



**PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA**

State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction

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# Report to the North Carolina General Assembly

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Professional Educator Preparation and  
Standards Commission (PEPSC) Annual  
Report for 2022-2023

*G.S. 115C-268.5(d)*

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**Date Due: December 1, 2023**  
DPI Chronological Schedule, 2022-2023

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## NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

**Catherine Truitt, State Superintendent :: 301 N. Wilmington Street :: Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-2825**

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### **Inquiries or complaints regarding discrimination issues should be directed to:**

Thomas Tomberlin; Senior Director of Educator Preparation, Licensure, and Performance; NCDPI  
6301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-6301 / Phone: (984) 236-2114 / Fax: (984) 236-2099

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# PEPSC Annual Report

**Annual Report Review Period:** September 1, 2022-August 31, 2023

## Introduction

The Professional Educator Preparation and Standards Commission (PEPSC) was created on September 1, 2017, as a part of the passing of Senate Bill 599 (Section 1. (a)., Article 17.C.115C-268.1.). The purpose of the Commission is to involve stakeholders in establishing high standards for North Carolina educators. The Commission shall make rule recommendations regarding all aspects of preparation, licensure, continuing education, and standards of conduct of public-school educators. The Commission shall be located administratively under the State Board of Education (SBE) but shall exercise its powers and duties independently of the SBE.

## Commission Membership & Structure

The Commission shall consist of 18 members with representation across North Carolina including teachers, administrators, personnel administrator, educator preparation program designees. Half of the membership is appointed by the Senate, and half by The House of Representatives. Except for the at-large members, before their appointment to this Commission, the members must have been actively engaged in the profession of teaching, in the education of students in educator preparation programs, or in the practice of public school administration for at least three (3) year, at least two (2) of which occurred in North Carolina. Appointed members shall serve for two-year terms. Vacancies in the membership shall be filled by the General Assembly. The membership during this annual report is:

Role (SB599.c)	Name	Role Representation	Term
1.a.	Dr. Scott Elliott	Superintendent	Sept. 1, 2022 – Aug. 31, 2024
1.b.	Dr. Christopher Blanton	Principal	Sept. 1, 2020 – Aug. 31, 2024
1.c.	Dr. Van Dempsey, III (Chair of PEPSC)	Dean of EPP within the UNC system	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2024
1.d.	Dr. Hank Weddington	Dean of EPP at nonpublic NC institution	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2024
1.e.	Dr. Anthony Graham	Dean of EPP at HBCU NC institution	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2023
1.f.	Ms. Madison Edwards	Teacher	Sept. 1, 2022 – Aug. 31, 2024
1.g.	Dr. Marcie Holland*	Personnel Administrator from LEA in NC ≥ 30,000 students	Sept. 1, 2021- Aug. 31, 2023
1.h	Dr. Michael Maher**	At-Large Member	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2023
2.a	Dr. Aaron Fleming (Vice Chair of PEPSC)	Superintendent	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2023
2.b.	Mr. Craig S. Smith	Principal	Sept. 1, 2021- Aug. 31, 2023
2.c	Dr. Randall Penfield	Dean of EPP within the UNC system	Sept. 1, 2020 – Aug. 31, 2023

2.d.	Dr. Ann Bullock (Secretary of PEPSC)	Dean of EPP at nonpublic NC institution	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2023
2.e.	Mr. Eric T. Patin	Teacher	Sept. 1, 2021- Aug. 31, 2023
2.f.	Dr. Bill Griffin	Personnel Administrator from LEA in NC ≤ 30,000 students	Sept. 1, 2022 – Aug. 31, 2024
2.g.	Dr. Connie Locklear	State Advisory Council Member on Indian Education	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2024
2.h.	Dr. Samuel Houston Jr.***	At-Large Member	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2024
3	Ms. Leah Carper****	The State Teacher of the Year	Sept. 1, 2022 – Aug. 31, 2023
4	Superintendent Catherine Truitt	NCDPI State Superintendent	Sept. 1, 2021 – Present

\*Dr. Marcie Holland has retired from Wake County Public Schools and her replacement is under consideration

\*\*Dr. Michael Maher has decided to end his term on August 31, 2023, and his replacement is under consideration

\*\*\*Dr. Sam Houston has retired, and his replacement is under consideration

\*\*\*\*Ms. Leah Carper will be replaced by Kim Jones, 2023-2024 NC Teacher of the Year

### NC Department of Public Instruction Personnel

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) formed a team of dedicated individuals to support the organization and operation of PEPSC. One of these individuals was hired based on the allotted funding from SB 257 in April 2018. The table below states who is included on this team with corresponding title and contact information.

