

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
100 Riverview Plaza
Trenton, New Jersey
June 10, 2004**

Present: Ms. Joan Brady, Secretary
Mr. Michael Walters, Deputy Attorney General
Ms. Kathleen Asher, Deputy Attorney General
Ms. Joanne Gales, Chair, Credentials Committee
Dr. Michael Knowlton, Chair, Legal Committee
Mr. Jerome Bohnert
Ms. Ida Bilbow
Dr. Donald Farish
Mr. James Gay
Mr. William King
Ms. Mary Jane McNally
Dr. Robert Petix
Dr. Stuart Schnur
Mr. Peter Tirri

Absent: Assistant Commissioner Richard Ten Eyck, Chair
Dr. Rodney Smith
Ms. Gloria Tunstall

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Dr. Donald Farish, who announced that the meeting complied with the Open Public Meetings Act.

The minutes of the May 6, 2004 meeting were approved.

Individual Credentials Review-Presentation

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

Barbara Eastman	Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant Ms. Eastman was accompanied by Mr. Anthony Amato, Chief School Administrator, White Township Consolidated Schools, who spoke on her behalf.
Jennifer Larsen	Preschool through Grade 3 Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing
Susan Leacy	Health and Physical Education Certificate of Eligibility
Kevin Lonergan	Teacher of Industrial Arts Dr. Schnur recused himself during Mr. Lonergan's presentation.
Sharon Williams	Education Media Specialist Ms. Williams was accompanied by Dr. Helen M. Earles, former supervisor of educational media in the Newark Public Schools, who spoke on her behalf.

Jacqueline Espenhorst, who is seeking a School Social Worker certificate, was not present at the meeting.

Credentials Review Committee Report

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

James Bancroft	School Social Worker – With Mr. Tirri abstaining, by a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to grant his application for certification.
Sharon Ann Dunn	Student Personnel Services – With Mr. Tirri abstaining, by a vote of 10, to 0 the Board voted to grant her application for certification,
Zane Gratz	School Social Worker – With Mr. Tirri abstaining, by a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to grant his application for certification.
Julia Henneberry	Teacher of Physical Science – With Mr. Tirri abstaining and Dr. Knowlton recusing himself, by a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to grant her application for certification.
David M. Hinkle	Teacher of Health and Physical Education Certificate of Eligibility – With Mr. Tirri abstaining, by a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to deny his application for certification. Mr. Hinkle was granted three credits for study in team sports-baseball.
Brian Lee	Teacher of Health and Physical Education Certificate of Eligibility – With Mr. Tirri abstaining, by a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to grant his application for certification.

Jeff Lisciandrello

Teacher of Music Certificate of Eligibility – With Mr. Tirri abstaining, by a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to grant his application for certification.

Legal Committee Report

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

Andres Abad – The Board unanimously voted to issue him an Order to Show Cause to suspend his certificates pending resolution of the underlying criminal matter.

Harry Baran - The Board unanimously voted to issue him an Order to Show Cause to suspend his certificate pending resolution of the underlying criminal matter.

Walter Barnes – The Board unanimously voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the nature and level of his conduct.

Gerald Brady – By a vote of 10 to 1, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him based on his disqualification from public school employment.

Michael Destefano - The Board unanimously voted to issue him an Order to Show Cause to suspend his certificates pending resolution of the underlying criminal matter.

Dr. Knowlton made a motion to go into Executive Session in order to discuss legal matters. Ms. Bilbow seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote, and the Board went into Executive Session at 11:21 A.M.

The Board returned to the public session at 11:35 A.M.

Dr. Knowlton made a motion to add the cases of Lenore Allen and Nicholas Varanelli to the agenda. Ms. Bilbow seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Knowlton made a motion to withdraw the Order to Show Cause in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Lenore Allen*, which was seconded by Dr. Petix and carried by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Knowlton made a motion to accept the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Nicholas Varanelli*, which was seconded by Dr. Schnur. By a unanimous vote, the Board agreed to suspend his certificates for six months, beginning September 1, 2004.

The Board then took the following actions:

Adam Feldman – The Board unanimously voted to issue him an Order to Show Cause to suspend his certificates pending resolution of the underlying criminal matter.

Roger Fitzgerald – The Board unanimously voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him based on the level and nature of his conduct and crime.

John Gardner – The Board unanimously voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him based on his disqualification from public school employment.

