
1A

Action

General Session

Approval of the August 2025 Minutes

Executive Summary: The Commission will review and approve the minutes of the August 2025 meeting of the Commission.

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of the August 2025 meeting.

Presenter: None

Strategic Plan Goal

Continuous Improvement

- **Goal 7.** The Commission's work is grounded in research, informed by the voices of practitioners and communities of interests, and supports continuous improvement in educator preparation and licensure.

Commission on Teacher Credentialing Minutes of the August 28-29, 2025 Meeting

Commission Members Attending

Marquita Grenot-Scheyer, Public Representative, Chair
Bonnie Klatt, Teacher Representative, Vice Chair
Danette Brown, Teacher Representative
Kathryn Browne, Ex-Officio, California Community College
Jose Cardenas, Non-Administrative Services Credential Representative
Cheryl Cotton, Designee, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Juan Cruz, School Administrator Representative
Christopher Davis, Teacher Representative
Michael de la Torre, Teacher Representative
Deborah Erickson, Ex-Officio, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
Ira Lit, Faculty Member Representative
Ruben Mancillas, Teacher Representative
Monica Martinez, Public Representative (8/28 only)
Shireen Pavri, Ex-Officio, California State University
David Simmons, Human Resources Administrator Representative

Commission Members Absent

Annamarie Francois, Ex-Officio, University of California
Phuong Uzoff, Teacher Representative

Thursday, August 28, 2025

General Session

Chair Marquita Grenot-Scheyer convened the General Session of the Commission at 9:03 a.m. Roll call was taken, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1A: Approval of June 2025 Minutes

Commissioner Cardenas moved approval of the June 2025 Ad Hoc Committee meeting minutes. Commissioner Mancillas seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

Commissioner Davis moved approval of the June 2025 Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried with Commissioner Cruz abstaining.

1B: Approval of the August 2025 Agenda

Commissioner Davis moved approval of the August 2025 Agenda with an agenda insert 1C. Commissioner Klatt seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

1C: Approval of the August 2025 Consent Calendar

Commissioner Davis moved approval of the August Consent Calendar with an amendment to withdraw items #47. Brian Kim, #53. Brian Lucas, #58. Coline McNeil, and #70. Eric Peterson to be reviewed during Closed Session. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent. Commissioner Erickson recused herself from the following consent item: *Programs Recommended for Literacy Certification in Accordance with SB 488 (Chap. 678, Stats. 2021)*. Commissioner Davis recused himself from Items #70 Eric Peterson and #105. Richard David Keller. Commissioner de la Torre recused himself from items #11. Steve Briones, #16. Rudy Cadena, #17. Ernesto Campos Jr., #32. Tamra Jean Erickson, #39. Umberto Furlan, #41. Marco Godinez, #44. Landon Jacobs, #45. Matthew Julian, #54. Jose Manaiza Jr., #59. Eric Mestanza, #60. Mark Middlebrook, #62. Derrick Morales, #68. Marques Owens, #73. Roany Revolorio, #75. Leigh Ann Rollag, #76. Salvador Sanchez Ruiz, #79. Terrence Schonig, #84. Lori Stanley, #86. Daniel Stowell, #89. Eduardo Villarreal, and #93. Stephen Yarnall.

1D: Chair's Report

Chair Grenot-Scheyer acknowledged September as Hispanic Heritage Month. She raised concerns regarding the continued escalation of immigration raids from the current administration and thanked educators, leaders, and elected officials in California for coming together to protect and ensure a supportive caring learning environment. Chair Grenot-Scheyer shared information about the Center for Educator Workforce Development housed at the Commission to bring senior leaders of state agencies and higher education institutions together to strengthen and transform the future educator workforce and expressed her appreciation to Commission staff Kristin Calderone, Director Juliet Wahleithner, Chief Deputy Director Adam Ebrahim and Executive Director Mary Vixie Sandy on this effort.

1E: Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Mary Vixie Sandy welcomed Elizabeth de las Santos and Kiyomi Meeker as two new accreditation consultants to the Professional Services Division. She congratulated Erin Skubal on her promotion as Senior Director of the Commission's newly developed Licensing Branch and updated the Commission regarding a plan for reorganizing the agency to best maximize collaborative cross-divisional work. Lastly, Executive Sandy congratulated Phyllis Jacobson on her recent retirement.

1F: Commission Member Reports

Commissioner Davis shared information about the California Black Educators Initiative which focuses on supporting 900 Black educators, predominantly in the Los Angeles area, through the board certification process and provided an update about the National Education Association grant program by the California Teachers Association (CTA), in partnership with the National Board Resource Center (NBRC) at Stanford University. He spoke about his visit to a child development center in Las Banos, California and expressed gratitude from the field regarding the Commission's work on child development.

