2A

Action

General Session

Approval of the August 2026 Minutes

Executive Summary: The Commission will review and approve the minutes of the August 2026 meeting of the Commission.

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of the August 2026 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 27-28, 2026 Meeting

Commission Members Attending
Marquita Grenot-Scheyer, Public Representative, Chair
Jose Cardenas, Non-Administrative Services Credential Representative, Vice Chair
Danette Brown, Teacher Representative
Juan Cruz, School Administrator Representative (8/27 only)
Michael de la Torre, Teacher Representative
Deborah Erickson, Ex-Officio, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
Chèri Fortin, Ex-Officio, California Community Colleges
Annamarie Francois, Ex-Officio, University of California (8/27 and 8/28 Closed Session only)
Ira Lit, Faculty Member Representative
Ruben Mancillas, Teacher Representative
Shireen Pavri, Ex-Officio, California State University (8/27 only)
Mandy Redfern, Teacher Representative
David Simmons, Human Resources Administrator Representative
Richard Simpson, Public Representative
Mike Torres, Designee, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Phuong Uzoff, Teacher Representative

Commission Members Absent
None

Thursday, June 25, 2026

General Session
Chair Grenot-Scheyer convened the General Session of the Commission at 9:02 a.m.
Roll call was taken, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chair Grenot-Scheyer welcomed Chèri Fortin as the new ex-officio member representing the California Community Colleges to the Commission.

1A: Approval of June 2026 Minutes
Commissioner Simpson moved approval of the June 2026 Ad Hoc Committee meeting minutes. Commissioner Mancillas seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

Commissioner Simpson moved approval of the June 2026 Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Redfern seconded the motion. The motion carried with Commissioners Cruz, de la Torre, and Grenot-Scheyer abstaining.

1B: Approval of the August 2026 Agenda
Commissioner Mancillas moved approval of the August 2026 Agenda. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

1C: Approval of the August 2026 Consent Calendar
Commissioner Simpson moved approval of the August Consent Calendar. Commissioner Redfern seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent. Commissioner Cruz recused himself from item #87. Tarun Sivakumar. Commissioner de la Torre recused himself from items #4. Nancy Bake, #6. Janice Bardeau, #17. Mario Chacon, #18. Christopher Michael Clarke, #22. Victor Tam Doan, #30. Jocelyn Fierros, #42. Timothy Henricks, #52. Renata Keller, #58. Heath Landress, #62. Sonya Lockridge, #66. Erick Moran, #77. Ruth Reynoso, #79. Aissa Riley, #85. Pierre Simonian, #95. Gregory Weed, and #98. Norma Zelaya.

Rory McNair, submitted written comments regarding his complaint.

1D: Chair's Report
Chair Grenot-Scheyer expressed her appreciation to the state leadership for their continued investment in education and raised concerns regarding the assaults against public education at the national level by the current administration. She highlighted a new initiative Teaching America: 250 Years of Public Education launched by the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) to honor the educators, institutions, and movements that shaped the United States. She also spoke about the importance of advocating for education and reminded everyone of the power of stories of resistance.

1E: Executive Director's Report
Executive Director Mary Vixie Sandy welcomed everyone to the new school year and shared information about the orientation provided by Commission staff to Commissioner Fortin. Executive Director Sandy invited Serette Kaminski from the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) to the table to publicly recognize Doug Gephart for serving as ACSA's liaison to the Commission for over 12 years. Lastly, she congratulated Cheryl Hickey on her upcoming retirement and introduced Sarah Solari Colombini as an Interim Administrator over Accreditation.

1F: Commission Member Reports
Commissioner Pavri thanked Ms. Hickey for her knowledge, passion, commitment, and incredible support of educator preparation programs and welcomed Commissioner Fortin. She shared information about the CAPP BRIDGE Project and provided an update about the PAVE Toolkit that the California State University and California Community Colleges developed collaboratively.

