



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
State Board of Education  
Department of Public Instruction

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# **Report to the North Carolina General Assembly**

## **Professional Educator Preparation and Standards Commission (PEPSC) Annual Report** *G.S. 115C-268.5(d)*

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**Date Due: December 15, 2025**  
DPI Chronological Schedule, 2024-2025

**Submitted by the State Board of Education**, in conjunction with the  
Professional Educator Preparation and Standards Commission (PEPSC)

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## Table of Contents

<b>PEPSC Annual Report.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Commission Membership &amp; Structure .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Meetings &amp; Commission Activities.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<i>Policy/Statute Guide*</i> .....	6
<i>Meetings</i> .....	7

# PEPSC Annual Report

**Annual Report Review Period:** September 1, 2024-August 31, 2025

## 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) years, 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:

<b>Role (SB599.c)</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Role Representation</b>	<b>Term</b>
1.a.	Dr. Scott Elliott	Superintendent	Sept. 1, 2022 – Aug. 31, 2026
1.b.	Dr. Christopher Blanton	Principal	Sept. 1, 2020 – Aug. 31, 2026
1.c.	Dr. Randall Penfield	Dean of EPP within the UNC system	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2025
1.d.	Dr. Hank Weddington	Dean of EPP at nonpublic NC institution	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2026
1.e.	Dr. Anthony Graham	Dean of EPP at HBCU NC institution	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2025
1.f.	Ms. Madison Edwards (Secretary)	Teacher	Sept. 1, 2022 – Aug. 31, 2026
1.g.	Ms. Alexandra Hoskins	Personnel Administrator from LEA in NC ≥ 30,000 students	Sept. 1, 2021- Aug. 31, 2025
1.h	Ms. Ida Weisner	At-Large Member	Sept. 1, 2021 – Aug. 31, 2027

2.a	Dr. Aaron Fleming	Superintendent	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2027
2.b.	Mr. Craig S. Smith	Principal	Sept. 1, 2021- Aug. 31, 2027
2.c	Dr. Kim Winter	Dean of EPP within the UNC system	Sept. 1, 2023 – Aug. 31, 2026
2.d.	Dr. Ann Bullock (Chair)	Dean of EPP at nonpublic NC institution	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2027
2.e.	Ms. Tracie Jenkins	Teacher	Sept. 1, 2023- Aug. 31, 2027
2.f.	Dr. Bill Griffin (Vice Chair)	Personnel Administrator from LEA in NC $\leq$ 30,000 students	Sept. 1, 2022 – Aug. 31, 2026
2.g.	Dr. Connie Locklear	State Advisory Council Member on Indian Education	Sept. 1, 2017 – Aug. 31, 2026
2.h.	Ms. Shannon Patton	At-Large Member	Sept. 1, 2023 – Aug. 31, 2026
3	Ms. Heather Smith	North Carolina Teacher of the Year	Sept. 1, 2024 – Aug. 31, 2025
4	Superintendent Catherine Truitt	NCDPI State Superintendent	Sept. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2024
4	Superintendent Maurice Green	NCDPI State Superintendent	Jan. 1, 2025- Present

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.

### **Meetings & Commission Activities**

Meetings are typically held on 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.

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 constitute a quorum.

Agenda Item	Issue	Outcomes	Relevant Policy/Statute
<b>PEPSC subcommittee update &amp; legislative update</b>	Fulfilled duties of PEPSC as stated in G.S. 115.268.5(1)(a) and update policy according to G.S. 115-269.20(a)(2) – Science of Reading coursework requirements for EPPs	Recommended by PEPSC; approved by SBE	TCED-011
<b>PEPSC subcommittee update</b>	Fulfilled duties of PEPSC as stated in G.S. 115.268.5(1)(b) – Grade Point Average Requirements to be admitted to an EPP	Recommended by PEPSC; approved by SBE	TCED-009
<b>National accreditor addition</b>	Adding AAQEP as a national accreditor for North Carolina EPPs as a pathway to become an approved NC EPP	Discussed by PEPSC	TCED-004
<b>Legislative update &amp; out-of-state educators with three or more years of experience updates</b>	Updated policy to provide clarity around the requirements to obtain a Continuing Professional License (CPL) for out-of-state educators with three or more years of experience and to align with G.S. 115C-270.20 – principal licensure requirements	Recommended by PEPSC; approved by SBE	LICN-001
<b>Legislative update</b>	Updated policy to align with G.S. 115c-298.5 – adjunct K-12 instructors in core academic subjects, fine and performing arts, and foreign languages	Recommended by PEPSC; approved by SBE	EVAL-023
<b>Testing update (May)</b>	Updated policy to add content test for Computer Science and IT Education licensure area and maintain current edTPA cut scores	Recommended by PEPSC; approved by SBE	LICN-003
<b>Testing update (August)</b>	Updated policy to remove expired licensure tests and to add the North Carolina Principal Portfolio Assessment (NCPPEA) to fulfill the portfolio assessment requirement as listed in G.S. 115C-270.20 – principal licensure requirements	Recommended by PEPSC; approved by SBE	

<b>Career and Technical Education update</b>	Updated policy to add a new licensure area: Aviation Education	Recommended by PEPSC; approved by SBE	CTED-004
<b>Beginning Teacher Support Program (BTSP) Updates</b>	Updated policy to clarify beginning teacher designation to ensure all eligible teachers are enrolled in a beginning teacher support program	Recommended by PEPSC; approved by SBE	TCED-016

\*This chart provides a list of the amended policies and relevant statute during 2024-2025.

