

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION



ANNUAL REPORT 2013



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Tom Corbett, Governor

Professional Standards and Practices Commission

Carolyn Angelo, Executive Director

The Professional Standards and Practices Commission does not discriminate in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices, based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, ancestry, union membership, or any other legally protected category. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with State Law including the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act and with Federal law, including Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies:

For Inquiries Concerning Nondiscrimination in Employment:

Pennsylvania Department of Education

Equal Employment Opportunity Representative

Bureau of Human Resources

333 Market Street, 11th Floor

Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

Voice Telephone: (717) 787-4417

Fax: (717) 783-9348

Text Telephone TTY: (717) 783-8445

If you have any questions about this publication or for additional copies, contact:

Professional Standards and Practices Commission

333 Market Street

Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

www.education.pa.gov

Telephone 717 787-6576

Fax 717 783-0734

TTY 717 783-8445

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON	1
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION 2013 MEMBERSHIP	3
MISSION STATEMENT	4
INTRODUCTION	4
CODE OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND CONDUCT FOR EDUCATORS	5
DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITY	7
IMPACT OF DISCIPLINE AS COMPARED TO LOCAL EMPLOYMENT ACTION	7
GROUNDINGS FOR DISCIPLINE	7
DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE	9
REINSTATEMENT PROCEEDINGS	9
AMENDMENTS TO THE EDUCATOR DISCIPLINE ACT	10
ETHICS TOOLKIT	13
COMMITTEE STRUCTURE	14
CONFIDENTIALITY	15
2013 DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS	15
2013 REINSTATEMENTS	36
GOALS FOR 2014	36
CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2014	37
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	37

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Dear Governor Corbett and Members of the General Assembly:

It is my pleasure to provide you with the Annual Report of the Professional Standards and Practices Commission (PSPC) for 2013. The Annual Report is designed to provide an overview of the PSPC's mission and operation, to identify major issues currently before the PSPC, and to report on the public disciplinary actions imposed in 2013.

Our specific goals for 2013 included:

- continued focus on outreach and prevention efforts;
- finalize amendments to the Professional Educator Discipline Act; and
- provide advice to the State Board of Education and the Pennsylvania Department of Education on issues related to teacher preparation and certification.

The PSPC also celebrated in December the enactment of SB 34 into law, which strengthened the educator discipline process thereby enhancing the safety of students in our schools. We particularly want to thank the Governor for his support of this initiative, as well as Senator Smucker and Representative O'Neill, for their sponsorship of the amendments to the now entitled Educator Discipline Act.

We continue to review and take action upon educator disciplinary cases that are prosecuted by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. A summary of the disciplinary actions taken in 2013 can be found in the body of this report. Finally, we remain committed to augmenting our outreach efforts to school entities and teacher preparation programs. These efforts are designed to inform the educational community about its individual responsibilities to the profession and to reduce the incidence of misconduct.

Since its inception, the commissioners serving on the PSPC have worked arduously to safeguard the children of the Commonwealth through the imposition of educator discipline. While the disciplinary process consumes the majority of the PSPC's efforts, the PSPC also strives to provide timely and pertinent advice to the State Board of Education on issues related to the improvement of teacher preparation and certification.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Executive Director, Carolyn Angelo, and her Administrative Assistant, Suzanne Markowicz for their guidance to the PSPC. While understaffed, Ms. Angelo and Mrs. Markowicz have

provided leadership and guidance to the commissioners and continue to support our endeavors with enthusiasm.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gilbert R. Griffiths".

Gilbert R. Griffiths, D.Ed.
Chairperson
Professional Standards and Practices Commission

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND
PRACTICES COMMISSION 2013
MEMBERSHIP**

Gilbert Griffiths, Chair
Wilkes University
Administrator

James Gilhooley
Keystone College
Administrator

Jane Bray (Standards Chair)
Millersville University
H.E. Administrator
(resigned 2013)

Jacalyn Mogilski
Easton S.D.
Teacher

Myron Yoder (Practices Chair)
Allentown S.D.
Teacher

Douglas Enders
West Shore S.D.
Principal
(resigned 2013)

Linda Michel
Conestoga Valley S.D.
Teacher

Phyllis Comer
Woodland Hill S.D.
Teacher

Eugene Dangelo
Mount Pleasant Area S.D.
Teacher

Lisa Barbour
Fox Chapel Area S.D.
Teacher

Elizabeth Brewer
Warrior Run S.D.
Educational Specialist

Thomas Baker
Public Member

Shauna D'Alessandro
Jefferson Hills S.D.
Public Member (School Director)
(term ended May, 2013)

David Shutter
Public School Member
(as of July, 2013)

Francis Michelini, ex officio
State Board of Education

MISSION STATEMENT

The PSPC is committed to providing leadership for improving the quality of education in the Commonwealth by establishing high standards for preparation, certification, practice and ethical conduct in the teaching profession.

INTRODUCTION

Self-governance is the hallmark of any profession. For many years, the education profession in Pennsylvania sought the right and responsibility of policing its own ranks. With the enactment of Act 71 in December 1989, the education profession achieved its goal when the General Assembly fashioned a new commission. The newly fashioned PSPC replaced a prior commission, which served predominantly as an advisory board to the State Board of Education. Under Act 71, the PSPC was reconfigured into a teacher majority commission that, for the first time, was empowered with significant authority for affecting education in the Commonwealth. On December 20, 2000, Act 123 was signed into law, amending Act 71. Act 123, known as the Professional Educator Discipline Act (Act), expanded the PSPC's jurisdiction, clarified discipline procedures, provided for reciprocal discipline and broadened reporting requirements. The Act was further amended by Act 120 of 2013, which went into effect on February 18, 2014, and changed the name of the statute to the "Educator Discipline Act" from the "Professional Educator Discipline Act". A chart reflecting the significant amendments in Act 120 of 2013 can be found on page 10.

The PSPC is composed of 13 voting members who are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of a majority of the members of the Senate. Under the Act in effect during 2013, the 13 voting members include:

- seven classroom teachers, including one educational specialist;
- three public school administrators, at least one of whom is a commissioned officer and one a principal;
- one administrator from an approved institution of higher learning in the Commonwealth offering approved teacher education programs; and
- two members from the general public, one of whom is an elected public school director.

In addition, a member of the State Board of Education sits *ex officio* as a non-voting member. An Executive Director and an administrative assistant provide administrative support for the PSPC, while legal support is provided under the auspices of the Office of General Counsel.

Under the Act, the General Assembly established the PSPC as the legal adjudicatory body in the Commonwealth for administering educator discipline and overseeing the reinstatement of certificates surrendered, suspended or revoked. In addition, the General Assembly invested the PSPC with a host of advisory functions to assist the State Board of Education, as well as the Pennsylvania Department of Education (Department), in achieving excellence within the educational profession. These advisory functions include providing recommendations on the following:

- certification standards and requirements;
- standards for professional educator preparation programs; and
- effectiveness of professional educator preparation programs.

Over the past few years the PSPC, in its advisory role, has provided input to the State Board and the Department on numerous issues, including: revisions to Chapter 49 and other chapters of Title 22 of the Pennsylvania Code; the development of the Department's Standards, Policies and Procedures for State Approval of Certification Programs and for the Certification of Professional Educators for the Public Schools in Pennsylvania; Interstate New Teacher Assessment Support Consortium Standards; Alternative Certificate Programs; School University Partnerships; Standards for the Beginning Teacher; and agency requests for new certificates.

