

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
100 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
June 5, 2008**

Present: Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary
Ms. Sookie Bae, Deputy Attorney General
Ms. Joanne Gales, Chair, Credentials Committee
Mr. Derek Jess
Mr. Michael Kruczek
Dr. Patricia McGeehan
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
Dr. Christopher Nagy
Dr. Adam Pfeffer
Mr. Peter Tirri
Ms. Gloria Tunstall

Absent: Dr. Jay Doolan, Assistant Commissioner, Chair
Mr. James Gay, Chair, Legal Committee
Dr. Carlos Hernández
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.

Deputy Attorney General Sookie Bae administered the oath of office to a new member of the Board, Ms. Gloria Tunstall.

Mr. Kruczek moved to adopt the minutes of the May 1, 2008 meeting, and Dr. Nagy seconded the motion. With Mr. Kruczek and Ms. Tunstall 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:

Harrison Cunningham	School Nurse
Daniel Farrar	Standard Teacher of Social Studies
Katerina Galvich	Teacher of Spanish Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing
Mary Keyser	Associate School Library Media Specialist Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing
Robert LaPlante	Student Personnel Services
Christopher Nagy	School Business Administrator
Philadelphia Prokop	Substance Awareness Coordinator Certificate of Eligibility

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. McNally seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were present at the May 1, 2008 meeting and made presentations to the Board. With Mr. Kruczek and Ms. Tunstall abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Daisy Herrera	Teacher of English as a Second Language (ESL) – The Board denied her application for certification.
Laurel Kelly	School Social Worker – The Board granted her application for certification.
Zachary Morolda	Teacher of Comprehensive Business Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied his application for certification.
Maureen Martin Myers	School Nurse-Noninstructional – The Board granted 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:

Lisa Denardi – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to suspend her certificates pending expungement of her criminal conviction.

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

Noel Wilson – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to provide him with the opportunity to appear before the Board to offer his testimony on the circumstances surrounding his arrest and conviction.

Robert Aloia – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his certificates and to dismiss the petition.

William Callaghan – By a vote of 9 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.

Joanne Carter-Lee – By a vote of 9 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.

Patricia Cosgrove – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against her certificates and to dismiss the petition.

Jannette Duran – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why her certificates should not be suspended for two years based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Janice Jones – By a vote of 8 to 0, with Dr. Pfeffer abstaining, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why her certificate should not be suspended for two years based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Rosalyn Vinson – By a vote of 8 to 0, with Dr. Pfeffer abstaining, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why her certificates should not be suspended for two years based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Richard Johnson – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his substitute credential should not be revoked based on his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Peter Kliman – By a vote of 9 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.

David O'Neal – By a vote of 9 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.

Richard Panicucci – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his certificates and to dismiss the petition.

Thomas Papa – By a vote of 9 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.

Samantha Pytleski – By a vote of 9 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.

Erik Saunders – By a vote of 9 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.

Darrin Scott – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his substitute credential should not be revoked based on his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Felipe Silva – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his substitute credential should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Eric Vogt – By a vote of 8 to 1, with Ms. Gales opposing, 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 and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Mithra Busler – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Ms. Tunstall left the meeting at this time.

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

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

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

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

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

Michael Rutkowski – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter pending the outcome of his arbitration hearing in New York.

Robert Sambone, Jr. – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter pending the outcome of his disciplinary hearing in New York.

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

Nicole Wolf – 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 1, with Mr. Tirri opposing, the Board voted to deny his appeal challenging the determination of the Office of Licensure and Credentials that he is not eligible for the certificate he is seeking.

Marni Greenwald-Schwartz – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal challenging the determination of the Office of Licensure and Credentials that she is not eligible for the certificate she is seeking.

Michele Hastings – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal challenging the determination of the Office of Licensure and Credentials that she is not eligible for the certificate she is seeking.

Heather Scheren – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to deny her appeal challenging the determination of the Office of Licensure and Credentials that she is not eligible for the certificate she is seeking.

Lynda Zapoticzny – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to grant her appeal challenging the determination of the Office of Licensure and Credentials that she is not eligible for the certificate she is seeking.

Marissa Ann Cubano – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to grant her appeal seeking an additional year in the provisional teacher program.

Justyna Brunetti – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to deny her request to redact the minutes from its meetings of December 6, 2001 and September 26, 2002, but the Board did agree to amend the minutes of those meetings so as to include the following sentence after the references to her case: “*Brunetti had the offense expunged by way of an Order of Expungement dated November 2, 2005.”

Thomas Cantillon – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to adopt the recommendation in the Initial Decision to revoke his certificate.

Andrew Zantow – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to adopt the recommendation in the Initial Decision to suspend his certificates for one year.

Kris Bodnar – 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.

Gerard Galasso – 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.

Valarie Fuller – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to vacate the order to show cause it had issued to her.

Dr. Nagy 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 May 1, 2008 meeting, and Dr. McGeehan seconded the motion. With Mr. Kruczek abstaining, the following decisions on the legal consent list were adopted by a vote of 7 to 0.

Order to show cause

Ricardo Bacon
Kevin Beebe
Alfred Bridges
Christopher Gentile
Beth Gurtov
Robert Ingenito
Joseph Mauro

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Other

Nina Chavis
Jennifer Flores
Elizabeth Kerr Gasparovic
Maria Santos

Dr. Nagy made a motion that the Board adopt the legal decision in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Jodi Thorp* that was on the legal consent list, and Dr. McGeehan seconded the motion. The decision was adopted by a vote of 6 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself and Mr. Kruczek abstaining.

Old Business

Mr. Kruczek made a motion to direct staff to draft standard language to be used whenever the Board votes to amend the minutes of a prior meeting to reflect the expungement of a criminal conviction. The motion was seconded by Dr. McGeehan and carried by a unanimous vote.

New Business

Ms. Gales raised questions regarding the referral of certification appeals by the legal committee to the credentials review committee. Mr. Kruczek made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive legal advice with regard to such referrals. Dr. Nagy seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 1:16 p.m.

The Board returned to the public session at 1:31 p.m.

Ms. Gales reported that the credentials review committee would provide the legal committee with written recommendations on the referred appeals.

Secretary's Report

Dr. Higgins reported that movement towards distributing the Board's agenda electronically was on hold until the budget was settled. Dr. Higgins also reported that the licensing regulations are scheduled for consideration by the State Board of Education at proposal level at its July meeting.

Adjournment

Mr. Kruczek made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Dr. McGeehan and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be on Thursday, July 17, 2008, in the first floor conference room, 100 River View Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey.

Minutes prepared by Jeffrey H. Lieberman

Minutes certified by Robert R. Higgins, Secretary

RRH/JHL/Minutes-6/5/08