

Subcommittee for the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education,
Certification and Licensure and Development
Central High School
Senator Grey Ferris Boardroom
359 N. West Street, Jackson, MS 39201
September 5, 2025

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 12:00 p.m. on September 5, 2025, in Senator Grey Ferris Board Room 4th Floor, 359 N. West Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

Members in Attendance: Jamie Creel, Etta Taplin, David Martin
Commission Counsel: Jonathan Dennis, Special Assistant Attorney General

OEM Counsel: Joseph Runnels, Esq.

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

Others in Attendance:
Lisa Pike, Court Reporter
Mark Smith, Educator

Matters before the Subcommittee:

I. Case of Mark Smith, Educator License No. 197708

Jonathan Dennis, legal advisor to the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at 12:02 p.m.

After all exhibits were received into evidence and testimony heard, Jamie Creel made a motion to go into closed session. David Martin seconded the motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into closed session. Jamie Creel 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. David Martin seconded the motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following people remained in the room: Etta Taplin, David Martin, Jamie Creel, and Jonathan Dennis.

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

Jamie Creel moved that the Commission hearing Subcommittee approve the reinstatement of Educator License No. 197708 for Mark Smith. David Martin seconded the motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to approve the reinstatement of Respondent's license.

On a motion by Jamie Creel, seconded by David Martin, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

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

This matter was concluded at 1:19 a.m.

II. Adjournment.

On a motion by Jamie Creel, seconded by David Martin, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to adjourn for the day at 1:20 p.m.

Approved:



Etta Taplin, Subcommittee Chair
Commission on Teacher and Administrator
Education, Certification and Licensure and
Development



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