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND CONDUCT FOR EDUCATORS

One of the first tasks accomplished by the PSPC under Act 71 was the creation of Pennsylvania's Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators (Code). The Code, which was adopted in 1992, was the culmination of many months of collaborative work by the commissioners and representatives of the statewide educational associations. The Code is designed to detail the standards of behavior that reflect the values of the educator community. Every educator in the Commonwealth is expected to internalize and observe the standards of conduct espoused in the Code. The Code also serves as a tool for improving the quality of education by establishing clearly defined ethical standards for the teaching profession. The Code can be found in Chapter 235 of Title 22 of the Pennsylvania Code or on the PSPC's website:

www.pspc.education.pa.gov.

The two most important tenets underlying the education profession's warrant to the public are the duty to act as a role model and the duty to act as a fiduciary. In addition to detailing the general principles that should guide the educational

practitioner, the Code delineates specific behaviors that are prescribed and proscribed. Specifically, educators are expected to:

- abide by all pertinent laws and regulations;
- be adequately prepared and properly certified in their areas of assignment;
- maintain high levels of competency;
- exhibit respectful and equitable treatment towards fellow educators, parents and students;
- accept the value of diversity of educational practices;
- exhibit professional communication skills;
- maintain confidentiality within the workplace; and
- protect the students from conditions that are threatening or harmful.

Similarly, educators are prohibited from:

- engaging in illegal conduct;
- accepting employment or encouraging employment in an area when not properly certified;
- discriminating on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, culture, religion, sex or sexual orientation, marital status, age, political beliefs, socioeconomic status, disability or vocational interest;
- interfering with a student's or colleague's exercise of political/civil rights or responsibilities;
- accepting gratuities, gifts or favors that might impair or appear to impair professional judgment;
- exploiting a professional relationship;
- misrepresenting student or colleague evaluations;
- misrepresenting subject matter or curriculum;
- harassing students or colleagues sexually;
- engaging in relationships of a sexual nature with students;
- withholding evidence from authorities concerning violations of the Code;
- denying or impeding a colleague in the exercise or enjoyment of a professional right or privilege;
- using coercive means to influence professional decisions of colleagues; and
- threatening, coercing or discriminating against a colleague who, in good faith, reports or discloses actual or suspected violations of laws, regulations or standards.

DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITY

Under the Act in effect in 2013, the PSPC has jurisdiction over discipline of all educators, which include all individuals certificated as teachers, administrators or educational specialists by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In addition, all charter school staff members, who serve in a position for which certification would be required in a public school, fall within the PSPC's jurisdiction.

The discipline options available to the PSPC include private reprimands, public reprimands, suspensions of the educator certification or one's eligibility to serve in a charter school, acceptance of the surrender of the educator certification or eligibility and revocation of the educator certification or eligibility. The PSPC also retains authority to reinstate certificates or eligibility previously surrendered, suspended or revoked.

IMPACT OF DISCIPLINE AS COMPARED TO LOCAL EMPLOYMENT ACTION

Discipline against an educator's certificate should be distinguished from employment action taken by a local school district, a charter school, intermediate unit or vocational/technical school. The misconduct of a school district employee may result in the suspension, dismissal or other sanction of the employee from the employing local educational agency. Such action only affects the employment relationship between the individual and the employer.

In contrast, discipline against an individual's educator certification may affect the individual's ability to teach in any local school entity across Pennsylvania. Moreover, Pennsylvania participates with its sister states in a database administered by the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC), which shares all discipline actions with its member states.

GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINE

The Act authorizes the PSPC to discipline educators who are found guilty of immorality, incompetency, intemperance, cruelty, negligence or violations of any provision of the Act of May 29, 1931 (P.L. 210, No. 126) (relating to improper or illegal use of certification status). The individual grounds for discipline (immorality, intemperance, negligence, incompetency, cruelty and violations of the Act of May 29, 1931) are defined in Chapter 237 of Title 22 of the Pennsylvania Code, which is available online at:

www.pspc.education.pa.gov

In addition, violations of the Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators may serve as support for discipline or, standing alone, may result in a

private or public reprimand. As discussed on page 10 of this Report, the amendments to the Act that were enacted in December 2013 have delineated additional grounds for discipline, including sexual abuse or exploitation and sexual misconduct.

Further, the PSPC is required to revoke the educator certification of any individual who is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude or a crime listed in Section 111(e)(1)–(3) of the Public School Code. Crimes listed in Section 111(e)(1)-(3) include criminal homicide, aggravated assault, stalking, kidnapping, unlawful restraint, rape, statutory sexual assault, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault, indecent exposure, incest, concealing death of child, endangering welfare of children, dealing in infant children, felony prostitution, obscene and other sexual materials and performances, corruption of minors, sexual abuse of children and felonies under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. In Act 24 of 2011, additional crimes were added to section 111(e) including institutional sexual assault, luring a child into a motor vehicle or structure, sexual intercourse with an animal, unlawful contact with a minor, solicitation of minors to traffic drugs and sexual exploitation of children. Under Act 24, there is now a permanent ban on employment for any educator who commits a crime set forth in section 111(e) and the PSPC is thus barred from reinstating the educator certification of any educator whose revocation was based on their conviction of a section 111(e) crime.

The PSPC has also determined that additional crimes involve moral turpitude, thereby mandating revocation, including the following:

Burglary	Making False Statements to Federal Agency
Child Abuse	Money Laundering of Drug
Cruelty and Neglect of Children (NJ)	Trafficking Proceeds
Defrauding Public Welfare	Obstruction of Justice
Falsely Altering Military Records	Receiving Stolen Property
Falsifying Business Records Funds	Reckless Endangerment
Forcible Sodomy	Sexual Battery (Ohio)
Forgery	Felonious Assault (Ohio)
Fraudulent Use of Credit Cards	Theft by Deception
Grand Larceny	Theft by Unlawful Taking
Gross Sexual Imposition (Ohio)	Trafficking in Counterfeit Goods
Homicide by Vehicle	Unlawful Contact or Communication with Minor
Insurance Fraud	Unlawful Restraint
Lewd and Lascivious Assault on Child	Wire Fraud
Lewdness (Honduras)	
Mail Fraud	

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE

The Department is responsible for investigating and prosecuting educator misconduct. The Department receives allegations of misconduct by virtue of the filing of a verified complaint by any interested party or by submission of a mandatory report by a local educational agency. Complaint forms and mandatory report forms are available on the PSPC's website:

[Educator Misconduct Complaint Form](#)

[Mandatory Reporting](#)

The Act delineates a very specific process for the receipt and investigation of complaints as well as the commencement of formal disciplinary proceedings. If the Department determines that the allegations rise to the level of actionable misconduct, it will file with the PSPC a Notice of Charges against the educator. The filing of the Notice of Charges is the trigger that invokes the PSPC's jurisdiction.

Once a Notice of Charges is filed and served on the educator, the PSPC is responsible for ensuring that any adjudication it may render in the case is the result of a fair and efficient administrative proceeding. To this end, the PSPC employs trained hearing officers to conduct hearings on its behalf and recommend disciplinary action, where applicable. In some cases, however, the matter proceeds directly to the PSPC for decision. In all cases, the PSPC announces its decisions orally at a public meeting. Written decisions are issued shortly thereafter, and are made public, in keeping with the Act's confidentiality proscriptions. Both the affected educator and the Department have the opportunity to appeal the PSPC's decision to Commonwealth Court.