Catherine Truitt	NC DPI State Superintendent of Education	Catherine.truitt@dpi.nc.gov
Thomas Tomberlin	Senior Director of Educator Preparation, Licensure, and Performance	Thomas.tomberlin@dpi.nc.gov
Andrew Sioberg	Director of Educator Preparation	Andrew.sioberg@dpi.nc.gov
Kim Evans*	Program Coordinator, PEPSC	Kimberly.evans@dpi.nc.gov

\*Hired due to funding from SB257

### Meetings

Meetings of the Commission shall be held upon the call of the chair or vice-chair in the absence of the chair. The Commission adopted Robert's Rule of Order to govern the process of each meeting. All members of the Commission are voting members and ten members of the Commission constitutes a quorum. Physical meeting space is reserved in the 7<sup>th</sup> floor SBE Board Room of the NC State Education Building (301 N. Wilmington, Raleigh, NC). This room is equipped with technology to provide a live-stream on the web to the public. Each meeting is also recorded and archived using the same technology.

*Note: Due to COVID-19, PEPSC meetings starting after March 13, 2020, were held virtually, but continued to be live-streamed, recorded, and archived on the web for the public.*

The first charge of the Commission is to ensure compliance with all policies regarding preparation, licensure, continuing education, and standards of conduct of public-school educators. Several policies have required revisions and updates to meet compliance with SB599.

## Policy Guide

Policy ID	Policy Title
<i>Licensure Policies</i>	
LICN-001	General Licensure Requirements
LICN-003	Licensure Testing Requirements
LICN-005	Licensure Renewal Requirements
LICN-008	Licensure Fees
<i>Teacher Education Policies/Rules</i>	
TCED-008	Sanctions for Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs)
TCED-013	EPP Accountability Requirements and Risk Factors
<i>Career and Technical Education Policies</i>	
CTED-004	NC Public Schools Career and Technical Education Licensure Policies and Procedures Manual

## Meetings

20 meetings were scheduled and held during this reporting window. The dates and focus of the meetings are discussed below along with meeting summaries that include specific policies for review and recommendation for revisions proposed to the SBE. To access specific policies, visit the NC SBE Policy Manual website (<https://stateboard.ncpublicschools.gov/policy-manual>) and conduct a SBE Policy Search by policy title or content. In addition, the weblinks found below access meeting minutes for the specific date.

1. **September 9, 2022 (Monthly Meeting)**  
([https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13071](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13071))
  - a. Discussion Item: North Carolina Pathways to Excellence for Teaching Professionals DRAFT Presentation
2. **October 13, 2022 (Monthly Meeting)**  
([https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13107](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13107))
  - a. Discussion/Action Item: North Carolina Pathways to Excellence for Teaching Professionals DRAFT Presentation
3. **November 11, 2022 (Monthly Meeting)**  
([https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13244](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13244))
  - a. Discussion/Action Item: North Carolina Pathways to Excellence for Teaching Professionals
    - i. PEPSC Responsibilities Presentation
    - ii. Pathways to Excellence for Teaching Professionals Draft Model Review
    - iii. Blueprint Summary Action Items
4. **December 8, 2022 (Monthly Meeting)**  
([https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13359](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13359))
  - a. Approved: Pathways to Excellence for Teaching Professionals Blueprint
  - b. Approved: Policy Amendments for LICN-001 General Licensure Requirements
5. **January 12, 2023 (Monthly Meeting)**  
([https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13423](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13423))
  - a. Pathways to Excellence for Teaching Professionals: Working Groups Update
6. **January 19, 2023 (New Professional Learning Working Group Meeting)**  
([https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13529](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13529))

