

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
100 Riverview Plaza
Trenton, New Jersey
January 19, 2006**

Present: Dr. Robert Higgins, Acting Secretary
Ms. Carolyn Labin, Deputy Attorney General
Ms. Ida Bilbow, Chair, Legal Committee
Mr. Jerome Bohnert
Ms. Joanne Gales, Chair, Credentials Committee
Ms. Gail Cropper
Mr. James Gay
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
Dr. Robert Petix
Dr. Stuart Schnur
Mr. Peter Tirri

Absent: Dr. Jay Doolan, Acting Assistant Commissioner, Chair
Dr. Barbara Gitenstein
Mr. Richard Kaplan
Mr. William King

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 December 8, 2005 meeting and Dr. Petix seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Individual Credentials Review-Presentation

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

Lydia Gilbert

Teacher of Speech Arts and Dramatics

Ismael Khalil	Standard Principal
Carlos Ramirez	Principal Certificate of Eligibility
Patricia Robinson	Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant
Holli Toline	Substance Awareness Coordinator Certificate of Eligibility – Ms. Toline was accompanied by Enid Golden, Superintendent, Howell Township School District, who spoke on her behalf.

Credentials Review Committee Report

Ben Brennan	Substance Awareness Coordinator Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board granted his application for certification.
Jennifer Larsen	Standard Teacher of Preschool through Grade 3 – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board granted her application for certification.
Marlene Russell	School Counselor – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board granted her application for certification.
Jason Touw	Standard Teacher of Biological Science and Teacher of Earth Science – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board granted 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:

Wendy Chorlian – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against her certificates.

Frank Fehn – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his certificates.

Anthony Franco – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Valarie Fuller – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

James Hallik - By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his certificates.

Matthew Harris – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Allen Harvin – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on his disqualification from employment in public schools.

Keith Kaufman – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

John Lapetina – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Stratos Mandalakis – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Daniel Mullay – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

William Thompson – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

John Cook – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table the matter pending receipt of additional information.

Mark Givens – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to block his application for certification as he has been disqualified from employment in public schools.

Serdar Koyas – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to vacated the Order to Show Cause, as the underlying criminal conviction was expunged.

Sandra Mann-Rennie – With Mr. Tirri recusing himself, by a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal as she did not show good cause for the late submission.

John Sain – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to block his application for certification because of the seriousness of the offense for which he was convicted.

Dexter Green – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to block his application for certification because of the seriousness of the offense for which he was convicted.

James Hegedus – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

April Lewis - By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Monica Noda - By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Nkemdilim Okakpu - By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Karl Shaefer - By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block the application for certification.

Dale Mancuso – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the surrender of her certificate with the force and effect of a revocation.

Michael Mandel - By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the surrender of his certificate with the force and effect of a revocation.

Edward Billings - By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the surrender of his certificate with the force and effect of a revocation.

Aida Carmargo-Wahba – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal as her grade point average is below the regulatory requirement.

Eric Harris - By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to deny his appeal as his grade point average is below the regulatory requirement.

Frank Guastella – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table the matter pending resolution of the underlying criminal matter.

Theodore Wurster – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to deny his motion for a stay because his application does not meet the *Crowe* standards for a stay.

Anthony Mangan – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to adopt the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge and suspended his certificates for two years.

Michael Nieves - By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to adopt the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge and revoked his certificates.

Wesley Dillard – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificate based on the level and nature of his conduct and crime.

Talita Robinson - By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificate based on the level and nature of her conduct and crime.

Joanne Troublefield - By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificate based on the level and nature of her conduct.

Ms. Bilbow read a resolution permitting the State Board of Examiners to go into closed session in order to obtain advice from counsel regarding four legal matters, *In the Matter of the Certificates of Carmella Confessore*, *In the Matter of the Certificates of Susan Kandell*, *In the Matter of the Certificate of Jack Owen* and *In the Matter of the Certificate of Barbara Horner*. Dr. Petix 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 1:30 P.M.

Ms. Bilbow made a motion to add the cases of *In the Matter of the Certificates of Carmella Confessore*, *In the Matter of the Certificates of Susan Kandell*, *In the Matter of the Certificate of Jack Owen* and *In the Matter of the Certificate of Barbara Horner* to the legal agenda. Dr. Schnur seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote. In *In the Matter of the Certificate of Jack Owen*, Ms. Bilbow made a motion to accept the surrender of Mr. Owen's certificate with the force and effect of a revocation, and Dr. Petix seconded the motion. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Bilbow made a motion that the Board reject the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Carmella Confessore*, which Dr. Petix seconded. The motion was carried unanimously. She also moved that the Board adopt the proposed decision in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Carmella Confessore*, in accord with the remand from the State Board of Education in that case. Dr. Petix seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Ms. Bilbow made a motion to reject the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificate of Barbara Horner*, which Mr. Gay seconded. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote. She then made a motion that the Board accept the interlocutory appeal filed by the Deputy Attorney General assigned to represent petitioner State Board of Examiners in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Susan Kandell*. Dr. Petix seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Since the Board voted to accept the interlocutory appeal, Ms. Bilbow announced that the Board would hold a special meeting by telephone to decide the merits of the case.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Secretary's Report

Board members were advised that staff members were investigating the possibility of distributing the agenda electronically.

Dr. McNally made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Dr. Petix and carried by a unanimous vote.

The next meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be by telephone to consider the request for interlocutory review in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Susan Kandell*. It will be scheduled on or before January 30, 2006 at a time that a quorum is available. The next previously scheduled public meeting will be on Thursday, March 2, 2006 in the **third floor** conference room, **100 Riverview Plaza**, Trenton, New Jersey.

Minutes prepared by Arlene G. Lutz.

Minutes certified by Robert R. Higgins, Acting Secretary.

RRH/AGL/Minutes-1/19/06