REINSTATEMENT PROCEEDINGS

Any educator whose certificate or eligibility has been suspended, revoked or surrendered may apply to the PSPC for reinstatement. Pursuant to the Act, the PSPC shall reinstate a certificate when it is "just and proper" to do so. In determining whether reinstatement is just and proper, the PSPC will consider the nature of the conduct that resulted in discipline, other past conduct, the applicant's current attitude towards the past conduct, rehabilitative efforts and letters in support of, or opposition to, reinstatement. If a revocation, suspension or surrender was the result of conduct involving sexual abuse or exploitation, the PSPC is prohibited from reinstating the certificate. In the event that the basis for the original discipline was the conviction of a crime listed in Section 111(e) of the Public School Code of 1949, the PSPC may not reinstate the certificate.

AMENDMENTS TO THE EDUCATOR DISCIPLINE ACT

The PSPC has worked with its stakeholders over the past several years to develop amendments to the Act with the goal of enhancing the safety and welfare of students and other individuals in the schools of the Commonwealth. In December 2013, Governor Corbett signed SB 34 into law, which significantly amended the Act. The significant amendments, which are effective February 2014, are detailed below.

PRIOR LAW: Professional Educator Discipline Act	NEW LAW : Educator Discipline Act
No jurisdiction over private academic certificate holders or contractors providing educational services to public school students	Commission’s disciplinary jurisdiction expanded to include private academic certificate holders and contractors providing direct educational services to public school students
Interested parties may file a complaint with PDE within one year of the misconduct or its discovery (5 years after student turns 18 in cases of sexual abuse or exploitation)	No limitations period for an interested party to file a complaint with PDE
Complaints must be notarized	Complaints must be verified and made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities)
Sexual Misconduct not defined	Delineates “ sexual misconduct ” as an independent basis for discipline and defines the term broadly to include any act directed toward a child or student that is designed to establish a romantic or sexual relationship with the child or student. The term includes, but is not limited to, the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual or romantic invitations; • Dating or soliciting dates; • Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialogue; • Making sexually suggestive comments; • Self-disclosure or physical

	<p>exposure of a sexual, romantic or erotic nature; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any sexual, indecent, romantic or erotic contact with a child or student <p>Also specifies “sexual abuse or exploitation” as a separate ground for discipline. The term is defined in the Child Protective Services Law</p>
<p>Silent with respect to consent as a defense or mitigating factor</p>	<p>Specifies that the consent of a child or student to engage in sexual misconduct or sexual abuse or exploitation may not be a defense or mitigating factor in any discipline proceeding</p>
<p>Chief School Administrators must report any of the following to PDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dismissal of a certificated employee for cause within 30 days after the decision by an arbitrator or school board; A charge or conviction for a crime set forth in section 111(e) of the Public School Code or for a crime involving moral turpitude within 30 days of learning about charge or conviction; and Information constituting “reasonable cause to believe” that a certificated employee has caused physical injury to a student as a result of negligence or malice or has committed sexual abuse or exploitation within 60 days of receiving the information. 	<p>Chief School Administrators must report any of the following to PDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All educators who have been provided notice of intent to dismiss/separate from employment within 15 days of notice; All resignations or separations from employment after any allegations of misconduct have arisen within 15 days of resignation or separation; All allegations of sexual misconduct/sexual abuse or exploitation within 15 days of discovery of the allegations; Information constituting reasonable cause to suspect that an educator has caused physical injury to a student as a result of negligence or malice within 15 days of receipt of information; Any educator who has been charged with or convicted of a crime graded as a misdemeanor or felony within 15 days of learning of charge or conviction;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any educator who is the subject of a child abuse report filed by the school entity within 15 days of the filing of the report; and Any educator who the school entity knows has been identified in an indicated or founded report as a perpetrator of abuse or person responsible for abuse within 15 days of the discovery of the report <p>All reports must include an inventory of all information/evidence in possession of school entity</p>
No self-reporting requirements for educators/no obligation to report known misconduct of other educators (other than the mandatory reporting requirements for chief school administrators)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any educator who knows of any action, inaction or conduct constituting sexual abuse or exploitation or sexual misconduct must file a report with PDE, the chief school administrator and his/her immediate supervisor within 15 days of discovery of the misconduct; Any educator arrested for or convicted of a crime listed in sections 111(e)-(f.1) of the Public School Code must report the arrest/conviction to the school entity within 72 hours
Silent with respect to confidentiality agreements	Prohibits school entities from entering into confidentiality or other agreements that would interfere with mandatory reporting
Immunity for good faith reporting not clear	Provides specific protection for school entities for fair referencing and for reporting misconduct in good faith
Founded reports of child abuse not an independent basis for discipline	The Commission must revoke the certificate or employment eligibility of any educator named in a founded child abuse report as a perpetrator of abuse

	or a person responsible for abuse
Silent with respect to new allegations of misconduct discovered during the course of investigations	Clarifies that PDE may investigate any and all allegations of misconduct in the complaint or complaints and any other misconduct concerning the educator that is discovered in the course of the investigations
No provisions for rehabilitation opportunities or the imposition of fees, fines or costs	Authorizes the Commission to order rehabilitation opportunities in conjunction with or as an alternative to discipline and to impose fees, fines and costs to be paid into a restricted account for disciplinary enforcement
Hearing officer's recommendation becomes final after 30 days if neither PDE nor the educator files exceptions with the Commission	The Commission may alter the hearing officer's recommendation or reopen the proceeding for additional evidence within 60 days of the mailing of the proposed report even if no exceptions are filed

ETHICS TOOLKIT

In collaboration with the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE), the PSPC created an online resource on professional ethics for teacher preparation programs under the leadership of Dr. Oliver Dreon, Millersville University. The "Ethics Toolkit" is structured into eight modules designed to provide curricular resources for teacher preparation programs to inform pre-service teacher candidates throughout the Commonwealth on issues related to educational ethics and certification. The modules are entitled:

- The Ethical Teacher
- Private & Professional Lives
- Relationships with Students
- The Connected Teacher
- Teaching in a Diverse Society

- Improper Personal or Financial Gain
- The Ethical Colleague
- Fostering an Ethical School Climate

The Ethics Toolkit can be found online at: [Ethics Toolkit](#)

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The PSPC continues to provide leadership to the educator community predominantly through the work of its two standing committees. Each commissioner sits on either the Practices Committee or the Standards Committee. The Standards Committee is charged with fulfilling the advisory functions imposed by the Act, while the Practices Committee is responsible for reviewing and revising the implementing Act, 24 P.S. §2070.1 *et seq.*, and its concomitant bylaws and definitions.

The membership of the committees for 2013 was as follows:

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Jane Bray, Chair
Linda Michel
James Gilhooley
Phyllis Comer
Shauna D'Alessandro
Eugene Dangelo
Douglas Enders
Tom Baker

PRACTICES COMMITTEE

Myron Yoder, Chair
Jacalyn Mogilski
Elizabeth Brewer
David Shutter
Lisa Barbour

During 2013, the Practices Committee provided leadership to the PSPC in finalizing proposed amendments to the Act.