## Meetings

Sixteen meetings were held during this reporting window. The dates and topics of the meetings are listed 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, please use the links below to find the meeting minutes and agendas.

### 1. September 12, 2024 (Monthly Meeting)

([https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=15684](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=15684))

- a. Introduction of New Membership
- b. Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee (JLEOC): Professional Educator Preparation and Standards Commission (PEPSC) Report for 2023-2024 (approved)
- c. Policy Amendments:
  - i. TCED-011 (approved)
  - ii. TCED-009 (approved)
  - iii. TCED-004 (discussion)
  - iv. LICN-001 (discussion)
  - v. EVAL-023 (approved)

### 2. November 14, 2024 (Monthly Meeting)

([https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16235](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16235))

- a. Closed Session

### 3. December 12, 2024 (Monthly Meeting)

([https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16113](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16113))

- a. Policy Amendments:
  - i. TCED-004 (discussion)
  - ii. LICN-001 (approved)
- b. Educator Preparation Program (EPP) Accountability and Sanction Rules
- c. SBE Request: Math Subtest Data (request to be sent to Assessment and Performance Subcommittee)
- d. Principal Portfolio Assessment Update

### 4. January 16, 2025 (Assessment and Performance Subcommittee Meeting)

([https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16417](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16417))

- a. Scope of Work
- b. Math Subtest Data (discussion by subcommittee)
- c. Educator Preparation Program (EPP) and Human Resources (HR) Feedback

### 5. February 13, 2025 (Monthly Meeting)

([https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16436](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16436))

- a. Policy Amendments:

- i. CTED-004 (approved)
  - ii. LICN-001 (approved)
- b. Review of EPP Accountability Model Rules and Introduction to Weighted EPP Accountability Model (request to be sent to the Educator Preparation Subcommittee)
- 6. February 18, 2025 (Assessment and Performance Subcommittee Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16611](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16611)
  - a. Review of Scope of Work
  - a. Math Subtest Data Review (approved recommendation by subcommittee to send to full Commission)
  - b. Feedback Review
  - c. Key Recommendations by Subcommittee
- 7. February 24, 2025 (Educator Preparation Subcommittee Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16623](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16623)
  - a. Scope of Work
  - b. Homework Assignment
- 8. March 12, 2025 (Educator Preparation Subcommittee Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16717](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16717)
  - a. Scope of Work Review
  - b. Feedback from Field: EPPs and HR Representatives
  - c. Homework Discussion
- 9. March 20, 2025 (Monthly Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16416](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16416)
  - a. Assessment and Performance Subcommittee Recommendations: Math Subtest Data (approved)
  - b. North Carolina Principal Portfolio Assessment (recommended to proceed)
  - c. Internship Guidelines (introduction to the work for this item)
- 10. March 25, 2025 (Educator Preparation Subcommittee Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16758](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16758)
  - a. Scope of Work
  - b. NCDPI Data Presentation (support for EPP Weighted Accountability Model draft)
  - c. EPP Weighted Accountability Model Draft (discussion)
- 11. March 27, 2025 (Called Meeting of the PEPSC)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16805](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16805)
  - a. North Carolina Principal Portfolio Assessment (approved)
- 12. April 9, 2025 (Educator Preparation Subcommittee Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16845](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16845)
  - a. Scope of Work Review
  - b. EPP Weighted Accountability Model Draft Discussion (approved recommendation by subcommittee to send to full Commission)
- 13. April 10, 2025 (Monthly Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16804](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16804)
  - a. Policy Amendment: LICN-003 (discussion)
  - b. Principal Internship Framework (update on this work)
  - c. Educator Preparation Subcommittee Work: EPP Accountability Model Draft (discussion)
- 14. May 8, 2025 (Monthly Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16885](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16885)
  - a. Policy Amendment: LICN-003 (approved)
  - b. Principal Internship Framework (update on this work)
  - c. Educator Preparation Subcommittee Work: EPP Accountability Model Draft (approved)
- 15. August 14, 2025 (Monthly Meeting)**  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16978](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=16978)
  - a. Policy Amendment: TCED-016 (discussion)



- b. Policy Amendment: LICN-003 (approved)
- c. North Carolina Educator Preparation Program (EPP) Accountability Model (discussion)

**16. August 21, 2025 (Called Meeting)**

**[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=17241](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=10399&MID=17241)**

- a. Policy Amendment: TCED-016 (approved)
- b. North Carolina Educator Preparation Program (EPP) Accountability Model (approved)