

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
100 Riverview Plaza
Third Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
December 7, 2006**

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

Absent: Dr. Jay Doolan, Acting Assistant Commissioner, Chair
Ms. Priscilla Vimislik

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.

Ms. Gales moved to adopt the minutes of the September 21, 2006 meeting, and Mr. Worman seconded the motion. With Dr. Gitenstein abstaining, the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Gales moved to adopt the minutes of the November 2, 2006 meeting, and Mr. Gay seconded the motion. With Dr. Saatkamp and Mr. Tirri abstaining, 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:

Roxanne Doughty-Blair	Teacher of Mathematics Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing
Marshall “Lee” MacDonald	School Counselor - Mr. MacDonald was accompanied by Mr. Kevin Farrell, Director of Guidance, North Brunswick High School, who spoke on his behalf.
Michael J. Novick	Teacher of Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization: Science
Victoria Ramirez	Teacher of Spanish Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing

The case of Barbara Bonanno-Ajello, who was seeking a Teacher of Elementary School Certificate of Eligibility, was removed from the agenda, as she is now eligible for the certificate. Jodi Kosofsky, who is seeking certification as a School Counselor, and Michael Mason, who is seeking a Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant certificate, were not present at the meeting.

Credentials Review Committee Report

Ms. Gales made a motion that the Board adopt the decisions in the following cases that were on the Credentials Review Committee Consent List for members who had been present at the November 2, 2006 meeting and heard the candidates’ presentations. Dr. McNally seconded the motion, and, with Dr. Saatkamp abstaining, by a vote of 10 to 0, the Board adopted the following actions:

Donna Corea	Teacher of Preschool through Grade 3 – The Board denied her application for certification. The Board also granted her partial credit for study in child development and learning.
Cherie O’Neill-Tittermary	School Counselor – The Board granted her application for certification.
Diana Panchyk	Teacher of French – The Board granted her application for certification.
Giovanni Pozzo	Teacher of Italian Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted his application for certification.
Socorro Valle Santana	Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant – The Board granted her application for certification.

Ms. Gales made a motion that the Board adopt the decisions in the following cases that were on the Credentials Review Committee Consent List for members who had been present at the November 2, 2006 meeting and heard the candidates' presentations. Dr. McNally seconded the motion.

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| Kim Arrigo | Teacher of American Sign Language - With Dr. Gitenstein recusing herself and Dr. Saatkamp abstaining, by a vote of 9 to 0, the Board granted her application for certification. |
| David Hinkle | Teacher of Health and Physical Education Certificate of Eligibility - With Mr. Kruczek recusing himself and Dr. Saatkamp abstaining, by a vote of 9 to 0, the Board denied his application for certification. |

Ms. Gales made a motion that the Board adopt the decisions in the following matters on the Credentials Review Committee Consent List of cases in which the candidates were not present at the September 21, 2006 meeting to make presentations. Dr. McNally seconded the motion, and the Board adopted the following actions by a vote of 11 to 0.

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| Thomas Anthony | Teacher of English – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to grant his application for certification. |
| Christine Harttraft | School Administrator Certificate of Eligibility – 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:

Bruce Cerra – With Mr. Worman recusing himself, by a vote of 10 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Kelliann Garcia – 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.

Robin Gialanella – 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.

Steven Kramer – 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.

Andrew Monath – 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 on the revocation of his certificate by another state.

Christopher Rivera – 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.

Hassan Vann – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to him seeking the suspension of his certificate pending the resolution of the underlying criminal matter.

Virginia Rachko - By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to vacate the Order to Show Cause that was previously issued to her and to issue a new one based on more recent information.

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

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

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

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

Michele Bruzzese – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to grant her appeal for certification.

Claude Sacramone – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to transfer the case to the Credentials Committee.

Suzanne Signorelli – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal.

Vivian Clay – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to relax the time for filing a provisional teacher appeal and permit her to apply.

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

George Bosco – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to grant his appeal for certification.

Lauren Perino – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to grant his appeal for certification.

Carol Anne Futrell – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to suspend her certificate pending resolution of the underlying criminal matter.

Raymond Gambone – By a vote of 11 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

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 November 2, 2006 meeting, and Ms. Cropper seconded the motion. The following cases on the legal consent list were adopted by a unanimous vote:

Orders to Show Cause

Joshua Baez
Anthony Jones
Alex Karas
William Mascuch
Christopher Molokwu
Kristina Spirito
Rickey Sullivan
Andrew Zantow

Hearings

Bruce Benson – Revoke his certificate (Sealed record and decision)
Kim Carlos – Revoke his certificates
Albert DiEmidio – Revoke his certificate
Shauna Ehlers – Revoke her certificate
John Evans – Revoke his certificates
Peter Halas – Revoke his certificates
Peter Higginson – Revoke his certificates
Troy Hylick – Revoke his certificates
Gregory Netschert – Revoke his certificates
Michael Pawlowski – Revoke his certificates
Ernest Piano – Revoke his certificates
Jose Pizarro – Revoke his certificates
Jamie Riccardi – Suspend his certificates pending resolution of the underlying criminal charges
Lewis Shinkle – Revoke his certificate
Mark Steele – Revoke his certificate
Henry Vanegas-Salcedo – Revoke his certificates
Joseph White – Revoke his certificates (Sealed record and decision)
George Zofchak – Revoke his certificates

Mr. Gay made a motion that the Board adopt the decision concerning Joanne Graziano that was on the legal consent list, and Ms. Cropper seconded the motion. With Mr. Tirri and Mr. Kruczek recusing themselves and Dr. Saatkamp abstaining, the motion was passed by a vote of 9 to 0.

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 Certificate of James Carney, In the Matter of the Certificate of Kevin Wittikind, In the Matter of the Certificates of Robert Selfridge* and *In the Matter of the Certificates of Alfonso Jennings*. Ms. Cropper seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 11:28 A.M.

The Board returned to the public session at 11:58 A.M.

Mr. Kaplan made a motion that the Board reject the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificate of Thomas Carney*. Mr. Bohnert 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 Alfonso Jennings*. Ms. Cropper seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Kaplan made a motion that the Board reject the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificates of Robert Selfridge*. Mr. Bohnert seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Kaplan made a motion that the Board reject the proposed settlement in *In the Matter of the Certificate of Kevin Wittikind*. Mr. Bohnert seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Secretary's Report

In response to an inquiry why a principal certificate had not appeared on the computer records for John Collins, to whom an Order to Show Cause had been issued, Dr. Higgins explained that when Mr. Collins applied in 1990, he received a Letter of Eligibility, which expired in five years. Because letters of eligibility were not deemed certificates, they were not entered in the computer list of certificates held by the applicant. Beginning in 1992, however, applicants were issued certificates of eligibility

rather than letters of eligibility, and the certificates of eligibility were then entered into the computer record.

Adjournment

Dr. Gitenstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Gay and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 P.M.

The next scheduled public meeting will be on Thursday, January 18, 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, Acting Secretary

RRH/AGL/Minutes-12/7/06