During 2013, the Standards Committee continued to monitor developments in certification, including those related to evaluating teacher education programs at Pennsylvania's institutions of higher education. The Committee has also worked to strengthen its relationship with the Bureau of School Leadership and Teacher Quality. To that end, several Committee members meet with Bureau staff prior

to the PSPC regularly scheduled meetings to discuss hot topics and questions from the field.

Throughout 2013, the PSPC continued to provide outreach to school districts, educational associations, teacher preparation programs and human resource officers. One such workshop is entitled “Ethical Dimensions of the Education Profession” and is designed to inform the education profession of its responsibilities, to familiarize educators with the PSPC and to explain the discipline system. In addition, the PSPC has offered trainings in response to specific requests on topics related to professional conduct, mandatory reporting, discipline and the challenges of social media.

On July 5, 2012, Governor Corbett signed into law Act 126 of July 5, 2012, P.L. 1084, No. 126 Cl. 24 Session of 2012, which amended the Public School Code of 1949 to mandate that all school entities (public school, charter school, cyber charter school, private school, nonpublic school, intermediate unit or area vocational-technical school) and independent contractors of school entities provide certain training to all employees, including contracted substitute teachers, who have direct contact with children. The PSPC is working with the Department to develop online training to address the requirements of Act 126 that relate to the Educator Discipline Act, the recognition and reporting of sexual misconduct and appropriate student-teacher relationships.

CONFIDENTIALITY

In an effort to protect both the affected educator and the complainant, the Act mandates strict confidentiality concerning all information relating to complaints and disciplinary proceedings unless, or until discipline, other than a private reprimand, is imposed. Violations of the Act’s confidentiality provisions constitute a misdemeanor of the third degree. The confidentiality provisions will not, however, protect an individual from civil prosecution who knowingly and maliciously provides false information in the course of a disciplinary proceeding. Unlike disciplinary proceedings, reinstatement proceedings are not confidential.

2013 DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS

In 2013, interested parties filed 482 educator misconduct complaints with the Department of Education. Every complaint is reviewed to determine whether there is jurisdiction over the complaint and if sufficient factual and legal grounds exist to proceed against the educator.

In addition to complaints, the Department receives mandatory reports from school entities. Prior to the enactment of SB 34, the Act imposed a duty on commissioned officers, including superintendents, assistant superintendents, executive directors of intermediate units, chief administrators of career and technical education schools and charter schools, to file a mandatory report in three sets of circumstances:

- a. when an educator or charter school staff member is dismissed for cause;
- b. when an educator or charter school staff member is indicted or convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude or a crime listed in Section 111(e) of the Public School Code of 1949; and
- c. when the administrator has reasonable cause to believe that an educator or charter school staff member has caused physical injury to a student or child as a result of negligence or malice or has committed sexual abuse or exploitation involving a student or child.

In some instances, the receipt of a mandatory report will generate the filing of a complaint by the Department itself. Similarly, the Department may file a complaint against an educator based on information received from the national educator identification clearinghouse operated by NASDTEC.

In 2013, hearing proceedings were initiated by the Department with the filing of a Notice of Charges with the PSPC in 127 cases. In addition, five educators applied for reinstatement of their certification, which previously had been suspended, surrendered or revoked.

The table below reflects the disposition of cases in which *public* discipline was imposed during the 2013 calendar year. Decisions that resulted in private reprimands are not captured in the table.

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
Swartout	Charles	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	1/14/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator engaged in an inappropriate relationship with a female student and failed to provide true and accurate information on his New York application for permanent certification
Deppen	Matthew	Revocation	1/17/2013	Allegations: Educator engaged in a pattern of inappropriate behavior
Axford	Mark H.	Suspension	1/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator's Florida teaching certificate was suspended following Educator's conduct of appearing at school on at least two occasions under the influence of alcohol and refusing to take a reasonable suspicion drug screen

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
Chase-Pacheco	Marion	Suspension (8/31/09-6/30/10)	1/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator's South Carolina teaching certificate was suspended as a result of Educator's inappropriate discipline of a student
Clarke	Robert B.	Revocation	1/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator's teaching certification was revoked by the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) following Educator's admission of possessing and viewing child pornography at his home computer
Dolph	Brian A.	Revocation	1/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was barred from holding any professional educator license or certification in Ohio following allegations that he failed to adhere to the District acceptable use policy governing the use of school computers
Horstmann	Lisa	Suspension	1/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended in Florida as a result of her unlawful possession of cocaine, ecstasy, and other drug paraphernalia
Keck	Nancy L.	Public Reprimand	1/22/2013	Allegations: Driving Under the Influence and Driving While License Suspended
Loeffler	David S.	Public Reprimand	1/22/2013	Allegations: Educator forged signatures of parents and colleagues on Individual Education Plans
Lutes	Lloyd M.	Public Reprimand	1/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator received a public reprimand in California as a result of Educator's inappropriate discipline of special education students
Madden	David	Public Reprimand	1/22/2013	Allegations: Educator sent an inappropriate text message regarding a student and numerous emails containing inappropriate comments regarding a student, a parent and two colleagues
Pettyjohn	Barry G.	Public Reprimand	1/22/2013	Allegations: Educator failed to interact with students in a professional manner and made inappropriate comments to

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
				students
Ripper	Shelly L.	Public Reprimand	1/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Substance abuse issues (FL)
Tothero	Rickey F.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	1/22/2013	Allegations: Educator invited a student to his residence for a team sleepover and made the student sleep in same bed as him and touched him inappropriately during the night
Warady	Mark	Public Reprimand	1/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Failure to disclose two arrests involving altercations on an application for certification and to his District as required by law in Florida
Boldwyn	Charles J.	Public Reprimand	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator made threats to the principal, used racial slurs, and incited fear in colleagues (FL)
Bubul	James C.	Public Reprimand	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator repeatedly ridiculed and embarrassed a student (FL)
Burke	Raymond A.	Suspension (5/2/06-5/1/08)	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator's South Carolina teaching certificate was suspended following Educator's misuse of school funds
Didonato	Richard	Suspension	1/23/2013	Allegations: Educator's Florida teaching certificate was suspended as a result of Educator's unprofessional conduct of appearing at school on at least two occasions under the influence of alcohol and refusing to take a reasonable suspicion drug screen
Duda	Brian	Revocation	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator's Florida teaching certificate was revoked as a result of his unprofessional misconduct
Ercolano	Neal A.	Revocation	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was revoked in New Jersey as a result of his conviction for assaulting a student
Ezyk	Justin M.	Suspension	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended in South Carolina as a

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
				result of allegations that Educator accessed inappropriate materials on his school computer
Ford	Grady C.	Revocation	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was revoked in Florida for gross immorality
Fullerton	David M.	Public Reprimand	1/23/2013	Allegations: Educator was involved in a domestic violence altercation
Goldner (McCrory)	Jan	Suspension (5/31/06-6/1/09)	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator's Florida teaching certificate was suspended for engaging in an inappropriate, unprofessional physical relationship with her principal
Greenamyer (Long)	Barbara A.	Suspension	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended in Kentucky until such time as she submits a fitness declaration
Hibshman	Jeff A.	Revocation	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator surrendered his Texas teaching certificate as a result of allegations that he had engaged in inappropriate contact and communication with a female high school student
Knapp	Joseph L.	Revocation	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator permanently surrendered his South Carolina teaching certificate following allegations that during the school day he left to purchase and consume liquor before returning to the classroom
Ramey	Donald G.	Revocation	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was revoked in Kentucky based upon allegations that he had inappropriately touched students on various occasions
Riley	Anthony	Revocation	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was revoked in North Carolina after he tested positive for cocaine
Seman	Dennis A.	Suspension	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended in South Carolina as a result of his inappropriate communications with a female student on a social media website

