

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
100 Riverview Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
June 7, 2007**

Present: Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary
Ms. Carolyn Labin, Deputy Attorney General
Ms. Joanne Gales, Chair, Credentials Committee
Mr. James Gay, Chair, Legal Committee
Ms. Gail Cropper
Dr. Barbara Gitenstein
Mr. Michael Kruczek
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
Dr. Christopher Nagy
Dr. Adam Pfeffer
Dr. Herman Saatkamp
Mr. Peter Tirri
Mr. Barry Worman

Absent: Dr. Jay Doolan, Assistant Commissioner, Chair
Mr. Jerome Bohnert
Mr. Richard Kaplan

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

Dr. Gitenstein moved to adopt the minutes of the May 3, 2007 meeting, and Mr. Kruczek seconded the motion. With Dr. Saatkamp, Mr. Kruczek and Mr. Gay abstaining, the minutes were approved as corrected by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Higgins read a resolution commending Dr. Gitenstein for her service to the State Board of Examiners and presented her with a gift as a token of appreciation for her dedication to the Board. Dr. Saatkamp moved that the Board adopt the resolution and Mr. Kruczek seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Higgins read a resolution commending Mr. Kaplan his service to the State Board of Examiners. As Mr. Kaplan was unable to attend the meeting, a gift in appreciation for his contribution to the Board will be sent to him. Mr. Kruczek moved that the Board adopt the resolution and Mr. Gay seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Higgins read a resolution commending Mr. Tirri for his continuing service to the State Board of Examiners, as Mr. Tirri has agreed to serve his tenth term on the Board. Dr. Nagy moved that the Board adopt the resolution and Mr. Gay seconded the motion, which was carried 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:

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| Kristen Anderson | Teacher of Elementary School Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing |
| Melissa Guyer | Guidance Counselor |
| Terrence Kelleher | Teacher of the Handicapped |
| Dr. Philip Paterno | Supervisor |
| Irene Rauch | School Counselor |
| Susan Snyder | Teacher of Students with Disabilities – Ms. Snyder was accompanied by Mark Damon, Principal, Clara Barton School, Bordentown Regional School District, who spoke on her behalf. |
| Dr. Robert Wagner | Teacher of Physical Education – Dr. Wagner was accompanied by his father, a retired educator and coach, who spoke on his behalf. |

Elizabeth Kenny-Foggin, who is seeking certification as a Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant, and Yahaira Rosario, who is seeking a Teacher of Spanish certificate, were not present at the meeting to make a presentation.

Credentials Review Committee Report

Ms. Gales made a motion that the Board adopt the decisions in the following matters

on the Credentials Review Committee Consent List of cases. Dr. McNally seconded the motion. The candidates in these cases were present at the May 3, 2007 meeting and made presentations to the Board. With Mr. Mr. Kruczek, Dr. Saatkamp and Mr. Gay abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a vote of 7 to 0.

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| Michael Belh | Teacher of the Handicapped – The Board granted his application for certification. |
| Frances Corvasce | Standard Teacher of English – The Board granted her application for certification. |
| Kristen Kowit | Teacher of Health and Physical Education Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted her application for certification. |
| Alyssa Monastersky | School Counselor – The Board denied her application for certification, but granted her partial credit for the practicum in school counseling. |
| George E. Obermeier | Substance Awareness Coordinator Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing – The Board denied his application for certification. |
| Anthony Passante | Teacher of the Handicapped – The Board denied his application for certification. |
| Doreen Torrillo | Teacher of Mathematics Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing – The Board denied her application for a Teacher of Mathematics Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing but granted her a Teacher of Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization: Mathematics Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing |

Legal Committee Report

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

Maria Azzaro – With Ms. Cropper recusing herself, by a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Melvin Cumming – With Ms. Cropper recusing herself, by a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Priscilla Dawson – With Ms. Cropper recusing herself, by a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

James Lytle – With Ms. Cropper recusing herself, by a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Albert Williams – With Ms. Cropper recusing herself, by a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his teaching certificates as his conduct did not rise to the level requiring the Board to initiate legal action against him.

Anthony Calandrillo – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Kimberly Dawson – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against her teaching certificate and to advise the Vermont Department of Education where she could be located in the event that state chooses to initiate a collection action against her.

Thomas DeCou – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to table the matter in order to obtain additional information from Swarthmore College regarding its policy on release of information concerning grade point averages.

Peter DeFelice – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to block his application for certification based on information provided by the school district in which he had been employed.

Eric Polhill – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his teaching certificates as his conduct did not rise to the level requiring the Board to initiate legal action against him.

Noel Wilson – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Colleen Knoedler – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal as her teacher preparation program was not completed at one of the acceptable institutions.

Sara Tenenbaum – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to vacate its previous decision in her appeal as the matter is now moot.

William Thompson – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to vacate the Order to Show Cause that it had previously issued to him and to issue a new Order to Show Cause based on his conviction and disqualification from public school employment.

