

Subcommittee for the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education,
Certification and Licensure and Development
4th Floor Board Room, Central High School
359 N. West Street, Jackson, MS 39201
December 2, 2020

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 at 9:00 a.m. on December 2, 2020, in Senator Grey Farris Board Room on the 4th Floor, Central High School, 359 N. West Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

Members in Attendance: Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson, Bernell Kelly, and William Hamilton,
Commission Counsel: Erin Meyer, Special Assistant Attorney General

OEM Counsel: David Minton, Special Assistant Attorney General

Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Personnel Attending:
Brian McGairty, Director for Office of Educator Misconduct (OEM)
Tilla Tate, License Investigator, Office of Educator Misconduct
Kristina Oxendine, Administrative Assistant Office of Educator Misconduct

Matters before the Subcommittee:

I. Approval of Agreed Orders

Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson, serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at 8:55 a.m.

Tilla Tate, Licensed Investigator of the Office of Educator Misconduct, presented two proposed Agreed Orders for ratification by the Commission Hearing Subcommittee:

1. Martha Nicole Givens, Educator License No. 253836 (Std. 4)
2. Birdette Scott, Educator License No. 206297 (Std. 10)

Following the presentation by OEM, William Hamilton moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee accept and ratify the proposed Agreed Orders. Bernell Kelly seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to accept and ratify the above listed matters.

The hearing on Agreed Orders concluded at 9:01 a.m.

II. Case of Sarah Snyder Educator License No. 322341

Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson, serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at approximately 9:09 a.m.

After all exhibits were received into evidence and testimony heard, Bernell Kelly moved that the subcommittee go into closed session to determine the necessity to go into executive session. William Hamilton seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into closed session.

Bernell Kelly moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session for deliberation and findings concerning the license of the above identified Educator. William Hamilton seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following individuals remained in the room: Debra Mays-Jackson, William Hamilton, Bernell Kelly, and Erin Meyer.

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

On a motion by Bernell Kelly, seconded by William Hamilton, the Commission's Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to suspend License No. 322341 held by Sarah Snyder for the 2020-2021 school year, based on the violation of Miss Code Ann. §§ 37-3-2(12)(a) and 37-9-57, and Standard 10 of the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics Standards of Conduct. Upon the submission of a licensure reinstatement application, this license shall be reinstated at the end of the suspension period, after June 30, 2021, in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(14)(a) without the necessity of a hearing.

On a motion by William Hamilton, seconded by Bernell Kelly, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

In open session, counsel read the decision of the Commission Hearing Subcommittee to the participants.

The presiding officer pronounced the conclusion of the hearing at 11:28 a.m.

II. Case of Cassandra Pete, Educator License No. 325473

Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson, serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at approximately 11:34 a.m.

After all exhibits were received into evidence and testimony heard, William Hamilton moved that the subcommittee go into closed session to determine the necessity to go into executive session. Bernell Kelly seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into closed session.

Bernell Kelly moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session for deliberation and findings concerning the license of the above identified Educator. William Hamilton seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following

individuals remained in the room: Debra Mays-Jackson, William Hamilton, Bernell Kelly, and Erin Meyer.

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

Debra Mays-Jackson moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee approve the processing and issuance of Educator License No. 325473. Bernell Kelly seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to approve the processing and issuance of Educator License No. 325473.

On a motion by Bernell Kelly, seconded by William Hamilton, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

In open session, counsel read the decision of the Commission Hearing Subcommittee to the participants.

The presiding officer pronounced the conclusion of the hearing at 2:14 p.m.

III. Case of Tonya Rawson, Educator License No. 195387

Debra Mays-Jackson, serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at approximately 1:03 p.m.

After all exhibits were received into evidence and testimony heard, Bernell Kelly moved that the subcommittee go into closed session to determine the necessity to go into executive session. William Hamilton seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into closed session.

William Hamilton moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session for deliberation and findings concerning the license of the above identified Educator. Bernell Kelly seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following individuals remained in the room: Debra Mays-Jackson, William Hamilton, Bernell Kelly, and Erin Meyer.

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

William Hamilton moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee deny the Petitioner's request for reinstatement of Educator License No. 195387 currently suspended and previously issued to Tonya Rawson. Also included in his motion, that the Petitioner may resubmit her application not less than six (6) months from the date of this hearing, specifically, June 2, 2021. Prior to petitioning the Commission for reinstatement, the Petitioner at her own expense, shall complete a minimum of two (2) separate three-credit hour courses or the equivalent of six (6) CEUS related to ethics

and teacher/student relationships, preferably from an accredited university or school board association, and shall submit proof of attendance and successful completion of the required course of study to the Office of Educator Misconduct. Bernell Kelly seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to deny the Petitioner's request for reinstatement.

On a motion by William Hamilton, seconded by Bernell Kelly, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

In open session, counsel read the decision of the Commission Hearing Subcommittee to the participants.

The presiding officer pronounced the conclusion of the hearing at 2:40 p.m.

IV. **Case of Eliot Anderson, Educator License No. 162256**

Debra Mays-Jackson, serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at approximately 2:56 p.m.

After all exhibits were received into evidence and testimony heard, Bernell Kelly moved that the subcommittee go into closed session to determine the necessity to go into executive session. William Hamilton seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into closed session.

Bernell Kelly moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session for deliberation and findings concerning the license of the above identified Educator. William Hamilton seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following individuals remained in the room: Debra Mays-Jackson, Bernell Kelly, William Hamilton, Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson, and Erin Meyer.

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

William Hamilton moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee grant the Petitioner's request for reinstatement of educator License No. **162256** currently suspended and previously issued to Elliott Anderson; however, the Petitioner's educator license will be immediately placed on probation for three (3) years. During his probationary period, the Petitioner, at his own expense, shall engage in counseling sessions with a licensed counselor and submit quarterly progress reports (March 30, June 30, September 30, and December 31) from said counselor to the OEM. Failure to submit quarterly reports by the deadline shall result in immediate revocation of the Petitioner's License No. **162256** without the necessity of a hearing for a period of two (2) years. Any reported violation(s)/allegation(s)/infraction(s) of the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics Standards of Conduct and/or state or federal law during the probationary period shall result in immediate revocation of the Petitioner's License No.

162256 without the necessity of a hearing for a period of two (2) years. Additionally, during his probationary period, the Petitioner shall disclose the terms of his probation with any school district, including, but not limited to, the superintendent of the district and principal of the school he is employed with. Bernell Kelly seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously approved the reinstatement of Educator License No. **162256**, placing the educator immediately on probation with conditions.

On a motion by William Hamilton, seconded by Bernell Kelly, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

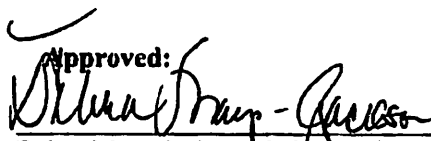
In open session, counsel read the decision of the Commission Hearing Subcommittee to the participants.

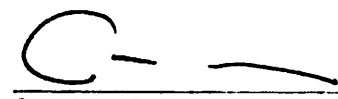
The presiding officer pronounced the conclusion of the hearing at 5:07 p.m.

V. Adjournment.

On a motion by William Hamilton, seconded by Bernell Kelly, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to adjourn for the day at 5:08 p.m.

Approved:

Approved:

Debra Mays-Jackson, Subcommittee Chair
Commission on Teacher and Administrator
Education, Certification and Licensure and
Development


Cory Murphy, Ph.D., Executive Secretary
Commission on Teacher and Administrator
Education, Certification and Licensure and
Development