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
Sigel	Alan H.	Suspension (5/1/04-5/30/04)	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended in California as a result of his unprofessional misconduct
Tillson	Paul	Public Reprimand	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was involved in a physical altercation with a student and exercised poor classroom behavior management skills (TX)
Tuneberg	Michael	Suspension (3/4/10-3/4/11)	1/23/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended in Texas as the result of his misuse of school funds
Hurwitz	Laurie A.	Public Reprimand	1/28/2013	Allegations: Educator convicted for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
Bell	Jonathan D.	Immediate Suspension	1/29/2013	Charged: Corruption of Minors, Unlawful Contact with a Minor, Other Sexual Materials and Performances, Sexual Abuse of Children, Statutory Sexual Assault, Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Aggravated Indecent Assault and Indecent Exposure
Eldred	Gregory L.	Immediate Suspension	1/29/2013	Charged: Murder of the First Degree and Murder of the Third Degree
Sedor	Michael A.	Immediate Suspension	1/29/2013	Charged: Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Statutory Sexual Assault, Aggravated Indecent Assault, and Indecent Assault
Finnerty	Kevin	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	1/31/2013	Allegations: Educator engaged in inappropriate communications with minor female students
Schellinger	William J.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	2/1/2013	Conviction: Indecent Assault and Corruption of Minors
Kleps	Theresa Barringer	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	2/11/2013	Conviction: Sexual Imposition (OH)
Runge	Dale	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	2/14/2013	Conviction: Sexual Assault of the Second Degree (NJ)
Polcha	Nicholas G.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	2/19/2013	Allegations: Engaged in an inappropriate personal relationship with a female student, which included sending the student numerous

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
				inappropriate text messages in an attempt to develop a romantic relationship with the student
Schiappa Jr.	Steven J.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	2/22/2013	Conviction: Corruption of Minors
Manning	Brian J	Suspension (5/8/12-5/8/16)	2/25/2013	Allegations: Driving under the Influence of Alcohol and Recklessly Endangering another Person
Lee IV	Joseph F.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	2/27/2013	Allegations: Engaged in an inappropriate relationship with a female student
Dinkins	Tyrone	Immediate Suspension	2/28/2013	Charged: Indecent Assault, Unlawful Contact with a Minor, Corruption of Minors and Harassment
O'Rourke	Lola Marie	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline (Admin Certs Only)	3/7/2013	Allegations: Educator violated the integrity and security of the PSSA
Feltz	Dennis H.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	3/11/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Conviction for Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor (SC)
Anderson	Lyle E.	Revocation	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was revoked in Florida as a result of his mismanagement of funds and failure to supervise properly employees under his purview
Baxter	Curtis D.	Suspension (2/21/08-2/27/08)	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended in Georgia for his inappropriate verbal interactions with students and his inappropriate physical contact with a student
Behn	Douglas A.	Public Reprimand	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator admonished by Ohio as a result of 1990 assault conviction in Texas
Browning Jr.	Charles	Revocation	3/13/2013	Conviction: Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse-Forcible Compulsion
Craig	James	Revocation	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was revoked in Ohio after he reported to work in an intoxicated/impaired

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
				condition
Davis	Charles	Revocation	3/13/2013	Allegations: Failure to maintain client records, engaging in a dual relationship with a client, misrepresenting credentials, and continuing to provide services after being barred from providing mental health counseling
Dunegan	Matthew	Public Reprimand	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Public Reprimand in Texas for inappropriate discipline of a student
Finnegan	Thomas P.	Revocation	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was revoked in Minnesota following allegations that he was charged with felony and misdemeanor drug charges
Geyer	Steven	Revocation	3/13/2013	Conviction: Indecent Assault, Unlawful Contact with a Child, and Corruption of Minors
Grendysa	Christopher	Revocation	3/13/2013	Allegations: Inappropriate behavior in the classroom
Gugino	Daniel J.	Suspension (9/2/08-9/22/08)	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended in Georgia for providing erroneous information on a job application, for providing inadequate supervision of students and for other administrative omissions
Hayes	Earl	Revocation	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was revoked in New Jersey after he engaged in a scheme to "purchase" a "no show" job with a salary of \$90,000 to increase his pension eligibility
Hightower	Reginald K.	Revocation	3/13/2013	Conviction: Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Sell, Manufacture or Deliver, Felony Cocaine Possession, Resisting an Officer, Burglary, Theft
Lewin	Peter	Suspension (9/23/05-9/23/06)	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended in Georgia for using his classroom computer to access pornographic material

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
Malley	James	Suspension	3/13/2013	Allegations: Inappropriate communications with a student and pursued an unprofessional, personal relationship with the student
Norris	Craig	Suspension (6/30/11 - 12/31/12)	3/13/2013	Allegations: Educator made inappropriate comments to students
Orr	William	Suspension (6/4/05-12/4/05)	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended in Georgia due to his failure to report his arrest for False Statements and Fictitious Claims and his failure to report numerous acts of physical violence by the principal and other teachers
Risell	Kristy C.	Immediate Suspension	3/13/2013	Charged: Statutory Sexual Assault, Institutional Sexual Assault, Indecent Exposure, Indecent Assault, Unlawful Contact with a Minor, Endangering Welfare of Children, Corruption of Minors
Smith	Christy L.	Revocation	3/13/2013	Conviction: Statutory Sexual Assault, Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Unlawful Contact with a Minor, Corruption of Minors, Sexual Abuse of Children, Possession of Child Pornography
Smith	Jacqueline	Revocation	3/13/2013	Conviction: Felony Assault (MN)
Stevens (Singleton)	Lacinda	Suspension (1/3/07-1/9/07)	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended in Georgia for using inappropriate physical discipline with a second grade student
Susa	Craig S.	Revocation	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was revoked in Florida as a result of his accessing pornographic materials on his school issued computer during school hours
Swann (Gardiner)	Amanda	Suspension (12/13/03-12/18/03)	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended in California for failure to use good judgment in dealing with student safety
Voelker	Kathryn L.	Suspension	3/13/2013	Allegations: Engaged in an unprofessional, personal relationship

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
				with a student and continued to pursue the relationship after the student's parents requested that she cease contact with the student
Whittle	Arthur S.	Suspension (8/16/08-8/22/08)	3/13/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was suspended for seven days in California for accessing inappropriate website on his district issued computer
Holahan	Christopher	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	3/14/2013	Allegations: Educator engaged in inappropriate contact with a 17-year-old student that included exchanging sexually explicit emails and text messages
Michael	Sheila	Revocation	3/17/2013	Conviction: Tampering with Evidence and Hindering Apprehension of a Criminal (GA)
McCreery	Barbara L.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline (Admin. II Only)	3/20/2013	Allegations: Educator violated the integrity and security of the PSSA
Rubino	Joseph	Immediate Suspension	4/4/2013	Allegations: Educator engaged in inappropriate sexual contact and communications with a female student
Meckley	Matthew	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	4/15/2013	Allegations: Educator engaged in an inappropriate sexual relationship with a female student
Mordan	John	Public Reprimand	4/16/2013	Allegations: Educator regularly touched students in his classroom and in the hallways
Rich	Robert P.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	4/21/2013	Conviction: Sexual Offenses in the 4th Degree (MD)
Hauber	Jennifer	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	4/23/2013	Allegations: Educator engaged in an inappropriate relationship with student after graduation
Errett	Nicholas B.	Revocation	4/25/2013	Conviction: Statutory Sexual Assault, Unlawful Contact with a Minor, and Obscene and Other Sexual Materials and Performances – Dissemination to Minors

