

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
100 Riverview Plaza
Trenton, New Jersey
June 9, 2005**

- Present:** Mr. Michael Klavon, Acting Secretary
Ms. Carolyn Labin, Deputy Attorney General
Ms. Joanne Gales, Chair, Credentials Committee
Ms. Ida Bilbow
Mr. Jerome Bohnert
MS. Gail Cropper
Mr. James Gay
Dr. Barbara Gitenstein
Mr. Richard Kaplan
Mr. William King
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
Dr. Robert Petix
Dr. Stuart Schnur
Mr. Peter Tirri
- Absent:** Assistant Commissioner Richard Ten Eyck, Chair
Dr. Donald Farish, Chair, Legal Committee

The meeting was called to order by the Acting Chair, Peter Tirri, who read the appropriate notice that the meeting complied with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Dr. Schnur moved to adopt the minutes of the May 5, 2005 meeting, and Ms. Bilbow seconded the motion. With Mr. Kaplan abstaining, the minutes were approved by a vote of 10 to 0.

Deputy Attorney General Labin administered the oath of office to Gail Cropper, who was recently appointed to fill an unexpired term on the Board.

Individual Credentials Review-Presentation

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

Deanna L. Adams	Teacher of Students with Disabilities – Ms. Adams was accompanied by Ronee Sklar, a colleague who spoke on her behalf.
Roberto R. Kesting	Teacher of Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization: World Languages/ Spanish
Catherine Mellon	Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant
Frank Profero	Teacher of Elementary School Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing

Rebecca A. Dorrell, who is applying for a School Nurse certificate, and Lori A. Onufryk, who is applying for a Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant certificate, were not present at the meeting.

Credentials Review Committee Report

Theresa Bates	School Counselor – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to deny her application for certification. The Board granted her partial credit for 9 graduate credits in counseling.
Kathleen Hoffman	Associate School Library Media Specialist – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to deny her application for certification.
Robert Tucker	Teacher of the Handicapped – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to deny his application for certification.
Claudette Wassil	Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to grant her 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:

Ms. Bilbow, Acting Chair of the Legal Committee, moved that the Board adopt a resolution to go into closed session in order to obtain legal advice from counsel regarding five current cases, *In the Matter of the Certificates of Joanne Alessio*, *In the Matter of the Certificates of Shirley Brown*, *In the Matter of the Certificates of James Rowland*, *In the Matter of the Certificate of Jimmy Dykes* and *In the Matter of the Certificate of Larry Schumacher*. Dr. McNally seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote, and the Board went into Executive Session at 11:48 P.M.

The Board returned to the public session at 12:28 P.M.

Mr. Klavon made a comment for the record that he had acted prematurely to have the public leave just prior to the vote on the resolution to go into closed session. He assured the public that no discussion took place other than that reported out.

Ms. Bilbow made a motion to add to the agenda the cases captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Joanne Alessio*, *In the Matter of the Certificates of Shirley Brown*, *In the Matter of the Certificates of James Rowland*, *In the Matter of the Certificate of Jimmy Dykes* and *In the Matter of the Certificate of Larry Schumacher*. The motion was seconded by Dr. McNally and carried by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Bilbow made a motion to reject the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Joanne Alessio*. Dr. Petix seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Bilbow made a motion to vacate the Order to Show Cause in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Shirley Brown*. Dr. Petix seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Bilbow made a motion to accept the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificates of James Rowland*, in which he agrees to the surrender of his certificates with the force and effect of a revocation. Dr. Petix seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Bilbow made a motion to reject the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificate of Larry Schumacher*. Dr. Petix seconded the motion and, with Mr. Gay recusing himself, the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Bilbow made a motion to reject the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificate of Jimmy Dykes*. Mr. Gay seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Kaplan moved that the Board amend the order of the Legal Committee agenda. Dr. Petix seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Kelli Nadeau – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal because she has not achieved a passing score on the Oral Proficiency Interview.

