State Board of Examiners Minutes of Meeting 200 Riverview Plaza Trenton, New Jersey July 21, 2005

**Present:** Dr. Robert Higgins, Acting Secretary

Ms. Carolyn Labin, Deputy Attorney General Ms. Joanne Gales, Chair, Credentials Committee

Ms. Ida Bilbow Ms. Gail Cropper Mr. James Gay Mr. Richard Kaplan Dr. Robert Petix Dr. Stuart Schnur Mr. Peter Tirri

**Absent:** Assistant Commissioner Richard Ten Eyck, Chair

Dr. Donald Farish, Chair, Legal Committee

Mr. Jerome Bohnert Dr. Barbara Gitenstein Mr. William King Dr. Mary Jane McNally

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.

Michael Klavon, former Secretary of the State Board of Examiners, announced that he has been appointed the Mercer County Superintendent of Schools and that he will no longer be associated with the Board. Mr. Klavon introduced Dr. Robert Higgins, who has been appointed Acting Director of the Office of Licensure and Credentials and Acting Secretary of the State Board of Examiners.

Dr. Schnur moved to adopt the minutes of the June 9, 2005 meeting as corrected, and Dr. Petix seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

## **Individual Credentials Review-Presentation**

There were no Credentials Review presentations.

# **Credentials Review Committee Report**

Deanna L. Adams

Teacher of Students with Disabilities – By a

vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to grant her

application for certification.

Rebecca Dorrell School Nurse Certificate – With Mr. Kaplan

voting no, by a vote of 6 to 1, the Board voted to deny her application for certification. Ms. Dorrell was granted partial credit for 6 credits in school nursing.

Roberto R. Kesting Teacher of Elementary School with Subject

Matter Specialization: World Languages/ Spanish – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to grant his application for

certification.

Catherine Mellon Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant –

By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to deny her application for certification. Ms. Mellon was granted partial credit for a college

supervised LDT-C practicum.

Lori Onufryk Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant –

By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to deny

her application for certification.

Frank Profero Teacher of Elementary School Certificate of

Eligibility with Advanced Standing – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to deny 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:

<u>Elizabeth Aronson</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

<u>Daniel Bertelli</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause seeking a suspension pending the resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

<u>Candace Blauvelt</u> –By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against her certificates and to send her a letter regarding her conduct.

<u>John Boykin</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his certificates and to send him a letter regarding his conduct.

<u>LaGreta Brown</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

<u>Sattik Deb</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

<u>Timothy Eisenhauer</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

<u>Dean El Bonne</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his certificate and to send him a letter regarding his conduct.

<u>Christine Gallagher</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

<u>Frank Guastella</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause seeking a suspension pending the resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

<u>Jay Kearney</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

<u>John Kurdilla</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

<u>Donald Leaman</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his certificate.

<u>David LeCompte</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause seeking a suspension pending the resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

<u>Todd Lippen</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

<u>Robert Parker</u> – With Dr. Schnur recusing himself, by a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

<u>Ernest Piano</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

<u>George Shaffer</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on his disqualification from employment in public schools.

<u>Bruce Skerbetz</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

<u>Suzanne Stabile</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause seeking a suspension pending the resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

<u>Olga Stasiuk</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

<u>Jo'Ann Troublefield</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

<u>Jon Lesher</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

<u>Claude Thouret</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause seeking a suspension pending the resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

<u>Gregory Biniukow</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

<u>Anna Breen</u> – With Mr. Kaplan voting no, by a vote of 6 to 1, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

<u>Natalie Kelly</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

<u>Robert Magliulo</u> – With Mr. Kaplan voting no, by a vote of 6 to1, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

<u>Mikkel Matsoukas</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to table the matter and to direct him to obtain an employment approval letter.

<u>Yahna Maurer</u> – With Mr. Kaplan voting no, by a vote of 6 to 1, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

<u>Vincent Phinn</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

<u>Rebecca Sanders</u> – With Mr. Kaplan voting no, the Board voted 6 to 1 to take no action to block her application for certification.

<u>Michele Burley</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal for certification.

<u>Antonina Carroccia</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal for certification.

<u>Hung Kim</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to deny his appeal for certification.

<u>Jeannette Rodriguez</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal for certification.

<u>Frances Metallo</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to deny her motion for reconsideration.

<u>Anthony Weiss</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to accept the surrender of his teaching certificate with the force and effect of a revocation.

<u>Bessie Holman</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to adopt the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge that the Board should vacate the Order to Show Cause that was issued to her.

<u>Judy Bell</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her teaching certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct.

<u>Bruce Bercun</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his teaching certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct.

<u>Kristina Bobish</u> – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to suspend her teaching certificates pending the resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

<u>Fermin Galvez</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his teaching certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

<u>Isaac Green</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to suspend his teaching certificates pending the resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

<u>Gwendolyn King El Amin</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to suspend her teaching certificates pending the resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

<u>Gregory Monsolino</u> – With Ms. Gales recusing herself, by a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to suspend his teaching certificates pending the resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

<u>Paul Verano</u> - By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his teaching certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Ms. Bilbow, Acting Chair of the Legal Committee, moved that the Board adopt a resolution to go into closed session in order to obtain advice from counsel regarding a legal matter, *In the Matter of the Application of Robert Elmezzi for Certification after Revocation*. Dr. Schnur seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote, and the Board went into Executive Session at 12:35 P.M.

The Board returned to the public session at 12:40P.M.

Ms. Bilbow made a motion to add to the agenda the case captioned *In the Matter of the Application of Robert Elmezzi for Certification after Revocation*. The motion was seconded by Dr. Petix and carried by a unanimous vote. Ms. Bilbow made a motion that the Board adopt the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge with modification. Dr. Petix seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote. Accordingly, Mr. Elmezzi will be permitted to apply for certification in accord with the current requirements for the certificates that he is seeking.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

### New Business

There was no new business.

#### **Secretary's Report**

Dr. Higgins advised the Board that, after review of the responses from Board members regarding a summer meeting, the Board will hold a meeting on July 20, 2006. Board members should add the date to the schedule of meetings for the 2005-06 school year.

The Secretary also notified the Board that a memorandum has been sent to the Division of Criminal Justice, which oversees County Prosecutors' Offices for the Attorney General. The memorandum requests that the Division inform prosecutors that, in criminal cases in which they believe that certificate holders should forfeit their teaching certificates, they should obtain affidavits of voluntary surrender.

Dr. Higgins also informed the Board that, as the result of the enactment of recent legislation, the Board will again hear cases that concern county substitutes. The Board is currently waiting for advice from the Division of Law regarding how the Board will handle these cases in the future.

The Office of Licensure and Credentials is adding several new examiners to its staff. They are currently being trained. The additional examiners will help to relieve the backlog in the office.

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 12:45 P.M.

The next meeting of the State Board of Examiners is scheduled for Thursday, **September 22, 2005** in the first floor conference room, **200 Riverview Plaza**, Trenton, New Jersey.

Minutes prepared by Arlene G. Lutz.

Minutes certified by Robert R. Higgins, Acting Secretary.

RRH/AGL/Minutes-7/21/05