

At 9:27 a.m. Susan McClelland moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session to prevent the release of student information. Mary Margarett King seconded the motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following individuals remained in the room: Kenny Goza, Mary Margarett King, Susan McClelland, Erin Meyer, Joseph Runnels, James Thompson, Lisa Ross, Robert Hall, Student 1, Mother of Student 1, and the Court Reporter.

At 10:25 a.m. the Commission Hearing Subcommittee took a recess. At 10:37 a.m., the Commission Hearing Subcommittee resumed the hearing. At 11:05 a.m., the Commission Hearing Subcommittee took a recess. At11:07 a.m., the Commission Hearing Subcommittee resumed the hearing.

At 11:26 a.m. on a Motion by Susan McClelland, seconded by Mary Margarett King, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

At 11:26 a.m., the Commission Hearing Subcommittee took a recess. At 12:28 p.m., the Commission Hearing Subcommittee resumed the hearing.

At 12:40 p.m. Susan McClelland made a motion that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee consider going into executive session. Mary Margarett King seconded the motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to consider going into executive session. On a Motion by Mary Margarett King, seconded by Susan McClelland, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session to prevent the release of student information. The following individuals remained in the room: Kenny Goza, Mary Margarett King, Susan McClelland, Erin Meyer, Joseph Runnels, James Thompson, Lisa Ross, Robert Hall, and the Court Reporter.

At 1:51 p.m., the Commission Hearing Subcommittee took a recess. At 1:55 p.m., the Commission Hearing Subcommittee resumed the hearing. At 2:38 p.m., the Commission Hearing Subcommittee took a recess. At 3:08 p.m., the Commission Hearing Subcommittee resumed the hearing.

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Before the conclusion of witness testimony, Counsel for the Office of Educator Misconduct and Counsel for the Respondent/Educator proposed to the Commission Hearing Subcommittee a settlement agreement. On a motion by Susan McClelland, seconded by Mary Margarett King, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to change the purpose of executive session for consideration and deliberations regarding the proposed settlement. The following individuals remained in the room: Kenny Goza, Mary Margarett King, Susan McClelland, and Erin Meyer.

On a motion by Mary Margarett King, seconded by Susan McClelland, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

Kenny Goza reported that during executive session, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously approved the terms of the proposed settlement agreement. More specifically, on a motion by Susan McClelland, seconded by Mary Margarett King, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee agreed to accept probation for the Respondent/Educator until June 30, 2017. While on probation should the Respondent/Educator commit any offense of the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics Standards of Conduct, his educator license would be suspended for a period of one year.

After the Respondent/Educator executed the Agreed Order/Settlement Agreement, and counsel for the Respondent and Counsel for the Office of Educator Misconduct signed the Agreed Order/Settlement Agreement, on a motion by Susan McClelland, seconded by Mary Margarett King, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously ratified the Agreed Order/Settlement Agreement of probation.

### III. Adjournment

On a Motion by Mary Margarett King, seconded by Susan McClelland, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Approved:

Kenny Goza, Subcommittee Chai Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development

Paula A. Vanderford, Ph.D., Executive Secretary Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development