

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
100 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
May 1, 2008**

Present: Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary
Mr. Michael Walters, Deputy Attorney General
Ms. Joanne Gales, Chair, Credentials Committee
Mr. James Gay, Chair, Legal Committee
Mr. Derek Jess
Dr. Patricia McGeehan
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
Dr. Christopher Nagy
Dr. Adam Pfeffer
Mr. Peter Tirri

Absent: Dr. Jay Doolan, Assistant Commissioner, Chair
Dr. Carlos Hernández
Mr. Michael Kruczek
Dr. Herman Saatkamp
Mr. Barry Worman

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Mr. 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 March 27, 2008 meeting, and Dr. Pfeffer seconded the motion. With Dr. McGeehan and Dr. Nagy abstaining, the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Individual Credentials Review-Presentations

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

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| Daisy Herrera | Standard Teacher of English as a Second Language (ESL) |
| Laurel Kelly | School Social Worker |
| Zachary Morolda | Teacher of Comprehensive Business Certificate of Eligibility |
| Maureen Martin Myers | School Nurse-Noninstructional |

Credentials Review Consent List

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. Pfeffer seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were present at the March 27, 2008 meeting and made presentations to the Board. With Dr. McGeehan and Dr. Nagy abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

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| David Fischer | School Counselor – The Board granted his application for certification. |
| Nancy Gonzalez-Rodriguez | School Counselor – The Board granted her application for certification. |
| Karen McGlenn | School Nurse – The Board granted her application for certification. |
| Carolyn Zimmer | School Psychologist – The Board granted her 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. Dr. Pfeffer seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were not present at the March 27, 2008 meeting. The Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

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| Diane Giancola | Teacher of Preschool through Grade Three Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing – The Board denied her application for certification. |
| Frank R. Hooker, Jr. | Teacher of Vocational Arts/Theatre Certificate of Eligibility – 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:

George Clarke – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to ascertain his current address and provide him with the opportunity to respond to the hearing notice.

Jodi Thorp – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself, the Board voted to revoke her certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Noel Wilson – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter for further review.

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

Kevin Beebe – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificates should not be suspended pending resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

Alfred Bridges – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificates should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Beth Gurtov – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why her certificates should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Robert Ingenito – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificates should not be suspended pending resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

Joseph Mauro – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificates should not be suspended pending resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

Richard Naylor – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificates should not be suspended pending resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

Ricardo Bacon – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to amend the order to show cause it had issued so as to direct him to show cause as to why his certificate should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Anthony Franco – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain further information regarding his conviction.

Christopher Gentile – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificate should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Steven Gimson – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his certificate.

Alexandra Ivanova – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to vacate the order to show cause it had issued and to take no action against her certificates.

James Jackiewicz – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to vacate the order to show cause it had issued and to take no action against his certificates.

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

Jaime Lee Alexander – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Jennifer Flores – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to block her application for certification.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Edward Carduner – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Dr. Pfeffer abstaining, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain further information.

Mary Burke Cunningham – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain further information.

Peter Davis – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter and to refer it to the credentials review committee.

Tara Friel – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain further information.

Lauren C. Gricco – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain further information and to refer it to the credentials review committee.

Coswaylo Harris-Riley – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter and to refer it to the credentials review committee.

Theresa Hipplewith – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain further information.

Delores Hyman – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain further information.

Stephanie Nock – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain further information and to refer it to the credentials review committee.

Michael C. Passe – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain further information.

Adriana Preacher – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain further information.

Julie Sachson – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain further information.

Marissa Ann Cubano – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to relax the 60-day filing deadline and to allow her petition to proceed.

Dr. Nagy made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive legal advice on the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Steven Kramer*. Mr. Gay seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 12:31 p.m.

The Board returned to the public session at 12:37 p.m.

Steven Kramer – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to grant his motion for a stay of the Board’s decision of February 21, 2008 suspending his Principal/Supervisor and School Administrator certificates for two years pending a determination on appeal by the State Board of Education.