Commissioner Browne shared information about a two-day institute titled "What it means to do Transitional Kindergarten Well" organized by Stanford University's Center on Early Childhood and provided an update on the Association of California Community College Teacher

Education Programs' recent activities. She spoke about the California Early Childhood Mentor Program and acknowledged that the Learning Policy Institute, created by former Commission Chair Linda Darling-Hammond, celebrated its 10-year anniversary. Lastly, she shared a request from the California Association for the Education of Young Children inviting the Commission to participate at its second annual TK Institute on October 10-11, 2025 in Santa Clara.

Commissioner Cotton expressed her excitement about the beginning of the school year and voiced concerns regarding the direct impacts on student wellness, safety and attendance while supporting students and families through imminent immigration enforcement activity within the neighborhoods. She also shared updates, initiatives, and recent activities from the California Department of Education (CDE).

Commissioner Cardenas congratulated Commission Student Liaison Amber Olmos on her recent graduation and Phyllis Jacobson on her recent retirement and welcomed new educators, students and families to the beginning of a school year. He reported on his attendance at the American School Counselor Association Annual Conference in Long Beach and spoke about the importance of self-wellness and student wellness.

1G: Liaison Reports

Haydee Rodriguez, State Board of Education Liaison, reported on her attendance at the State Board's July 2025 meeting and thanked Commission staff for working with the State Board and CDE staff to implement the Governor's Executive Order to support mental health, academic success, and career outcomes for men and boys.

Commissioner Davis reported on his attendance at the August 8, 2025 Committee on Accreditation meeting.

Amber Olmos, Commission Student Liaison, acknowledged LGBTQIA+ History Month and summarized her experience as the Commission's current student liaison. She reported that she graduated in May 2025 from California State University, Dominguez Hills with a Master of Science degree in School Counseling and accepted a faculty position at Los Angeles Harbor College.

Executive Committee

Chair Grenot-Scheyer convened the Executive Committee.

2A: Educator Preparation Student Liaison

Hai Jue Theriault, Program Analyst, Executive Office, presented this item which provided information regarding the selection process for the Educator Preparation Student Liaison.

Commission Action

Commissioner Klatt moved to appoint Joseph Morrison to serve as the Educator Preparation Student Liaison to the Commission for one year effective October 1, 2025. Commissioner Cruz seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

Educator Preparation Committee

Committee Chair Jose Cardenas convened the Educator Preparation Committee.

3A: Request for Approval to Field Test the Fresno Assessment of Student Teachers PK-3

Juliet Wahleithner, Director, Division of Research, Evaluation, and Assessment; Lindsay Meeker, Assistant Professor, Early Childhood Education, Heather Horsley, Associate Professor, Early Childhood Education, & Residency Coordinator, and Suzie Brandl, Lecturer & FAST Coordinator, Kremen School of Education and Human Development, California State University, Fresno, presented this item which provided a request from California State University, Fresno to field test a version of the Fresno Assessment of Student Teachers (FAST) developed specifically for candidates pursuing the PK-3 Early Childhood Education Specialist Instruction Credential.

Commission Action

Commissioner Davis moved to 1) approve the FAST PK-3 field test as proposed for fall 2025, 2) approve waiver requests from Fresno State to waive the teaching performance assessment requirement for currently-enrolled PK-3 candidates who successfully complete the FAST PK-3, and 3) require field test participants to pass with a minimum of 2 points on each rubric of both the Site Visitation Project and the Teaching Sample Project. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

3B: Implementation Plan for Commission-Adopted Recommendations from the Workgroup to Review the Design and Implementation of Teaching Performance Assessments

Adam Ebrahim, Chief Deputy Director, Erin Sullivan, Director, Professional Services Division, and Juliet Wahleithner, Director, Division of Research, Evaluation, and Assessment, presented this item which provided a plan to implement the Commission-adopted recommendations from the Workgroup to Review the Design and Implementation of Teaching Performance Assessments (RDI-TPA). It outlined phases of work, including updates to standards, preconditions, and assessment policies, as well as improvements to data collection and reporting. The item also identified areas where staff may return with options to support clear and coordinated implementation.

Adrienne Miyadi, California Teachers Association, voiced support of the implementation plan to 1) embed performance assessment tasks within coursework and clinical practice, 2) use local scoring methods, and 3) provide individualized formative feedback. She suggested the Commission continue the conversation on establishing a viable cost structure that allows the TPA to be unconditionally free to candidates and requested that TPA pass rates be made public and accessible.