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
Heil	Warren	Suspension (2/17/11-6/30/18)	4/25/2013	Allegations: Educator allowed underage students to consume alcohol and marijuana at his residence.
Maurer	Michael G.	Revocation	4/25/2013	Conviction: Falsifying or Tampering with Records (NJ)
Shields	John	Revocation	4/25/2013	Conviction: Rape in the Fourth Degree (DE)
Verdugo	Angel	Revocation	4/25/2013	Allegations: Educator engaged in inappropriate sexual contact with a male autistic student
Waters	Eric L.	Revocation	4/25/2013	Allegations: Educator went to the home of a colleague uninvited and assaulted her by twice forcibly kissing her and fondling her breast
Wolak	Steven	Revocation	4/25/2013	Conviction: Rape in the Fourth Degree (DE)
Conway	Thomas R.	Suspension (Admins - 4/29/13-4/29/16) (Inst. II- 12/14/12-6/30/13)	4/29/2013	Allegations: Educator violated the integrity and security of the statewide assessment by failing to follow proper procedures related to the handling and storage of secure documents and by reviewing the assessment for purposes of creating an answer key
Corazza	Anthony J.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	5/1/2013	Conviction: Assault and Battery and Indecent Exposure (VA)
Stevens	Matthew	Immediate Suspension	5/1/2013	Charged: Institutional Sexual Assault, Corruption of Minors, Unlawful Contact with a Minor
Cole	Kenneth B.	Suspension (11/30/12-2/26/14)	5/2/2013	Allegations: Educator was convicted of an offense related to Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
Grier	Robert	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	5/7/2013	Charged: Corruption of Minors
Maurer	Michael G.	Revocation	5/7/2013	Conviction: Falsifying or Tampering with Records (NJ)
Landis	Andrew	Public Reprimand	5/8/2013	Allegations: Disorderly Conduct and Criminal Mischief

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
Paulus	Ronald B.	Suspended (6/25/13-8/25/13)	5/9/2013	Allegations: Failed to follow proper PSSA test administration procedures
Gulley	Bradford D.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	5/10/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Discipline is imposed pursuant to 24 P.S.§2070.9b(3) of the Professional Educator Discipline Act
Kunda	Louis	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	5/12/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Driving While Intoxicated, 3rd or More (TX)
Antes	Douglas	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	5/14/2013	Allegations: Inappropriate behavior with students
Cooney	Jonathan	Revocation	5/17/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was revoked in Maryland based on allegations that he engaged in sexual child abuse
George	Sarah B.	Suspension (1/13/11-1/19/11)	5/17/2013	Allegations: Publicly intoxicated and carried a handgun on her person when she did not have a license to carry the handgun
Klaric	Robert	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	5/17/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Inappropriate comments of a sexual nature to his students and simulated masturbation (GA)
LoBoi	Jason I.	Revocation	5/17/2013	Conviction: Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse with a Child
Martinelli	Christopher	Immediate Suspension	5/17/2013	Charged: Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Statutory Sexual Assault, Unlawful Contact with a Minor, Criminal Use of a Communication Facility, Corruption of Minors
Moore	Joseph M.	Revocation	5/17/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Revoked in California based upon allegations that he engaged in a sexual contact with a high school student
Powell	Sharon	Suspension (1/27/06-04/27/06)	5/17/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Suspended in Georgia based upon allegations that she violated assessment test protocols
Shero	Bernard	Revocation	5/17/2013	Conviction: Rape of a Child, Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse with a Child, Endangering the Welfare of

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
				Children, Corruption of Minors and Indecent Assault
Smith Jr.	Richard E.	Revocation	5/17/2013	Conviction: Criminal Sexual Contact (NJ)
Swanson	Christopher	Revocation	5/17/2013	Allegations: Inappropriate relationship with a student
Bonner	Robert	Immediate Suspension	5/21/2013	Charged: Corruption of Minors, Endangering the Welfare of a Child
Rupp	Scott	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	5/22/2013	Allegations: Educator engaged in inappropriate conversations with student on Facebook, including asking her to participate in a threesome with his wife
Bonner	Robert C.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	5/23/2013	Conviction: Corruption of Minors
Turk	Susan	Public Reprimand	5/29/2013	Allegations: Violated the integrity and security of the PSSA by reviewing math problems from the PSSA with her students prior to them taking the test the next day
Bernard	Daniel L.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	5/30/2013	Allegations: Wrote seven checks that were not accounted for in the school's financial records, totaling more than \$800, and signed them with a signature stamp of another individual
Clark	Thomas J.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	5/31/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Discipline is imposed pursuant to section 2070.9b(3) of the Professional Educator Discipline Act
Czukoski	Troy A.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	6/3/2013	Charged: Possession of 1 or More Matters Containing Depictions of Minors Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct
Grove	Caroline L.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	6/3/2013	Allegations: Criminally charged with Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol, General Impairment/Incapable of Driving Safely - 2nd Offense
Boyle	Robert C.	Suspension	6/5/2013	Allegations: Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol - 2nd Offense, and failure to

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
				disclose this information on several applications for teaching certification
Bercher	Steven	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	6/19/2013	Allegations: Inappropriate contact with two female students
Baldwin	Michael	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	6/24/2013	Conviction: Simple Assault, Terroristic Threats and Criminal Mischief
Roe	Kelly	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	6/24/2013	Allegations: Educator engaged in inappropriate conduct with students
Piatt	Robert B.	Suspension (6/30/13 – 8/15/13)	6/30/2013	Allegations: Educator drove his vehicle while under the influence of alcohol two times in a 3 day period
Culp	Robert W.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	7/1/2013	Allegation: Inappropriate use of district technology resources
Storrick	Christopher A.	Public Reprimand	7/1/2013	Allegations: Educator was convicted of Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol: High Rate, 2nd offense
Stought	Shane P.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	7/1/2013	Allegations: Educator was connected to a cocaine ring
Bollman	John William	Public Reprimand	7/3/2013	Allegations: Educator made inappropriate comments to an eighth-grade student
Smith	Kimberly L.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	7/11/2013	Charged: Corruption of Minors, Endangering the Welfare of Children
Summers	James	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	7/15/2013	Conviction: Manufacture, Delivery or Possession with Intent to Manufacture or Deliver a Controlled Substance
Schanne	Robert	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	7/17/2013	Allegations: Educator engaged in relationship with a former student
Alfred	Nathan J.	Revocation	7/25/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Revoked in West Virginia for allegations that educator engaged in an inappropriate relationship with a student
Dawson	Jeremy T.	Revocation	7/25/2013	Allegations: Educator provided alcohol to an underage student on numerous occasions