Mr. Gay made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive additional legal advice on the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Steven Kramer*. Dr. McGeehan 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 12:47 p.m.

Dr. Pfeffer made a motion that the Board reconsider its decision of February 21, 2008 in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Steven Kramer* and request briefs from the parties. Dr. McNally seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

Nina Chavis – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to deny her request to consider this matter concurrently with related litigation.

Maria Santos – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to deny the request by the Passaic County Elks Cerebral Palsy Center that the Board issue a standard Teacher of the Handicapped certificate to Maria Santos, one of its teachers, retroactive to the 2005-06 school year.

Leon Jones – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his teaching certificates with the force and effect of a revocation, with all attendant consequences.

Mr. Gay made a motion to accept the proposed settlement in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Elizabeth Kerr Gasparovic*. Dr. Nagy seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote..

Mr. Gay made a motion that the Board adopt the following matters that were on the legal consent list memorializing the Board’s legal decisions from the March 27, 2008 meeting, and Dr. Nagy seconded the motion. The following decisions on the legal consent list were adopted by a vote of 8 to 0.

Order to Show Cause

Mike Almasri
Aretus Cosby
Darlene Donahue
Timothy Fetter
Robert Godfrey
John Guarni

Lawrence Lubiner
Michelle Morano
Lindsay Murphy
Abel Oderanti
Anthony Paraskevopoulos
David Weidemoyer

Mr. Gay made a motion that the Board adopt the following matters that were on the legal consent list memorializing the Board's legal decisions from the March 27, 2008 meeting, and Dr. Pfeffer seconded the motion. With Dr. McGeehan and Dr. Nagy abstaining, the following decisions on the legal consent list were adopted by a vote of 6 to 0.

Hearings

Mary Sirangelo
Cheryl Tedesco

Mr. Gay made a motion that the Board adopt the following matters that were on the legal consent list memorializing the Board's legal decisions from the March 27, 2008 meeting, and Dr. Nagy seconded the motion. The following decisions on the legal consent list were adopted by a vote of 8 to 0.

Other

Jennifer Bozek
Elaine Nestel

Dr. Nagy made a motion that the Board adopt the Order to Show Cause in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Gene Clemetson*, that was on the legal consent list, and Mr. Gay seconded the motion. The decision was adopted by a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself.

Dr. Nagy made a motion that the Board adopt the Order to Show Cause in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Richard Koppenaar, Jr.*, that was on the legal consent list, and Mr. Gay seconded the motion. The decision was adopted by a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Tirri abstaining.

Old Business

Dr. Higgins reported that the State Board of Education will be voting at its next meeting to approve the Commissioner's appointment to the vacant seat on the Board. Dr. Higgins also reported that he had secured a scanner in order to proceed with efforts to move towards a paperless agenda for the Board.

In addition, Dr. Higgins requested that the Board take action to amend the minutes from its meeting of December 6, 2001 in order to add a footnote providing information regarding subsequent developments in the certification matter involving Elizabeth Jermyn. Following a discussion, Dr. Pfeffer made a motion that the Board amend its minutes of the December 6, 2001 meeting to include the following footnote after the reference to Ms. Jermyn:

The Board later discovered that due to a clerical error by the Township, it had received incorrect information. In fact, the allegation of a violation of a Township ordinance against Elizabeth Jermyn had been dismissed. Therefore, at its meeting of June 13, 2002, the Board voted to vacate the order to show cause it had issued to her at its December 6, 2001 meeting.

Dr. McGeehan seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Dr. Pfeffer continued the discussion from previous meetings regarding his concerns with an updated Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials.

New Business

DAG Walters introduced DAG Sookie Bae, who will be assuming the responsibility for providing legal advice to the Board in September 2008.

Secretary's Report

There was no secretary's report.

Adjournment

Mr. Gay made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Dr. McGeehan and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be on Thursday, June 5, 2008, in the first floor conference room, 100 Riverview Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey.

Minutes prepared by Jeffrey H. Lieberman

Minutes certified by Robert R. Higgins, Secretary