# Subcommittee for the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development Administration Building, MS School for the Blind 1252 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS. 9: 00 a.m.

# September 6, 2017

In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(10) and Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-5, a subcommittee of the members of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development ("Commission") met at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 6, 2017, in the Administration Building located the at the MS School for the Blind, 1252 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS.

Members in Attendance: Kenny Goza, Patrick Gray, and Corey Welch Commission Counsel: Erin Meyer, Special Assistant Attorney General

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

James Thompson Veronica Barton Jo Ann Malone

Raina Anderson Lee, Special Assistant Attorney General, Counsel to the MDE

#### MDE, Office of Educator Misconduct Counsel:

Joseph A. Runnels, Special Assistant Attorney General

#### Other Individuals Attending:

Douglas Sanders, Educator

# I. Voluntary Surrenders/Agreed Orders

Kenny Goza, serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at 9:03 a.m.

- A. James Thompson presented the Commission Hearing Subcommittee with an executed Agreed Order from the educator, Stephen K. Logan (License No. 206901), in which the educator admits to violating Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(12)(a) and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-9-57. Mr. Thompson requested the Commission Hearing Subcommittee accept and ratify the Agreed Order, which will suspend Mr. Logan's license through December 31, 2017.
- B. James Thompson presented the Commission Hearing Subcommittee with an executed Agreed Order from the educator, Sidney D. Ferris (License No. 198043), in which the educator admits to violating Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(12)(a) and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-9-57. Mr. Thompson requested the Commission Hearing Subcommittee accept and

ratify the Agreed Order, which will suspend Ms. Ferris` license through December 31, 2017.

- C. James Thompson presented the Commission Hearing Subcommittee with an executed Agreed Order from the educator, Lorrie Stringer (License No. 153605), in which the educator admits to violating Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(12)(a) and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-9-57. Mr. Thompson requested the Commission Hearing Subcommittee accept and ratify the Agreed Order, which will suspend Ms. Stringer's license through December 31, 2017.
- D. James Thompson presented the Commission Hearing Subcommittee with an executed Agreed Order of Voluntary Surrender from the educator, Jason Hayes (License No. 228422), in which the educator admits to violating Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(12)(h) and Standard Four of the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics Standards of Conduct. Mr. Thompson requested the Commission Hearing Subcommittee accept and ratify the Agreed Order of Voluntary Surrender, which will suspend Mr. Hayes' license for a minimum of one (1) year from the date of ratification.
- E. James Thompson presented the Commission Hearing Subcommittee with an executed Agreed Order for Voluntary Surrender from the educator, Gary Crowell (License No. 127360), in which the educator admits to violating Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(12)(h) and Standard Four of the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics Standards of Conduct. Mr. Thompson requested the Commission Hearing Subcommittee accept and ratify the Agreed Order of Voluntary Surrender, which will suspend Mr. Crowell's license for a minimum of three (3) years from the date of ratification.

On a motion by Patrick Gray, seconded by Corey Welch, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to accept and ratify the Agreed Orders and/or Voluntary Surrenders presented by the Office of Educator Misconduct.

This matter concluded at 9:08 a.m.

# II. Case of Douglas Sanders, Educator License No.: 203827

Kenny Goza, serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at 9:14 a.m.

The Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act prohibits educational agencies from disclosing student's personally identifiable information without parental permission. Based on argument from Joseph Runnels, counsel for the Office of Educator Misconduct, the Commission considered going into executive session to prevent the release of student information.

Patrick Gray moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session to prevent the release of student information. Corey Welch seconded the motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following individuals remained in the room: Kenny Goza, Patrick Gray, Corey Welch, Erin Meyer, Joseph Runnels, Raina Anderson Lee, James Thompson, Veronica Barton,

Douglas Sanders, and the Court Reporter. Witnesses were allowed to enter executive session, only when testifying before the Commission Hearing Subcommittee.

After all exhibits were received into evidence and testimony heard, Patrick Gray moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee change the purpose of executive session for deliberation and findings concerning the License of Educator, Douglas Sanders. Corey Welch seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following individuals remained in the room: Erin Meyer, Kenny Goza, Corey Welch, and Patrick Gray.

On a motion by Patrick Gray, seconded by Kenny Goza, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

During Executive Session, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee took the following action:

Patrick Gray moved that the Commission's Hearing Subcommittee to immediately place the Respondent. Douglas Sanders, Educator License No. 203827, on probation through June 30, 2019, based on violations of the Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(12)(h) and Standard Four of the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics Standards of Conduct.

During his probation, the Respondent, at his own expense, shall attend and participate in one seminar or course work on the code of ethics, one seminar or course work on bullying, and one seminar or course work on anger management. The Respondent shall submit to the MDE, proof of his attendance and successful completion by June 30, 2018. Additionally, the Respondent shall submit job performance evaluations from his current administrators by December 31, 2017, June 30, 2018, December 31, 2018, and June 30, 2019.

The failure of the Respondent to complete the aforementioned requirements shall automatically result in the immediate suspension of the Respondent's educator license for a period of five (5) years. After serving a five (5) year suspension, the Respondent may petition for reinstatement of Respondent's educator license pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §37-3-2(14)(a) and the Rules of Procedure Governing Disciplinary Proceedings of the Commission. The Commission, in its discretion, may reinstate the Respondent's educator licensure only by a majority vote of all members of the Commission present at the meeting called for that purpose upon the Respondent's satisfactory showing of evidence of rehabilitation.

Corey Welch seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to immediately place the Respondent on probation through June 30, 2019.

# III. Adjournment

On a Motion by Corey Welch, seconded by Patrick Gray, the hearing adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Approved:

Kenny Goza, Subcommittee Chair Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development Paula Vanderford, Ph.D., Executive Secretary Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and

Development