Joseph Pellegrino – With Dr. Pfeffer voting no, by a vote of 9 to 1, the Board voted to vacate the Order to Show Cause that was issued to him as the criminal charges that served as the basis for the Order to Show Cause had been dismissed.

Keith Kaufman – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to vacate its prior decision in this matter as the criminal charges at issue in this case were dismissed. His certificate remains valid and in good standing.

Vivaldie Adams – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Mark Coller – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Maudlin Dyer – With Dr. Pfeffer voting no, by a vote of 9 to 1, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Francis Eiden – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Gary Holman – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Stephanie Leone – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Roseann Liriano – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Charles Oglesby – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Myla Simmons – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Robert DeRosa – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to grant his appeal and to permit him to apply for certification.

Sandra Mann-Rennie – With Mr. Tirri recusing himself, by a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to grant her petition seeking an additional year in the Provisional Teacher Program and to send a letter to the Franklin School District reprimanding it for employing a teacher who did not hold certification.

Bruce Skerbetz – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to deny his motion for a stay of the Order of Suspension.

John Collier – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of his conduct.

Norman Dellas - By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of his conduct and crime.

Shauna Ehlers - By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificates based on the level and nature of her conduct and crime.

Gunther Evdokimoff - By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of his conduct and crime.

Charles Young - By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of his conduct and crime.

Earl Hayes – With Mr. Tirri recusing himself, by a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to adopt the recommendation in the Initial Decision and to revoke his teaching certificates.

Alfonso Jennings – By a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to remand the matter to the Office of Administrative Law so that the Administrative Law Judge can issue an Initial Decision in which he makes factual findings and credibility determinations.

Mr. Gay made a motion that the Board adopt the matters that were on the legal consent list memorializing the Board's legal decisions from the May 3, 2007 meeting, and Ms. Cropper seconded the motion. With Dr. Saatkamp, Mr. Gay and Mr. Kruczek abstaining, the following decisions on the legal consent list were adopted by a unanimous vote:

Orders to Show Cause

Nina Chavis
Elizabeth Kerr Gasparovic
Douglas Hanania
Bennie Martin
Raymond Nasta
William O'Leary
Robert Paladino

Mary Sirangelo
Richard Slayton
Anthony Wade

Hearings-Revoke Certification

Amy Burke
Robin Gialanella
Anthony Jones
Juliette Kersaint
Virginia Rachko
Richard Segars

Hearings- Dismiss Order to Show Cause

Wheatonia Jones

Deny appeal

Camille Booth
Vivian Clay
Leonard Grant

Deny Motion for Stay

Joseph Mazarrella

Mr. Worman made a motion that the Board adopt the Order to Show Cause in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Gregory Monsolino* that was on the legal consent list, and Ms. Cropper seconded the motion. With Ms. Gales recusing herself and Mr. Kruczek, Dr. Saatkamp and Mr. Gay abstaining, the motion was passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

Mr. Worman made a motion that the Board adopt the decision in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Christopher Molokwu* that was on the legal consent list, and Ms. Cropper seconded the motion. With Mr. Tirri recusing himself and Mr. Kruczek, Dr. Saatkamp and Mr. Gay abstaining, the motion was passed by a vote of 6 to 0. As a result, Mr. Molokwu's certificates are revoked.

Mr. Gay made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive legal advice on the matters captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Paul Glass, In the Matter of the Certificates of Michael Schailey, In the Matter of the Certificates of Lewis Lewis, and In the Matter of the Certificates of Sylvia Bernard*. Dr. Saatkamp seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 12:40 P.M.

The Board returned to the public session at 12:50 P.M.

Mr. Gay made a motion that the Board accept the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Sylvia Bernard*. Mr. Kruczek seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote. As a result, the teaching certificates of Ms. Bernard will be suspended for two years commencing on June 22, 2007.

Mr. Gay made a motion that the Board reject the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Paul Glass*. Mr. Kruczek seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Gay made a motion that the Board reject the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Lewis Lewis*. Mr. Kruczek seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Gay made a motion that the Board reject the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Michael Schailey*. Mr. Kruczek seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Gay made a motion that the Board adopt the proposed Orders to Show Cause for issuance to Maria Azzara, Milton Cummings, Priscilla Dawson and James Lytle. Mr. Kruczek seconded the motion, and, with Ms. Cropper recusing herself, the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Secretary's Report

Dr. Higgins announced that Adrienne Pupo, who had been assisting the State Board of Examiners with administrative matters, was leaving the Department of Education. Mr. Kruczek moved that a resolution be prepared and sent to Ms. Pupo expressing the Board's appreciation for her work. Dr. Nagy seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Adjournment

Mr. Kruczek made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Dr. Gitenstein and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 P.M.

The next scheduled public meeting will be on Thursday, July 19, 2007 in the first floor conference room, 100 Riverview Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey.

Minutes prepared by Arlene G. Lutz.

Minutes certified by Robert R. Higgins, Secretary

RRH/AGL/Minutes-6/7/07