

Subcommittee for the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education,
Certification and Licensure and Development
Central High School
Room 102
359 N. West Street, Jackson, MS 39201
April 3, 2024

In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 37-3-2(10) and 25-41-5, a subcommittee of the members of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development ("Commission") met at 9:00 a.m. on April 3, 2024, in room 102 of the Central high School Building, 359 N. West Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

Members in Attendance: Dr. Bernell Kelley, Dr. Teresa Poole, Rebecca Gray
Commission Counsel: Jonathan Dennis, Special Assistant Attorney General

OEM Counsel: Joseph Runnels, Esq.

Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Personnel Attending:
Tilla Tate, Investigator for the Office of Educator Misconduct (OEM)
Scott DeJong, Director for the OEM

Others in Attendance:
Mathenious Summers, Educator
Dr. Valeria Bradley, Witness for OEM
Laketsha Marshall-Thomas, Witness for OEM
Larrissa Harris, Witness for OEM
Jocelyn Smith, Witness for OEM
Kathleen Grigsby, Witness for OEM

Matters before the Subcommittee:

I. Case of Shane Savannah, Educator license No. 321072

Jonathan Dennis, legal advisor to the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at 9:12 a.m.

After all exhibits were received into evidence and testimony heard, Dr. Teresa Poole made a motion to go into closed session. Rebecca Gray seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into closed session. Dr. Teresa Poole made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of deliberations and findings concerning the Educator license at issue in the present case. Rebecca Gray seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following people remained in the room: Dr. Bernell Kelly, Dr. Teresa Poole, Rebecca Gray, and Jonathan Dennis.

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

Dr. Teresa Poole moved that the Commission hearing Subcommittee suspend the license of Shane Savannah, Educator License No. 321072 for a period of one scholastic year. Rebecca Gray seconded the motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to suspend Respondent's license.

On a motion by Dr. Teresa Poole, seconded by Rebecca Gray, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

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

This matter was concluded at 9:49 a.m.

II. Case of Mathenious Summers, Educator License Application No. 258546

Jonathan Dennis, legal advisor to the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at 9:56 a.m.

After all exhibits were received into evidence and testimony heard, Rebecca Gray made a motion to go into closed session. Dr. Teresa Poole seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into closed session. Rebecca Gray made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of deliberations and findings concerning the Educator license at issue in the present case. Dr. Teresa Poole seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following people remained in the room: Dr. Bernell Kelly, Rebecca Gray, Dr. Teresa Poole, and Jonathan Dennis.

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

Dr. Teresa Poole moved that the Commission hearing Subcommittee not suspend the license of Mathenious Summers, Educator License No. 321072 for a period of one scholastic year. Rebecca Gray seconded the motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to not suspend Respondent's license.

On a motion by Rebecca Gray, seconded by Dr. Teresa Poole, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

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

This matter concluded at 11:40 a.m.

III. Agreed Orders

Scott DeJong, Director for the Office of Educator Misconduct, presented five proposed Agreed Orders for ratification by the Commission Hearing Subcommittee:

- A. Kaitlyn McCurdy, Educator License No. 332350 – Standard 4
- B. Avery Champ, Educator License No. 310403 – Standard 10
- C. Debra McGreger, Educator License No. 333317, Standard 10

This matter concluded at 11:46 a.m.

IV. Adjournment.

On a motion by Dr. Teresa Poole, seconded by Rebecca Gray, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to adjourn for the day at 11:47 a.m.

Approved:

Bernell Kelly

Dr. Bernell Kelly, Subcommittee Chair
Commission on Teacher and Administrator
Education, Certification and Licensure and
Development

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