- a. January Meeting Work Focus
    - i. Whole Group Discussion
    - ii. Small Group Discussion
  - b. Next Steps: February Meeting
- 7. January 26, 2023 (Student Impact Measures Working Group Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13531](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13531)
- a. January Meeting Work Focus
    - i. Whole Group Discussion
    - ii. Small Group Discussion
  - b. Next Steps: February Meeting
- 8. January 30, 2023 (New Pathway Entry Points Working Group Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13533](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13533)
- a. January Meeting Work Focus
    - i. Whole Group Discussion
    - ii. Small Group Discussion
  - b. Next Steps: February Meeting
- 9. January 31, 2023 (Advance Teaching Roles Working Group Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13532](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13532)
- a. January Meeting Work Focus
    - i. Whole Group Discussion
    - ii. Small Group Discussion
  - b. Next Steps: February Meeting
- 10. February 9, 2023 (Student Impact Measures Working Group Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13665](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13665)
- a. February Work Focus
    - i. Whole Group Discussion
- 11. February 13, 2023 (New Pathway Entry Points Working Group Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13666](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13666)
- a. February Work Focus
    - i. Whole Group Discussion
- 12. February 14, 2023 (New Professional Learning Working Group Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13667](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13667)
- a. February Meeting Work Focus
    - i. Whole Group Discussion
- 13. February 14, 2023 (Advance Teaching Roles Working Group Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13668](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13668)
- a. February Meeting Work Focus
    - i. Whole Group Discussion
- 14. February 16, 2023 (Monthly Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13547](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13547)
- a. Approved: Policy Amendment: CTED-004 Career and Technical Education Licensure Updates
  - b. Pathways to Excellence for Teaching Professionals: Working Groups Recommendations
- 15. March 9, 2023 (Monthly Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13699](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13699)
- a. Report to the General Assembly: North Carolina Partnership for Micro-credentials
  - b. Approved: Policy Amendment: LICN-003 Licensure Testing Requirements (Pedagogy Assessment Update and Praxis Test Updates)
- 16. April 13, 2023 (Monthly Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13797](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13797)
- a. PEPSC Subcommittees
  - b. DRIVE Task Force Letter for Pathways Draft Model and Pilot

- c. Update on Pathways Work

**17. May 11, 2023 (Monthly Meeting)**

[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13919](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=13919)

- a. Approved: Policy Amendment: CTED-004 (NC Public Schools Career and Technical Education Licensure Policies and Procedures Manual)
- b. Approved: Policy Amendment: LICN-001 (General Licensure Requirements)
- c. PEPSC Leadership Considerations (moved to June meeting due to time constraints)
- d. PEPSC Monthly Meeting Time (moved to June meeting due to time constraints)

**18. June 8, 2023 (Monthly Meeting)**

[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=14060](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=14060)

- a. Discussion: EPP Accountability Rules
- b. Approved: PEPSC Leadership Considerations
- c. Approved: PEPSC Monthly Meeting Time (*changing from 9:30-11:30am on Thursdays after SBE meetings to 3:30-6:30pm on same dates*)
- d. Membership Updates

**19. July 13, 2023 (Monthly Meeting)**

[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=14228](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=14228)

- a. Discussion/Action: LICN-005
- b. Discussion/Action: LICN-008
- c. EPP Accountability Rules Update

**20. August 10, 2023 (Monthly Meeting)**

[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=9935](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=9935)

- i. Discussion/Action: 2022-2023 Annual PEPSC Report
- ii. Discussion: LICN-008
- iii. Discussion: EPP Accountability Rules
- iv. PEPSC Bylaws

**Areas of Focus for The Commission moving forward:**

There are three standing subcommittees; Licensure, Educator Preparation, and Performance and Assessment; where PEPSC delegates various work according to subject area and need of expertise. Members for each subcommittee are selected based on their work expertise and role. Possible subcommittee work areas are listed below:

- *Licensure*
  - LICN-001 updates (ongoing)
  - International Faculty License
  - Future Licensure Areas: add-on license for STEM and Computer Science
- *Educator Preparation*
  - Senate Bill 599 (SL2017-189)\*
    - Appropriate pedagogy requirements to be included in Residency License (RL) programs
    - GPA – appropriate courses to be used to calculate individual and cohort GPAs for admission to EPPs
    - Specific hour requirements for preservice training and field experiences prior to entering the classroom for individuals issued RL
    - Specific hour requirements for preservice training prior to entering the classroom for individuals issued Emergency Licenses
    - Recommend ways to ensure that the clinical practice requirements described in G.S. 115C-269.25(d) effectively prepare high-quality professional educators who meet the demands of NC schools
  - Update NC Standards for School Executives (in process)



- Update NC Professional Teaching Standards
- *Assessment and Performance*
  - Licensure testing requirement-particularly Elementary Math Licensing Exam
  - Retaking edTPA to boost pay
  - Extenuating circumstances for testing (extensions)

\*Next Subcommittee Work

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