

**State Board of Examiners  
Minutes of Meeting  
100 River View Plaza  
First Floor Conference Room  
Trenton, New Jersey  
July 17, 2008**

**Present:** Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary  
Ms. Sookie Bae, Deputy Attorney General  
Ms. Joanne Gales, Chair, Credentials Committee  
Mr. James Gay, Chair, Legal Committee  
Mr. Derek Jess  
Dr. Patricia McGeehan  
Dr. Christopher Nagy  
Dr. Adam Pfeffer  
Dr. Herman Saatkamp  
Mr. Peter Tirri  
Ms. Gloria Tunstall

**Absent:** Dr. Jay Doolan, Assistant Commissioner, Chair  
Dr. Carlos Hernández  
Mr. Michael Kruczek  
Dr. Mary Jane McNally

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.

A motion was made to adopt the minutes of the June 5, 2008 meeting, which was duly seconded. With Mr. Gay and Dr. Saatkamp abstaining, the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Higgins read resolutions commending Ms. Eva Smith, the Board's Senior Management Assistant, and Dr. Herman Saatkamp for their service to the State Board of Examiners. Dr. Higgins introduced resolutions commending Ms. Gail Cropper and Mr. Barry Worman for their service to the State Board of Examiners. Motions were made to adopt the resolutions, which were duly seconded and carried 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:

Rivkah Schepansky	Teachers of Elementary School and Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization in Social Studies Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing
Phyllis Bloom	School Counselor
Cathy Borysewicz	School Social Worker
Mary Beth DiPrima	Standard School Library Media Specialist
Michelle Larsen	School Social Worker

Dr. Pfeffer left the meeting at this time.

Suzanne Leichtnam	Teachers of English and Students with Disabilities
Frank Piccillo	School Administrator Certificate of Eligibility
Karen Trojanowski	School Nurse
Terri Yessman	Teacher of Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization in Science

Elsie Kaplow, who is seeking a Reading Specialist Certificate, and Ana Cecilia Reichert, who is seeking a Teacher of Spanish Certificate of Eligibility, did not present at the meeting.

## **Credentials Review Consent List**

Dr. Saatkamp made a motion that the Board remove the application for certification of Christopher Nagy from the Credentials Review Committee Consent List of cases. Mr. Gay seconded the motion. With Dr. Nagy abstaining, the Board adopted the motion by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Gales made a motion that the Board adopt the decisions in the following matters on the Credentials Review Committee Consent List of cases. Mr. Jess seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were present at the June 5, 2008 meeting and made presentations to the Board. With Mr. Gay, Dr. Nagy and Dr. Saatkamp abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Harrison Cunningham	School Nurse – The Board granted his application for certification.
Daniel Farrar	Standard Teacher of Social Studies – The Board denied his application for certification.
Katerina Galvich	Teacher of Spanish Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced

	Standing – The Board granted her application for certification.
Mary Keyser	Associate School Library Media Specialist Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing – The Board denied her application for certification but granted her partial credit towards certification.
Robert LaPlante	Student Personnel Services – The Board granted his application for certification.
Philadelphia Prokop	Substance Awareness Coordinator Certificate of Eligibility – 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:

Eric S. Larson appeared before the Board for a hearing on the sanction issue. Noel Wilson appeared before the Board at the Board’s request to offer his testimony. Following the hearings, Mr. Gay made a motion that the Legal Committee go into a closed caucus in order to review and receive legal advice in the matters captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Eric S. Larson* and *In the Matter of the Certificate of Noel Wilson*. Dr. McGeehan seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote. The Legal Committee went into closed caucus at 12:19 p.m.

The Board returned to the public session at 12:28 p.m.

Eric S. Larson – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Noel Wilson – 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 certificate.

William Thompson – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Jovan Alvarez – By a vote of 8 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 and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

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

James B. Dougherty – 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 and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Ryan T. Lore – By a vote of 8 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 and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Luciano M. Martinez – By a vote of 8 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 and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Isaac Pitts – 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.

Don Quartarolo – By a vote of 7 to 1, with Ms. Gales opposing, the Board voted to take no action against his substitute credential. The Board requested that staff draft a letter to the Commissioner proposing that she initiate contact with the Legislature with a proposal to amend the pre-trial intervention laws so as to make individuals charged with certain crimes ineligible for acceptance into a pre-trial intervention program.

Maria C. Saco – 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.

Christopher T. Welch – 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.

Anthony Franco – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to amend the order to show cause it had issued so as to correct the degree of the crime to which he had pled guilty.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Jason Purvis – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to block his application for certification based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

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

Lucy Soto – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain further information regarding the suspension of her teaching certificate in Georgia in 2006.

Steven Kramer – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to reconsider its decision issued on February 21, 2008 in this matter and, after reconsideration, to reduce the length of the suspension of his certificates to the period from February 21, 2008 until May 1, 2008.

Amaris Brown-Davis – 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.

Madeline Capizzio – 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.

Debra A. Kraft – 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 certificates she is seeking.

Michele McIntyre – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Dr. Saatkamp abstaining, the Board voted to grant her appeal challenging the determination of the Office of Licensure and Credentials that she is not eligible for another renewal of her emergency certificate.

Davon Williams – 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.

Mary Burke Cunningham – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to grant her appeal in which she submitted a proposal for a program of coursework that would allow her to obtain the certificate she is seeking before her provisional certificate expires in October 2009.

Tara Friel – 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.

Theresa Hipplewith – 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.

Dolores Hyman – 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.

Adriana Preacher – 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.

James Cunneely – 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.

Mary Kaminski – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of her teaching certificate with the force and effect of a revocation, with all attendant consequences.

Lindsay M. Murphy – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of her teaching certificates with the force and effect of a revocation, with all attendant consequences.

K.W. – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Gay recusing himself, the Board voted to adopt the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge that no action was warranted against his certificate.

Richard Slayton – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to provide him with the opportunity to file a written submission and appear before the Board to offer his testimony on the issue of the appropriate sanction in the event that the Board finds just cause to revoke or suspend his certificates.

Dean Howarth – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to reject the proposed settlement in this matter.

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 June 5, 2008 meeting, and Dr. Nagy seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

Order to Show Cause

William Callaghan  
Joanne Carter-Lee  
Jannette Duran  
Richard Johnson  
Janice Jones  
Peter Kliman  
David O'Neal  
Thomas Papa  
Samantha Pytleski  
Erik Saunders  
Darrin Scott  
Felipe Silva  
Rosalyn Vinson  
Eric Vogt

Hearing

Thomas Cantillon  
Lisa Denardi  
Andrew Zantow

Other

Justyna Brunetti  
Edward Carduner  
Marni Greenwald-Schwartz  
Michele Hastings  
Heather Scheren

Ms. Gales reported that the recommendations of the credentials review committee in appeals that had been referred to the credentials review committee by the legal committee would be scheduled for review by the Board at its next meeting.

**Old Business**

The Board accepted the language drafted by staff to be used whenever the Board votes to amend the minutes of a prior meeting so as to reflect the expungement of a criminal conviction.

**New Business**

Dr. Higgins asked the members of the Board if they had any objections to the proposed schedule of meetings for the 2008-09 school year. There were no objections raised by the Board.

### **Secretary's Report**

Dr. Higgins reported that that the licensing regulations had been approved by the State Board of Education at proposal level in July and would be considered by the State Board at adoption level in December.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Thursday, September 11, 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-7/17/08