Commissioner Fortin expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to serve on the Commission representing the California Community Colleges and to work collaboratively to strengthen California's educator pipeline, expand opportunities for aspiring educators, and support student success across the state. She also provided an update from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office about their current priority areas and key advancements.

Commissioner Cardenas welcomed Commissioner Fortin to the Commission and expressed his excitement about seeing the next generation and the evolution of the educator workforce as the new school year starts. He reported on his attendance at a parent empowerment summit on August 21, 2026 and acknowledged September as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Lastly, he reported on his attendance at the August 2026 Committee of Credentials meeting and shared information on the Educator Preparation Student Liaison interviews.

Commissioner Torres provided an update from the California Department of Education regarding the National Board Certification Subsidy and Incentive Programs, Educator Effectiveness 2021-26, and the implementation of the new Statewide Graduation Requirement for Personal Finance. He also shared information about AB 181.

Commissioner Erickson welcomed Commissioner Fortin to the Commission and acknowledged the recent passing of Dolly Parton.

1G: Liaison Reports
Haydee Rodriguez, State Board of Education Liaison, thanked Ms. Hickey for her patience, competence, and support to the Committee on Accreditation; welcomed Chèri Fortin to the Commission; and reported on her attendance at the State Board's July 2026 meeting.

Chair Grenot-Scheyer read a final report from Student Liaison Joseph Morrision which expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve as the Educator Preparation Student Liaison and urged the Commission to keep credential candidates at the center of its work.

Executive Committee
Chair Grenot-Scheyer convened the Executive Committee.

2A: Educator Preparation Student Liaison
Hai Jue Theriault, Analyst, Executive Office, presented this item which provided information about the application and selection process for the Educator Preparation Student Liaison.

Commission Action
Commissioner Brown moved to appoint Jaselle Camiling to serve as the Educator Preparation Student Liaison to the Commission for one year effective October 1, 2026. Commissioner Cardenas seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

Educator Preparation Committee
Committee Chair Danette Brown convened the Educator Preparation Committee.

3A: Update on the AB 1119 Implementation Plan: Dual Credentialing
Erin Sullivan, Director, William Hatrick and Michelle Fennell, Consultants, Division of Standards, Accreditation, and Workforce Investments; Kristin Wright, Sacramento County Office of Education; Nat Hansuvadha, California State University Long Beach; and Megan Gross, Supporting Innovative Practices Project, presented this item which provided an update on implementation of Assembly Bill 1119 (Patel), which requires the Commission, by March 1,

2027, with input from the education field, to develop and establish efficient routes to dual credentialing across general education and special education. The item described the structure and approach staff are using to carry out the work and the activities currently underway. The item also summarized the field input gathered to date through separate surveys of educators and program sponsors and a series of listening sessions and interviews.

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

1. Sally Fox, California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE)/LCFF Equity Coalition-Cynthia Vásquez Petitt, CABE/Steven Almazán, EdVoice Institute/Manuel Buenrostro, Californians Together/John Affeldt, Public Advocates/Sarah Lillis, Teach Plus California
2. Yolanda Muñoz, California Teachers Association
3. Jessica Sawko, Children Now
4. Serette Kaminiski, ACSA
5. Manuel Buenrostro, Californians Together

3B: Credentialed Educator Apprenticeships: Workforce Alignment, Program Design, and Implementation

Adam Ebrahim, Chief Deputy Director; Jake Shuler, Consultant, Division of Standards, Accreditation and Workforce Investment; Sarah Begeman, Consultant, Education First; Adele Burnes, Chief, Division of Apprenticeship Standards; and Jeanna Perry, Director, Statewide Residency Technical Assistance Center, presented this item which provided information about the teacher apprenticeship, a developing approach to educator preparation that creates employment-based pathways for prospective teachers within Commission-approved preparation and credentialing requirements.

