

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
100 Riverview Plaza
Trenton, New Jersey**

January 23, 2003

Attending: Assistant Commissioner Richard Ten Eyck, Chairperson
Ms. Joan Brady, Secretary
Michael Walters, Deputy Attorney General
Dr. Michael Knowlton, Chairperson, Legal Committee
Ms. Joanne Gales, Chairperson, Credentials Review Committee
Ms. Ida Bilbow
Mr. Richard Dorow
Dr. Donald Farish
Mr. William King
Ms. Mary Jane McNally
Dr. Stuart Schnur
Ms. Gloria Tunstall

Absent: Dr. Rodney Smith
Mr. Peter Tirri

The meeting was called to order by Assistant Commissioner Richard Ten Eyck, Chairperson.

The minutes of the December 12, 2002 meeting were approved and adopted.

Terry Stocker was added to the legal agenda.

Individual Credentials Review – Presentation:

The following individuals attended the meeting, made brief presentations and answered questions from the Board regarding their experiences:

James M. Carpentier	Teacher of Health and Physical Education Certificate of Eligibility
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Mark Dettlinger Standard Teacher of Elementary School

Thomas F. Franko Student Personnel Services

Peter Hardell School Social Worker

Mr. Hardell was accompanied by his supervisor, Carmen Martucci, Senior Social Worker at Valley School, who spoke on his behalf.

Seymour Kugler Standard Teacher of Mathematics

Holly Grosh, who is applying for Speech-language Specialist certification, did not attend the meeting.

Credentials Review Committee Report:

The Credentials Review Committee reviewed all credentials review cases and presented its recommendations to the Board. The Board took the following actions:

Mary Margaret Monillas: Teacher of Reading - Denied. Partial credit was awarded for six credits in reading.

Lisa M. Peters: Supervisor - Denied.

Legal Committee Report:

The Legal Committee reviewed all legal cases and presented its recommendations to the Board. The Board took the following actions:

Order to Show Cause:

Cheri Burgess – County Substitute Certificate - Permanent disqualification from public school employment by the Office of Criminal History Review due to a 1984 conviction for sexual assault.

Rosemary Iannone - County Substitute Certificate - Permanent disqualification from public school employment by the Office of Criminal History Review due to a 1992 larceny conviction.

Lawrence Kemmet - Level and nature of conduct. Tenure matter involving allegations of placing the health and well-being of students and staff in immediate harm. At hearing, the matter was settled with Mr. Kemmet agreeing to resign and the school district placing him on leave of absence until June 30, 2003.

Jesse Kendle, Jr. – Level and nature of conduct. Proven tenure charges of unbecoming conduct that included hitting a student and exhibiting a pattern of inappropriate contact with elementary school students.

Kenneth Kuchtyak – Level and nature of conduct and crime. Pled guilty to one count of 3rd degree Official Misconduct and one count of 3rd degree Compensation for Past Official Behavior. The court issued an Order of Forfeiture which removed Mr. Kuchtyak from his position as Superintendent of Schools.

Philip Murray - Level and nature of conduct and crime. Pled guilty to 3rd degree Aggravated Assault. The court issued an Order of Forfeiture which removed Mr. Murray from his position as assistant principal.

Barbara Thomas. Level and nature of conduct. Proven tenure charges of unbecoming conduct and excessive absenteeism.

Wanda Williams – Level and nature of conduct. The Division of Youth and Family Services' investigative report substantiated allegations of neglect and lack of supervision with regard to Ms. Williams' students.

Table:

Sean Healy – Mr. Healy must submit official documentation showing how his criminal charges were adjudicated or forward an employment approval letter issued by the Office of Criminal History Review.

Vacate Order to Show Cause:

Marcus Bond –Vacate the Order to Show Cause issued May 9, 2002 as his conviction has been expunged. The Board also voted to take no action against his vocational certificate.

Donald Gerraty - Vacate the Order to Show Cause issued May 9, 2002 as his convictions have been expunged. The Board also voted to take no action against his County Substitute certificate.

Rasheen Kornegay – Vacate the Order to Show Cause issued June 13, 2002 as his emergency Teacher of the Handicapped certificate expired July 1, 2002.

Viva White - Vacate the Order to Show Cause issued April 11, 2002 as her conviction has been expunged. The Board also voted to take no action against her County Substitute certificate.

Other legal action:

In the matter of **Terry Stocker**, the Board unanimously voted to reject the settlement proposal.

The Board voted to take no action to suspend, revoke or block certificates of the following individuals:

Seth A. Chorba	Kathleen C. Feeney
Natasha E. Cox	Renita McKinney
Christina Del Grosso	Nancy P. Powell
Cary Edwards	Michael T. Tehan

Ms. Ida Bilbow acknowledged receipt of Commissioner Librera's correspondence regarding the federal No Child Left Behind Act that effects paraprofessionals employed by school districts. Secretary Joan Brady verified that at this time the No Child Left Behind Act pertains only to Title I schools.

Dr. Michael Knowlton inquired as to what the appropriate action is for an employer that becomes aware that an employee has pending criminal charges that have not yet been adjudicated. Deputy Attorney General Michael Walters indicated that the local school board attorney should provide guidance in these matters.

Secretary Brady updated the Board concerning the technology upgrade for the Office of Licensure and Credentials and the comprehensive review of the certification administrative code. Ms. Brady stated that there were 22 bidders for the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the certification technology upgrade with some bids over one million dollars. In response to Dr. Stuart Schnur's inquiry, Secretary Brady further explained that the technology upgrade will bring office and county office systems together making many current labor intensive tasks obsolete. Eventually, candidates for certification will be able to file certification applications via the Web, will be able to pay for certificates with credit cards, and documents will be imaged in order to allow timely and efficient evaluations and issuances of certificates.

Secretary Brady advised the Board that copies of the proposed certification code will be presented to the State Board of Education on February 5, 2003. Standards based reform is woven throughout the proposed code with regard to teacher preparation programs and school leaders with emphasis on the teaching of reading and mathematics. The proposed code will be discussed with the State Board of Education at least eight times this year with adoption of the code expected in December 2003. Copies of the proposed code will be distributed to members of the State Board of Examiners at the February 27, 2003 meeting.

Ms. Ida Bilbow raised concerns about inclusion of special education and bilingual students and emphasized the importance of providing additional training to novice teachers in order to support them in reading instruction.

After the meeting was adjourned, the meeting was reconvened to allow James M. Carpentier, who had previously called to report that he was having car problems, to make a presentation regarding his request for a Teacher of Health and Physical Education Certificate of Eligibility. Mr. Carpentier also responded to questions from Board members.

The next meeting of the board is scheduled to be held on Thursday, February 27, 2003, in the first floor conference room, 100 Riverview Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey.

JEB/EAH/eh:January 23, 2003 SBE Minutes