Marc Kamin – With Mr. Tirri recusing himself, the Board unanimously voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him based on the level and nature of his conduct.

Ruth Megargee – By a vote of 10 to 1, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to her based on the level and nature of her conduct.

Leonard Moore – The Board unanimously voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him based on the level and nature of his conduct.

Jerry Quartsin – The Board unanimously voted to issue him an Order to Show Cause to suspend his certificate pending resolution of the underlying criminal matter.

As Dr. Ten Eyck then became available, the chair passed to him.

The Board took the following actions:

Brian Rafferty – The Board unanimously voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him based on the level and nature of his conduct and crime and on his disqualification from public school employment.

David Salomon - The Board unanimously voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him based on the level and nature of his conduct and crime and on his disqualification from public school employment.

Ralph Schiavo – The Board unanimously voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him seeking to suspend his certificate for up to one year based on the level and nature of his conduct.

Richard Schwab - The Board unanimously voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him based on the level and nature of his conduct.

Lisandra Zingaro – The Board unanimously voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to her based on the level and nature of her conduct.

Virginia Rachko – The Board unanimously voted to grant the motion to hold the matter in abeyance pending receipt of the decision on the consolidated tenure charges and appeal of the DYFS report.

Barbara Thomas – With Mr. Tirri recusing himself, the Board unanimously voted to vacate the Order of Revocation and to serve the Order to Show Cause on the proper party.

Steven Butynes – The Board unanimously voted to deny his application for certification because his disqualifying offense was not expunged.

Sally Curtiss – The Board unanimously voted to take no action against her certificate.

James Grinnen – The Board unanimously voted to table the matter pending receipt of an approval letter from the Criminal History Review Unit.

Wayne Happel – The Board unanimously voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Adam Loffredo - The Board unanimously voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Joel McCormick - The Board unanimously voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Brooke Murray - The Board unanimously voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Alison Nidam - The Board unanimously voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Nora Ruiz - The Board unanimously voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

John Skelton - The Board unanimously voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Shelley Abelson – The Board unanimously voted to deny her appeal because she does not meet the regulatory requirement for the grade point average.

Karl Ciak – With Mr. Petix recusing himself, the Board unanimously voted to grant his appeal and to extend his provisional Principal certificate for one year while he completes his master’s degree in public administration, which will enable him to apply for a standard certificate.

Philip DeFina – The Board unanimously voted to table the matter pending further input from the Credentials Committee.

John Griggs - The Board unanimously voted to deny his appeal because he does not meet the regulatory requirement for the grade point average.

Viviana O’Farrill - The Board unanimously voted to deny her appeal because she does not meet the regulatory requirement for the grade point average.

Heather Kelly – The Board unanimously voted to deny her appeal because she did not provide sufficient proof that the rating that she received in the Provisional Teacher Program was inappropriate.

Barry Zawacki – The Board unanimously voted to dismiss the petition because the allegations do not warrant action against his certificate.

John E. Bennett – The Board unanimously voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Brenda Mapp - The Board unanimously voted to revoke her certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Cora Austin – The Board unanimously voted to adopt the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge that her appeal should be dismissed because she did not prove that the district’s rating was inappropriate.

Old Business

Ms. Brady reported that a list was recently sent to the County Superintendents of Schools with the names of over 50 county substitutes whose certificates were removed. The County Superintendents have been advised that they may share the information with school districts.

She also reported that the new technology system is going into effect, which will speed up the certification process. Dr. Ten Eyck indicated that the Department of Education is looking into options that will accelerate the criminal review process so that there will be no need to resort to emergent hiring.

New Business

Ms. Brady announced that two members of the Board will be leaving. She then read a resolution in honor of Dr. Knowlton and presented him with a gift from the Board. She also read a resolution in honor of Dr. Smith and indicated that his gift would be sent to him.

Secretary Brady announced that Deputy Attorney General Walters will no longer serve as counsel to the Board and she presented him with a resolution thanking him for his service to the Board.

Secretary's Report

There was no Secretary's report.

Dr. Schnur made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Dr. Petix and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 P.M.

The next meeting of the State Board of Examiners is scheduled for Thursday, September 23, 2004 in the first floor conference room, 100 Riverview Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey.

JEB/AGL/Minutes-6/10/04/04