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

1. Steven Almazán, EdVoice Institute
2. Jena Luft, Partnership for Children & Youth
3. Benito Aranda-Comer, EdTrust-West
4. Yolanda Muñoz, California Teachers Association
5. Jessica Sawko, Children Now
6. Manuel Buenrostro, Californians Together

3C: Annual Report on Passing Rates of Commission-Approved Examinations from 2020-21 to 2024-25

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.

Manuel Buenrostro, Californians Together, submitted a written comment which raised concerns regarding the persistent disparities in pass rates across standardized tests, particularly the CBEST, which disproportionately impact candidates of color and those who are bilingual. He requested that the Commission investigate why candidates continue taking these optional

examinations and expand targeted public outreach around alternative pathways and asked Commission staff to gather and report demographic data on candidates fulfilling requirements through coursework and degree pathways versus traditional examinations.

LCFF Equity Coalition-Kai Mathews, Public Advocates/Martha Hernandez, Californians Together/Cynthia Vásquez Petitt, California Association for Bilingual Education, submitted a written comment which raised concerns regarding the persistent racial disparities reflected in the pass rates and the validity of these standardized tests, particularly the CBEST. The letter requested that the Commission examine the population of candidates who continue to take the examinations that are no longer required to determine whether additional outreach and communication are needed. Additionally, it asked that the demographic data be reported on candidates establishing competencies through coursework versus those doing so by examination.

3D: Update on Plans for Commission-Approved Examinations and Consideration of New Examination Options

Mike Taylor, Consultant, and Juliet Michelsen Wahleithner, Director, Division of Research, Evaluation and Assessment, presented this item which provided an update to the workplan for Commission Examinations approved by the Commission at the October 2025 Commission Meeting. The update included discussion of changes to subject matter verification that were enacted in the 2026-27 budget and would have an impact on the Commission's current subject matter examinations. In addition, the item presented options for Commission consideration related to next steps for assessing basic skills and identified new tests for the Commission's consideration that would make the Early Completion Option available for PK-3 Early Childhood Specialist Instruction (PK3) and Education Specialist Mild to Moderate Support Needs (MMSN) Intern credential candidates.

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

1. Benito Aranda-Comer, EdTrust-West
2. Kai Mathews, Public Advocates/LCFF Equity Coalition-Martha Hernandez, Californians Together/Cynthia Vásquez Petitt, CABE
3. Jessica Sawko, Children Now
4. Adrienne Miyadi, California Teachers Association
5. Manuel Buenrostro, Californians Together

Commission Action

Commissioner Lit moved to approve recommendations 3, 4 and 5 listed on page 13 of the agenda item. Commissioner Redfern seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

The Commission further directed staff to bring an item back to a future meeting with further analysis and options on the examinations and any legislative remedies or adjustments that are needed to satisfy the Basic Skills Requirement.

3E: Initial Institutional Approval – Stage II: Eligibility Requirements for Temecula Valley Unified School District

Elizabeth de los Santos, Consultant, Division of Standards, Accreditation, and Workforce Investment, presented this item which provided, as part of the Initial Institutional Approval process, Temecula Valley Unified School District's responses to the Eligibility Requirements for consideration and possible approval by the Commission.

Nicole Dayus and Emily Parra, Temecula Valley Unified School District, assisted staff in presenting this item.

Rory McNair, submitted written comments on his complaint.

Commission Action
Commissioner da la Torre moved to approve Temecula Valley Unified School District's responses to the Eligibility Requirements in Stage II and approve the institution to move forward to Stage III of the Initial Institutional Approval process. Commissioner Mancillas seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

3F: Initial Institutional Approval – Stage II: Eligibility Requirements for Grand Canyon University
Hart Boyd and Frances Kellar, Consultants, Division of Standards, Accreditation, and Workforce Investment, presented this item which provided, as part of the Initial Institutional Approval process, Grand Canyon University's responses to the Eligibility Requirements for consideration and possible approval by the Commission.

Cameron Whitcombe, Lindy Guadiano, and Emily Pottinger, Grand Canyon University, assisted staff in presenting this item.