Adan Luevano, California Federation of Teachers (CFT), expressed his appreciation for the work of Commission staff and the RDI-TPA Workgroup and requested the Commission to address the barriers created by the current TPA as soon as possible.

Roxanne Miller, Chapman University, raised concerns regarding the possibility of programs with exemplary performance rates being forced to change their successful methods to a new

method and suggested the Commission limit the recommendations to educator preparation programs that are having documented problems with their pass rates.

Natalie Wheatfall-Lum, EdTrust-West, submitted a written comment in support of the implementation plan and encouraged the Commission to explicitly report back on the initial steps. She suggested the Commission continue to prioritize building stronger data practices across the system and recommended the Commission to adopt clear guardrails needed at each milestone. She emphasized the need to maintain financial sustainability throughout the entire process and recognized the Commission's broader leadership in coordinating workforce issues across the state.

Commission Action

Commissioner de la Torre moved to approve the proposed Senate Bill 1263 Implementation Plan as presented in this item. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

3C: Recommendation Regarding Accreditation Implications for Programs that Do Not Complete SB 488 Literacy Certification

Cheryl Hickey and Miranda Gutierrez, Administrators, Professional Services Division, presented this item which provided a recommended course of action for consideration and potential approval by the Commission for any programs that have not yet completed the SB 488 Literacy Certification process and been formally certified by the October 23-24, 2025 Commission meeting.

Regina Chagolla, California Federation of Teachers, spoke in support of staff recommendations regarding placing programs that failed to meet their literacy certification requirements per SB 488 to at least probationary status and expressed CFT's interest in knowing which programs that remain uncertified under the SB 488 Literacy Certification process at the December 2025 Commission meeting to alert their members.

Marshall Tuck, EdVoice Institute/Megan Potente, Decoding Dyslexia/Todd Collins, California Reading Coalition/Linda Diamond, Evidence Advocacy Center/Kristen Koeller, The Reading League California, submitted a written comment which expressed support for the recommended action to ensure accountability for educator preparation programs that do not complete the SB 488 Literacy Certification process by the October 2025 deadline.

Commission Action

Commissioner Simmons moved to adopt the staff recommendations listed on pages EPC 3C-2 and 3 of the agenda item. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent. Commissioner Cotton was not present during the roll call vote.

Recess

Closed Session

The Commission went into Closed Session at 12:33 p.m. to consider the following pending litigation: *Matthew Sorensen v. Commission on Teacher Credentialing* (Case 23STCP03040, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles). The Commission also considered adverse actions, Petitions for Reinstatement, Decisions and Orders, Proposed Decisions, transcript reviews in discipline cases, and a Motion to Vacate Default Decision and Order while in Closed Session pursuant to California Education Code sections 44244.1, 44245, 44246, 44248, and Government Code sections 11126, 11517, and 11520.

Friday, August 29, 2025

General Session

Chair Marquita Grenot-Scheyer reconvened the General Session of the Commission at 8:30 a.m. and roll call was taken.

Educator Preparation Committee

Committee Chair Jose Cardenas reconvened the Educator Preparation Committee.

3D: Initial Institutional Approval – Stage II: Eligibility Requirements for Reach University

Frances Kellar, Consultant, Professional Services Division, presented this item which provided, as part of the Initial Institutional Approval process, Reach University's responses to the Eligibility Requirements for consideration and possible approval by the Commission.

Kana Wong and Ellen MacDonald, Reach University, assisted staff in presenting this item.

Thomas Vu, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities, submitted a written comment in support of Reach University's application for the Initial Institutional Approval.

Commission Action

Commissioner de la Torre moved to grant eligibility to Reach University to move forward to Stage III. Commissioner Mancillas seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent. Commissioner Cotton was not present during the roll call vote.

3E: Initial Institutional Approval – Stage II: Eligibility Requirements for California Institute of the Arts

Hart Boyd, Consultant, Professional Services Division, presented this item which provided, as part of the Initial Institutional Approval process, California Institute of the Arts' responses to the Eligibility Requirements for consideration and possible approval by the Commission.

Evan Tapper, Rachel Berger, and Maria Ramos, California Institute of the Arts, assisted staff in presenting this item.

Thomas Vu, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities, submitted a written comment in support of California Institute of the Arts' application for the Initial Institutional Approval.

Commission Action

Commissioner Davis moved to grant eligibility to California Institute of the Arts to move forward to Stage III. Commissioner Klatt seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent. Commissioner Cotton was not present during the roll call vote.

3F: Initial Institutional Approval – Stage III: Consideration of Provisional Approval for Ventura Unified School District

Frances Kellar, Consultant, Professional Services Division, presented this item which provided, as part of the Initial Institutional Approval process, Ventura Unified School District's responses to the Common Standards for consideration and possible Provisional Approval by the Commission.

