

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

October 30, 2003

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

Absent: Dr. Stuart Schnur
Dr. Rodney Smith
Mr. Peter Tirri

The meeting was called to order by Assistant Commissioner Richard Ten Eyck, who announced that the meeting complied with the Open Public Meetings Act.

The minutes of the September 25, 2003 meeting were approved and adopted.

Individual Credentials Review-Presentation

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

- a. Michael Cibenko Elementary School Teacher Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing
- b. Rebecca Labus Student Personnel Services
 Ms. Labus was accompanied by Mr. Charles Nemeth, Supervisor of Guidance, North Brunswick Township High School, who spoke on her behalf.
- c. Melissa Pace School Psychologist
- d. Laurie Thomson-Maas School Social Worker
- e. Robert Zentmeyer Supervisor
 Mr. Zentmeyer was accompanied by Dr. Phillip W. Heery, Superintendent, Egg Harbor Township Schools, who spoke on his behalf.

Holly Hamilton, who is seeking certification as a Speech-language Specialist, 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:

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| Deborah Koenig Conforti | School Social Worker – Denied |
| Ms. Conforti was given partial credit for coursework in social casework and in community organization and public welfare services. | |
| Jana K. Hanson | Teacher of Health and Physical Education - Granted |
| Michelle Kotch | School Social Worker - Granted |
| Michele LaPiana | Standard Preschool through Grade 3 - Granted |
| Julia W. Lechner | Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant – Denied |
| Ms. Lechner was given partial credit for coursework in remediation of basic skills. | |
| Susan Smahl | Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant - Granted |
| Allyson J. Winter | Elementary School Teacher - Granted |

Legal Committee Report

The Legal Committee reviewed all legal cases and presented its recommendations to the Board.

Dr. Knowlton made a motion to go into Executive Session in order to discuss a legal matter. Ms. Bilbow seconded the motion, which was carried, and the Board went into Executive Session at 11:44 A.M.

The Board returned to the public session at 11:55 A.M.

The Board took the following actions:

Dr. Knowlton made a motion to accept the settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Dennyce Sconier-Nutter* and accept the voluntary surrender of her certificates. Mr. Gay seconded the matter and the motion was carried.

Dr. Knowlton made a motion to accept the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of Gregory Stier* and to permit him an addition opportunity to participate in the Provisional Teacher Program. Ms. Bilbow seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

Dr. Knowlton made a motion to reject the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Harry Indar* and to propose instead that he accept a two-year suspension in order to settle the matter. Dr. Petix seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

Manuel Ferreira – The Board voted to direct the Pascack Valley Regional Education Association to serve the petition on Mr. Ferreira and to provide the Board with verification of service.

Tyrone McCullough – The Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him based on his dishonest misrepresentation and his disqualification from public school employment.

Francine Meth – The Board voted to request additional information from the district.

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

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

Ligia Pioquinto-Okoszko – The Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to her based on the level and nature of her conduct.

Mary Scardilli – The Board voted to issue an order to show cause to her based on the level and nature of her conduct and crime and her disqualification from public school employment.

Pamela Zimic – The Board voted to take no action against her certificate.

John E. Bennett – The Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him based on the level and nature of his conduct.

Marybeth Avini – The Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of her certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

Sharon Mikolajczyk – The Board voted to deny her appeal as she did not submit proof that she is in compliance with the regulation governing the required grade point average.

Amanda Beth Newman – The Board voted to transmit the matter to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing to determine whether she has completed the appropriate coursework for the supervisor's certificate to meet the regulation.

Candace Vitelli - The Board voted to deny her appeal as she did not submit proof that she is in compliance with the regulation governing the required grade point average.

Amanda Gregorio – The Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Bruce Jennings – The Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Robert Elmezzi – The Board voted to transmit the matter to OAL for a hearing to determine whether he has demonstrated rehabilitation.

Nadine Morris – The Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Sara Ruff-Person – The Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Barbara Brown – The Board voted to revoke her certificate based on her disqualification from public school employment.

Neal Ercolano – The Board voted to revoke his certificate based on the level and nature of his conduct and crime.

Dean Iliconich – The Board voted to table the matter and to send another hearing notice to him and to his attorney.*

* Iliconich had the offense expunged by way of an Order of Expungement dated June 14, 2002.

Allen Lopez – The Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of his conduct and crime.

Daniel Moore – The Board voted to suspend his certificates for two years effective immediately based on the nature and level of his conduct.

Norman Tomasello – The Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of his conduct and crime.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

DAG Michael Walters advised the Board that recent decisions of the State Board of Education have held that the State Board of Examiners has no jurisdiction to review applications for county substitute certificates or to revoke or suspend these certificates. Accordingly, the legal agenda will no longer include cases that concern county substitutes.

Secretary's Report

Ms. Brady announced that the State Board of Education is expected to adopt the new certification code in December..

A motion to adjourn the meeting was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 P.M.

The next meeting of the State Board of Examiners is scheduled for Thursday, December 11, 2003 in the first floor conference room, 100 Riverview Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey.

JEB/AGL/Minutes-10/30/03