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
Dutko	George L.	Revocation	7/25/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Revoked in West Virginia based on allegations that educator engaged in an inappropriate relationship with a student
Greenawalt	Jason W.	Immediate Suspension	7/25/2013	Charged: Unlawful Contact with a Minor, Corruption of Minors, Criminal Use of a Communication Facility
Holcombe	Suzanne K.	Suspension (7/1/13-7/31/13)	7/25/2013	Allegations: Educator is alleged to have driven while under the influence with her 2 children as passengers and crashed into a telephone pole
Jenkins	Mary K.	Suspension	7/25/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Discipline imposed in Georgia for appearing at school under the influence and for being cited for public drunkenness
Linnon	Craig M.	Revocation	7/25/2013	Conviction: Conspiring to Take Indecent Liberties with a Child by a Custodian, Use of Communication System to Facilitate Certain Offenses Involving Children (VA)
Owen	Brandon	Suspension (12/30/07-12/30/08)	7/25/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Discipline imposed in Idaho for using school district computer to access pornography and dating sites
Parish	Robert	Revocation	7/25/2013	Conviction: Contributing to the Delinquency or Dependency of a Child (FL)
Pennypacker	Kristi L.	Suspension	7/25/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Suspended in New Jersey based on allegations that educator falsified home visits
Person	Kathryn D.	Revocation	7/25/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Revoked in Georgia based on allegations of failing to make a timely child abuse report
Prough	Sherri L.	Revocation	7/25/2013	Conviction: Corruption of Minors
Ranck	John Jeffrey	Revocation	7/25/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Revoked in New Jersey based on allegations that educator used school district computer to access pornography

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
Sabarese	Valerie E.	Revocation	7/25/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Revoked in Florida after indictment of Delivery of Cocaine, Delivery of Heroin, Possession of Cocaine and Possession of Heroin
Sinchak	John	Revocation	7/25/2013	Conviction: Lewdness with a Child Under the Age of Fourteen (NV)
Tarr	Andrea N.	Revocation	7/25/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Revoked in Virginia based on being named as subject of founded case of child abuse/neglect
Thorn	Randall	Public Reprimand	7/25/2013	Allegations: Used computer equipment owned by his employers to access and store sexually explicit materials and sexually harassed a female co-worker
Udzella	Justin M.	Revocation	7/25/2013	Conviction: False Reports to Law Enforcement
Warren	Carol L.	Suspension (8/1/03 - 6/30/05)	7/25/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Suspended in West Virginia based on allegations that educator had been negligent in following medication procedures/policies of district
Wygant	Richard	Revocation	7/25/2013	Conviction: Attempted Online Solicitation, Purchase of Alcohol for a Minor (TX)
Zachry	Darlene M.	Revocation	7/25/2013	Conviction: Perjury
McDevitt	Regis	Public Reprimand	7/31/2013	Allegations: Driving Under the Influence: Highest rate of alcohol, 2nd Offense
Moyer	Daniel G.	Public Reprimand	8/7/2013	Allegations: Driving Under the Influence, 2nd Offense
Kishbaugh	Keith R.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	8/9/2013	Conviction: Sexual Solicitation of a Minor (VA)
Crum	Jonathan M.	Immediate Suspension	8/21/2013	Charged: Institutional Sexual Assault, Corruption of Minors, Sexual Abuse of Children, Criminal Solicitation, Indecent Assault

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
Hartopp	Cynthia M.	Immediate Suspension	8/21/2013	Charged: Corruption of Minors, Unlawful Contact with a Minor-Sexual Offenses
Haskins	Robert N.	Immediate Suspension	8/21/2013	Charged: Indecent Exposure
McMullen	Brian T.	Immediate Suspension	8/21/2013	Charged: Endangering Welfare of Children, Corruption of Minors, Indecent Assault
Nolan	Jason B.	Immediate Suspension	8/21/2013	Charged: Possession of Material Depicting the Sexual Exploitation of a Minor
Miller	Larry D.	Suspension (8/23/13 to 2/23/14)	8/23/2013	Allegation: Inappropriate comments made to students
Evans Jr.	Robert A.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	9/3/2013	Charged: Aggravated Indecent Assault, Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Intimidation of Victims/Witness, Terroristic Threats
Beard	April R.	Immediate Suspension	9/4/2013	Charged: Endangering Welfare of Children, Corruption of Minors, Body Piercing a Minor
Preusser	Katherine F.	Immediate Suspension	9/4/2013	Charged: Corruption of Minors, Sell or Furnish Liquor to Minors, Intentional Possession of a Controlled Substance by a Person Not Registered, Marijuana-Small Amount Personal Use, Use/Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
Dunlap	Linda A.	Public Reprimand	9/6/2013	Allegations: Driving Under the Influence -- 2nd offense
Beard	April R.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	9/30/2013	Convicted: Endangering Welfare of Children, Corruption of Minors, Body Piercing a Minor
Donnelly Jr.	Thomas A.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	10/1/2013	Conviction: Receipt/Distribution of Material Depicting the Sexual Exploitation of a Minor
Harner	Timothy M.	Surrender In Lieu of Discipline	10/1/2013	Charged: Corruption of Minors
Agrippine	Michael J.	Immediate Suspension	10/3/2013	Charged: Aggravated Indecent Assault of a Child, Institutional Sexual Assault,

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
				Indecent Assault
Blyler	Cory D.	Suspension (4/16/10 - 6/30/13)	10/3/2013	Allegation: Propositioned a female undercover officer who was posing as a prostitute
Evans	Todd C.	Revocation	10/3/2013	Conviction: Receipt/Distribution of Material Depicting the Sexual Exploitation of a Minor
Hahn Jr.	Jeffrey A.	Revocation	10/3/2013	Conviction: Institutional Sexual Assault of Minor, Corruption of Minors, Sexual Assault
Lacey	Phillip M.	Revocation	10/3/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Allegedly made inappropriate and unprofessional comments to students (OH)
Mazgaj	Mildred J.	Suspension	10/3/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Inappropriate comments, excessive, inappropriate discipline of elementary students (WV)
Miller	Donna Hysong	Suspension (3/1/13 to 4/4/13)	10/3/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Involved in irregularities related to the administration of statewide assessments (GA)
Nangle	Paul F.	Revocation	10/3/2013	Conviction: Possessing/Controlling Matter Depicting Person under 18 Engaging in Sexual Conduct (CA)
Norton	Bradley J.	Revocation	10/3/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Pled guilty to Misdemeanor Assault involving a Minor Under His Control/Supervision
Russell	Richard D.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	10/7/2013	Charged: Possession of Child Pornography (federal)
Dukulah	Sumo	Immediate Suspension	10/9/2013	Charged: Rape, Unlawful Contact with a Minor, Aggravated Indecent Assault, Sexual Assault, Endangering Welfare of Children, Corruption of Minors, Simple Assault, Indecent Assault, Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse
Foley	Nicholas J.	Public Reprimand	10/9/2013	Allegation: Educator breached test security
Palko Jr.	Robert A.	Immediate Suspension	10/9/2013	Charged: Criminal Use of Communication Facility, Unlawful