Arnold Baird – With Ms. Gales voting no, by a vote 10 to 1, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on his disqualification from public school employment.

George Clark – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime

Wesley Dillard – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Cesar Escurra – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Marstiner Hayes – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Anna Humphrey – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause seeking a suspension pending resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

Alfonso Jennings – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Jon Leshner – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to table the matter pending receipt of further information.

Joseph Mazarella – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Jack Owen –By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Joseph Pellegrino – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause seeking a suspension pending resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

Dennis Powers – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on his disqualification from public school employment.

Albert Reinoso – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Talita Robinson – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Leonard Santamaria – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his certificates.

Anna Stellwag – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause seeking a suspension pending resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

Claude Thouret – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to table the matter pending receipt of further information.

Anthony Vesper - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on his disqualification from public school employment.

David Vocht – With Ms. Gales and Dr. Petix voting no, by a vote 9 to 2, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on his disqualification from public school employment.

Kevin Wittekind – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Michael DeStefano – With Mr. Kaplan voting no, by a vote of 10 to 1, the Board voted to vacate the Order to Show Cause as the underlying criminal charges were dismissed.

Shirley Dolgoff – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to vacate the Order to Show Cause as the underlying criminal charges were dismissed.

Peter Alvarez – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

David Beneduci - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Luisa Blanche – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to table the matter pending receipt of additional information.

Robert Carson - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Mica Gibbs - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Thomas Hawks - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Gregory Huff - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Michael McNair – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to table the matter pending receipt of additional information.

Michael Miller - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Vanessa Moreno - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Larry Reynolds - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Anthony Timet - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Frank Zaso – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to table the matter pending receipt of additional information.

Hattie Black – With Mr. Kaplan voting no, by a vote of 10 to 1, the Board voted to reinstate her Teacher of Elementary School certificate.

Linda Hayward – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to deny the petition that was filed against her.

Jill Laufbaum – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal seeking certification under the prior regulations.

Monifa Moore – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal because she lacks the requisite grade point average.

Charlotte Moritz – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal because she lacks the requisite Praxis score.

Cassandra Sorantino - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal because she lacks the requisite Praxis score.

April Ward - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal because she lacks the requisite Praxis score.

Anthony Ashley – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificate bases on the level and nature of the conduct.

Joseph Farallo – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificate bases on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Joseph Garrahan – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificate bases on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Kevin Humphrey – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to suspend his certificate pending the resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

Layshell Layton – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to withdraw the matter from the agenda for further investigation.

Daniel Reid – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to table the matter pending his completion of a Pre-trial Intervention program.

Rocco Sica – With Dr. McNally recusing herself, by a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Donna Sutton – the Board voted to revoke his certificate bases on the level and nature of the conduct.

John Yessis - the Board voted to revoke his certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

The Board discussed the possibility of holding at least one meeting during the summer. Dr. Schnur requested that the members of the Board be polled to determine their interest and availability for a summer meeting.

Secretary's Report

Ms. Cropper was welcomed to the Board.

Board members were informed that they considered 198 new legal cases during the 2004-05 school year. Additionally, the Legal Agenda contained 294 separate matters for the Board's review this past year.

The members recognized Mr. Tirri's service to the Board. He has completed sixteen years of service and has accepted renomination for another two-year term. His sixteen-year membership on the Board is a modern-day record.

The Board voted to adopt resolutions recognizing the service of Dr. Farish and Gloria Tunstall, who are retiring from the Board.

Dr. Schnur made a motion to send a letter to the Howell School District concerning the employment of uncertified teachers. Mr. Bohnert seconded the motion, which was carried by a vote of 11 to 0.

Dr. Schnur made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Bohnert and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 P.M.

The next meeting of the State Board of Examiners is scheduled for Thursday, **July 21, 2005** in the first floor conference room, **200 Riverview Plaza**, Trenton, New Jersey.

Minutes prepared by Arlene G. Lutz.

Minutes certified by Michael K. Klavon, Secretary.

MKK/AGL/Minutes-6/9/05