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

1. Rick Crosby, Duarte Unified School District
2. Janine Franklin, Sutter County Superintendent of Schools
3. Amanda Silva, Cajon Valley Union School District
4. Aaron Davis, William S. Hart Union High School District
5. Patrick Sullivan, Compton Unified School District
6. Edd Bond, Templeton Unified School District
7. Ron Thibodeaux, Walnut Valley Induction Consortium
8. Jennifer Root, Menifee Union School District
9. Victoria Davis, Mojave Adult School
10. Brittany Frye, Hesperia Unified School District
11. Nick Stephany, Redondo Beach Unified School District
12. Kevin Despard, Rowland Unified School District
13. Darren Knowles, Pomona Unified School District
14. Kimberly Garcia
15. Catherine Fong, Bellflower Unified School District
16. Allen Williams, Bonsall Unified School District
17. Tracey Magyar, Saddleback College Child Development Center
18. Dominic Lucido, Saddleback Valley Unified School District

19. Michael Maul, Western Placer Unified School District
20. Stacie Colman-Hsu, Alhambra Unified School District
21. Ivan Chaidez, Oak Grove School District
22. Jesus Vaca, Somis Union School District
23. Alan Reeder, Lake Tahoe Unified School District
24. April Grisham, New Jerusalem Elementary School District
25. Dana Curtis, Adelanto Elementary School District
26. Minluvi Ramos, Compton Unified School District
27. Rory McNair

Commission Action
Commissioner Simpson moved to approve Grand Canyon University's responses to the Stage II Eligibility Requirements and approve the institution to move forward to Stage III of the Initial Institutional Approval process. Commissioner de la Torre seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

Fiscal Policy and Planning Committee
Chair Grenot-Scheyer convened the Fiscal Policy and Planning Committee since Commissioner Cruz attended via Zoom.

4A: Update on the Governor's 2026-27 Budget
Sara Saelee, Manager, Fiscal and Business Services; and Jonathon Howard, Manager, Government Relations & Public Affairs, presented this item which provided an update on the salient points of the Commission's portion of the 2026-27 Governor's budget.

Legislative Committee
Committee Chair Jose Cardenas convened the Legislative Committee.

5A: Status of Legislation
Jonathon Howard, Government Relations & Public Affairs Manager, Administrative Services Division, presented this item which provided the status of those legislative measures of interest to the Commission and addressed questions regarding any other legislation identified by Commissioners.

Reconvene General Session
Chair Grenot-Scheyer reconvened the General Session.

1H: New Business
The Bimonthly Agenda was presented.

Rory McNair, submitted written comments regarding his complaint.

1I: Report of Executive Committee
Chair Grenot-Scheyer reported that the Executive Committee appointed Jaselle Camiling to serve as the Educator Preparation Student Liaison to the Commission for one year effective October 1, 2026.

Recess

Closed Session
The Commission went into Closed Session at 3:48 p.m. pursuant to California Government Code section 11126 and Education Code sections 44245 and 44248 to consider Petitions for Reinstatement and a Motion to Vacate a Default Decision and Order.

Friday, August 28, 2026

General Session
Chair Marquita Grenot-Scheyer reconvened the General Session of the Commission at 8:31 a.m. and roll call was taken.

Recess

Closed Session
The Commission went into Closed Session at 8:34 a.m. pursuant to California Government Code section 11126 and Education Code sections 44245 and 44248 to consider Petitions for Reinstatement and a Motion to Vacate a Default Decision and Order.

1J: Report of Closed Session Items
Vice Chair Jose Cardenas reported that the Commission granted the following Petitions for Reinstatement:

- Nicole Delreth
- David Palos (Commissioner Erickson recused herself from this item)
- Jennifer Bertram

The Commission denied the following Petitions for Reinstatement:

- Dennis Horton
- Christina Lastra

The Commission vacated the Default Decision and Order in the matter of Christine Grosch.

Adjournment
There being no further business, Chair Grenot-Scheyer adjourned the meeting at 10:34 a.m.