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
				Contact with a Minor, Sexual Abuse of Children, Corruption of Minors
Rudy	Thomas J.	Public Reprimand	10/13/2013	Allegation: Educator became involved in a physical altercation with his 14 year old son
Perrotta	Anthony	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	10/14/2013	Allegation: Students witnessed Educator viewing sexually explicit materials on computer in class during class time
Ingerman	Jennifer M.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	10/18/2013	Conviction: Unlawful Contact With a Minor, Criminal Use of a Communication Facility, Corruption of Minors
McCullough	Sean M.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	10/19/2013	Conviction: Corruption of Minors and Obscene and Other Materials and Performances
Violi	Garyl	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	10/20/2013	Allegations: Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol (6X), Educator's minor child was in vehicle on 1 occasion
Rosenberry	Angie S.	Immediate Suspension	10/28/2013	Charged: Corruption of Minors, Selling/Furnishing Liquor to Minors
Salevsky	Shawn W.	Immediate Suspension	10/28/2013	Charged: Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Sexual Assault, Corruption of Minors, Recklessly Endangering Another Person, Criminal Attempt- Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Indecent Assault
Hernandez	Jose	Revocation of Eligibility to be Employed as a Charter School Staff Member	11/1/2013	Conviction: Endangering the Welfare of Children and Simple Assault
Wilson	William P.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	11/11/2013	Conviction: Soliciting an Act of Prostitution (CA)
Palesky	David	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	11/18/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: West Virginia revoked certificate in accordance with a Letter of Voluntary Surrender
Silver	Joshua	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	11/19/2013	Allegation: Inappropriate behavior with an 18 year old high school student

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
Althaus	Stephen	Suspension	11/22/2013	Allegations: Arrested for possession of heroin and marijuana; failed to disclose arrest to employer, lied to law enforcement telling him/her that he disclosed his arrest to employer
Clouser	Jeffrey A.	Suspension (9/21/09 - 4/22/12)	11/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Suspended in Delaware as a result of his attempts to use school district technology to access sexually explicit websites
Cobb	Kyle J.	Revocation	11/22/2013	Conviction: Indecent Assault, Statutory Sexual Assault
Eldred	Gregory L.	Revocation	11/22/2013	Conviction: Murder in the First Degree
Gomez	Anthony D.	Revocation	11/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Revoked in South Carolina after educator engaged in inappropriate Facebook communication of a sexual nature with a student from a school district where educator was previously employed
Holland	Susan L.	Public Reprimand	11/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was issued a reprimand in Ohio after Educator failed to submit accurate timesheets for home instruction
Kirk	Gerald R.	Suspension	11/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Based on adjudication from Florida suspending educator's Florida certificate
Knox	Robert C.	Suspension (4/27/05 - 4/27/08)	11/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator drove a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol and was convicted of Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
Lorah	Randy L.	Suspension (11/4/12 - 12/3/12)	11/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Suspended in California for Disturbing the Peace, Driving Under the Influence and failure to disclose convictions on certification applications
Mulstay	Michael M.	Revocation	11/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Revoked in Delaware after Educator breached the appropriate student-teacher boundary and engaged in interactions with a student which had no legitimate educational purpose

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
Parmer	Julia E.	Public Reprimand	11/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator was issued a reprimand in Florida as a result of Educator's failure to take reasonable measures to protect a student by purposefully causing unnecessary embarrassment or disparagement to the student
Pittsinger	Eric A.	Public Reprimand	11/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Educator suspended and issued a public reprimand in Maryland following an investigation of misconduct involving a middle school student
Sedor	Michael A.	Revocation	11/22/2013	Conviction: Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Statutory Sexual Assault
Stocker	Terry O.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	11/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Discipline imposed pursuant to 24 P.S. § 2070.9b(3) of the Professional Educator Discipline Act (NJ)
Treier, Jr.	James A.	Revocation	11/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Revoked in Tennessee following Educator's misappropriation of funds collected from students
Turner	Robert Carl	Revocation	11/22/2013	Reciprocal Discipline: Revoked in California as a result of Educator's inappropriate and physically aggressive interactions with a special education student
Duke	Susan	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	12/3/2013	Conviction: Retail Theft
Hoeltzel	Chrystine C.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	12/3/2013	Conviction: Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and Accident Involving Death or Personal Injury
Deiuliis	Anfonzo M.	Immediate Suspension	12/13/2013	Charged: Harassment, Open Lewdness, Indecent Assault, Indecent Exposure, Corruption of Minors, Unlawful Contact with a Minor
Krause	Kenneth M.	Immediate Suspension	12/13/2013	Charged: Institutional Sexual Assault, Corruption of Minors, Unlawful Contact with a Minor

Last Name	First Name	Action Taken	Date of Action	Grounds
Schmutzler	Jeffrey B.	Immediate Suspension	12/13/2013	Charged: Distribution and Receipt of Material Involving the Sexual Exploitation of Minors (federal)
Gowarty	Dennis	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	12/18/2013	Allegations: Disorderly Conduct and educator engaged in openly lewd behavior
Sickle	Richard S.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	12/20/2013	Conviction: Manufacture, Delivery, or Possession with Intent to Manufacture or Deliver and Intentional Possession of a Controlled Substance
Moore	Lee A.	Surrender in Lieu of Discipline	12/22/2013	Conviction: Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Unlawful Contact with a Minor, Statutory Sexual Assault, Corruption of Minors

In addition to the disciplinary cases decided in 2013, the PSPC considered the propriety of reinstatement in the following cases:

2013 REINSTATEMENTS

DOCKET #	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	DATE FILED	DISPOSITION	DATE OF DISPOSITION
RE-2011-03	JUMPP	ALVIN WESTON	9/19/2011	DENIED	1/22/2013
RE-2012-02	LOFTON	CURTIS T.	6/25/2012	DENIED	10/3/2013
RE-2012-03	RODA	RONALD D.	7/26/2012	DENIED	10/3/2013
RE-2012-04	BLAIR	FRANK J. JR.	11/6/2012	DISMISSED	4/16/2013
RE-2013-01	GRAZIANO	NICHOLAS	4/24/2013	REINSTATEMENT	10/3/2013

GOALS FOR 2014

The PSPC is committed to providing continued leadership to the education profession and to providing support and guidance to the State Board of Education and the Department. For the upcoming year, the PSPC plans to initiate the necessary changes to its regulations and bylaws to comport with the amendments to the Act, which became effective on February 18, 2014. In addition, the PSPC plans to develop further outreach resources for in-service

teachers and for administrators and to develop an online resource for the mandatory training provisions found in Act 126 of 2012.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2014

By law, the PSPC must meet at least five times each year. In practice, the full PSPC typically meets every other month on either the second or the third Monday of the month. Additionally, PSPC committees may meet more frequently depending on their respective projects. Meeting dates and times are publicized and the general public is welcome to attend. While the decisions of the PSPC are announced in public, the actual deliberations concerning individual discipline cases are held in private in keeping with the confidentiality provisions of the Act.

Regular meetings of the PSPC for 2014 are scheduled as follows in the Heritage Rooms, Lobby, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg:

January 27, 2014	March 17, 2014
May 12, 2014	July 14, 2014
September 15, 2014	November 17, 2014

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Information about the PSPC and the educator discipline system, including adjudications are available online at www.pspc.education.pa.gov. The PSPC welcomes questions and requests for workshops or other assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

The following publications are available from the Office of the PSPC or electronically on the PSPC website:

- Chapter 233—Bylaws—Statement of Policy
- Chapter 237—Definitions of Statutory Terms
- Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators
- Adjudications of the Professional Standards and Practices Commission
- Educator Discipline Act (24 P.S. §2070.1a *et seq.*)
- PSPC Commissioner Handbook
- Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators Poster

To obtain copies, please submit your request to:

Professional Standards and Practices Commission
333 Market Street, 9th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

Telephone: 717-787-6576; Fax: 717-783-0734
Text Telephone TTY: 717-783-8445