Nannette Pecel and Gina Wolowicz, Ventura Unified School District, assisted staff in presenting this item.

Commission Action

Commissioner Simmons moved to grant Provisional Approval to Ventura Unified School District and set the Provisional Approval period to be three years. Commissioner Mancillas seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent. Commissioner Cotton was not present during the roll call vote.

3G: Ongoing and Planned Improvements for Commission-Approved Examinations

Mike Taylor, Consultant, and Juliet Wahleithner, Director, Division of Research, Evaluation and Assessment; and Adam Ebrahim, Chief Deputy Director, presented this item which provided an overview of ongoing changes, areas of need, and planned improvements for Commission-approved examinations. This item was intended to provide the Commission with clear information regarding the maintenance of approved examinations and create an opportunity for Commissioners to share feedback to support improvements.

The following individuals spoke and/or provided written comments on this item:

1. Adrienne Miyadi, California Teachers Association
2. Regina Chagolla, California Federation of Teachers
3. Kristina McCormick, Riverside County Office of Education
4. Benito Aranda-Comer, EdTrust-West
5. Jessica Sawko, Children Now
6. Natalie Wheatfall-Lum, EdTrust-West
7. Rachelle Sousa, California State University, Chico
8. Alice Hale, Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs
9. Lucy Salcido Carter, Alameda County Office of Education

Commission Action

Commissioner de la Torre moved to direct staff to 1) initiate a coordinated plan to replace the CBEST, CTEL, CPACE, and CSET with a modern, integrated licensure examinations system, and 2) conduct research and feasibility analyses and return with recommendations to expand the Subject Matter Requirement (SMR) framework, including updated SMR structure, transcript-based tools, and modular verification options. Chair Grenot-Scheyer seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

3H: Annual Report on Passing Rates of Commission-Approved Examinations from 2019-20 to 2023-24

Mike Taylor, Consultant, Division of Research, Evaluation and Assessment, presented this item which reported the passing rates of Commission-approved examinations. For each examination, the purpose of the examination, its structure, the scoring process, the examination volume, the first-time passing rate, and the cumulative passing rate were discussed. When available, the passing rate by demographic data was also discussed.

Sally Fox, California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE), extended CABE's appreciation for the excellent work done by Commission staff to support key elements of the public education system and hoped that the newly released demographic data through the CDE will be useful to the Commission in making good decisions to support, recruit, and retain professional educators. She encouraged the Commission to proceed along the path of continuous improvement and look for ways to draw inspiration from and make connections to policies related to multilingual education.

Reconvene General Session

Chair Grenot-Scheyer reconvened the General Session.

1H: New Business

The Bimonthly Agenda was presented.

1I: Report of Executive Committee

Chair Grenot-Scheyer reported that the Executive Committee appointed Joseph Morrison to serve as the Educator Preparation Student Liaison to the Commission for one year effective October 1, 2025.

Recess

Closed Session

The Commission went into Closed Session at 10:57 a.m. to consider the following pending litigation: *Matthew Sorensen v. Commission on Teacher Credentialing* (Case 23STCP03040, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles). The Commission also considered adverse actions, Petitions for Reinstatement, Decisions and Orders, Proposed Decisions, transcript reviews in discipline cases, and a Motion to Vacate Default Decision and Order while in Closed Session pursuant to California Education Code sections 44244.1, 44245, 44246, 44248, and Government Code sections 11126, 11517, and 11520.

Reconvene General Session

Chair Grenot-Scheyer reconvened the General Session.

1J: Report of Closed Session Items

Vice Chair Bonnie Klatt reported that staff briefed the Commission on the case of *Matthew Sorensen v. Commission on Teacher Credentialing* and no reportable action was taken.

The Commission granted the following Petitions for Reinstatement:

- Abigail Felix
- Junior Sathaphan
- Jason Cy Smith
- Clent Ingram
- Phillip Scoggins

The Commission denied the Petition for Reinstatement in the matter of Nereida Rojas-Seitz.

The Commission reviewed the transcript in the matter of Daniel Alvarez-Ibarra Jr. A Decision and Order will be prepared for the Commission's adoption. The Commission ordered a thirty-day delay for preparation of the Decision and Order.

The Commission granted the motion to vacate the Default Decision and Order in the matter of Becky Lyn Rishel.

The Commission discussed the following Consent Calendar items and remanded the matters back to the Committee of Credentials:

- #47. Brian Kim
- #53. Brian Lucas
- #58. Coline McNeil
- #70. Eric Peterson (Commissioner Davis recused himself on this item.)

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Grenot-Scheyer adjourned the meeting at 12:08 p.m.