

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
100 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
January 13, 2009**

Present: Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary
Ms. Sookie Bae, Deputy Attorney General
Ms. Joanne Gales, Chair, Credentials Committee
Mr. James Gay, Chair, Legal Committee
Mr. Terrence Crowley
Mr. Derek Jess
Dr. Patricia McGeehan
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
Dr. Adam Pfeffer
Mr. Peter Tirri
Ms. Gloria Tunstall

Absent: Dr. Jay Doolan, Assistant Commissioner, Chair
Dr. Carlos Hernández
Dr. Christopher Nagy

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.

Mr. Crowley moved that the Board adopt the minutes of the October 16, 2008 meeting, and Dr. McGeehan seconded the motion. With Ms. Tunstall abstaining, the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Individual Credentials Review

The following individuals attended the meeting to respond to any questions from the Board regarding their experience:

Kathleen Cheski School Counselor

Dr. Partha Das Teacher of Social Studies Certificate of Eligibility

Steven Friedman	Teacher of Business Education: Economic, Finance and Law
Wafa Hozien	Teacher of Social Studies
Scott Lindstrom	Teacher of Students with Disabilities
Joseph Oettinger	Teacher of Chemistry

Quintella Lockett, who is seeking a Teacher of Elementary School in Grades K-5 certificate, and Rita Osvai, who is seeking a Substance Awareness Coordinator certificate, were not present at the meeting.

Credentials Review Consent List

Ms. Gales made a motion that the Board adopt the decisions in the following matters on the credentials review consent list. Dr. Pfeffer seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were not present at the October 16, 2008 meeting. The Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Kathleen Cafiero	Teacher of Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization in Language Arts/Literacy – The Board granted her application for certification.
Kimberly Freeman	Teacher of Preschool Through Grade Three – The Board denied her application for certification.

Ms. Gales made a motion that the Board adopt the decision in the following matter on the credentials review consent list. Dr. Pfeffer seconded the motion. The candidate in the following case was present at the October 16, 2008 meeting. The Board adopted the following action by a unanimous vote.

Christopher Kamps	Teacher of Social Studies Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing – The Board denied his application for certification.
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A motion was made by Ms. Gales in each of the following cases to ratify the Board’s vote to adopt the decisions on the credentials review consent lists at the September 11 and October 16, 2008 meetings. Each motion was duly seconded and adopted by a unanimous vote, with Mr. Crowley abstaining in the Teresa Catalano matter and Dr. Pfeffer abstaining in the Suzanne Leichtnam matter.

Pamela Alkins-Guallab
Kathryn A. Blackstone
Phyllis Bloom

Cathy Borysewicz
Teresa Catalano
Anita Christian
Mary Beth DiPrima
John Faure
Debra Giambra
Marianela Gonzalez
Elsie Kaplow
Michelle Larsen
Suzanne Leichtnam
Jeanne Liwacz
Loretta Lombardi
Diane Nickoloff
Dennis Peterson
Frank Piccillo
Ana Cecilia Reichert
Rivkah Schepansky
Stacy Snider
Karen Trojanowski
Denise Uniacke
Terri Yessman

Legal Committee Report

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

Nicholas Arminio – This matter was withdrawn from the agenda.

Darlene Donahue – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Pamela Balogh – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Nina Chavis – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to suspend her certificates for one year based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Felipe Silva – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his substitute credential based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Mike Almasri – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to vacate the order to show cause it had issued and to take no action against his certificates.

Joanne Carter-Lee – By a vote of 8 to 0, with Mr. Gay recusing himself, the Board voted to revoke her certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Neil Brown – By a vote of 8 to 0, with Dr. Pfeffer abstaining, 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.

Nicholas Brown – 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.

Morris Gartenberg – 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.

John N. Goudy – 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 and crime and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Paul McCarthy – 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 and crime and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Carole Petersen – 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 and crime and her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Cecelia Schneider – 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 and crime.

James P. Sheehan – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to provide him with an opportunity to seek to have the conviction expunged from his record.

Paul O. Stanziale – 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.

Errol Stawart – By a vote of 8 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself, 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 and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Christopher M. Strazza – 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 and crime and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Sharon Troutman – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why her certificate should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Demetrick A. Williams – 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 and crime and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Dawn Benson – 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.

Julie DeFeo – 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 and crime.

Joseph Mauro – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to suspend his certificates with his consent pending disposition of criminal charges.

Anthony Paraskevopoulos – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to vacate the order to show cause it had issued and to issue a new order to show cause as to why his certificates should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Eli Pieretti – 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 and crime and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Gemma Abernovich – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

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

Amanda Gluckstein – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Peter J. Gorman – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to block his application for certification.

Tammie Jurvic – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Doreen Stratton – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Brandilyn Tindall – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Richard Slayton – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Dana Kahlbom – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to grant her appeal seeking a renewal of her emergency Speech-Language Specialist certificate.

Momtaz Shirin – By a vote of 8 to 1, with Dr. Pfeiffer opposing, the Board voted to grant her appeal and to provide her with the opportunity to seek further employment as a provisional teacher.

Martha Anci – By a vote of 8 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of her teaching certificate with the force and effect of a revocation, with all attendant consequences.

Ravichandiran Dhakshinamoorthy – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his teaching certificate with the force and effect of a revocation, with all attendant consequences.

Demond Edwards – By a vote of 8 to 0, with Mr. Jess abstaining, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his substitute credential with the force and effect of a revocation, with all attendant consequences.

Kevin Tracy – By a vote of 9 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.

Craig Yarnall – By a vote of 9 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.

Dean Ilconich – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to deny his request to redact the minutes from its meetings of February 21, 2002, September 26, 2002 and October 30, 2003, but the Board did agree to amend the minutes of those meetings by inserting language reflecting that he subsequently had the offense expunged from his record.

James Lyback – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to accept the proposed settlement in this matter and to suspend his certificates for four years.

Jennifer Ostile – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to accept the proposed settlement in this matter and to accept the relinquishment of her certificates with the force and effect of a revocation, with all attendant consequences.

Thomas Weir – By a vote of 8 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself, the Board voted to accept the recommendation of the Deputy Attorney General to vacate the order to show cause it had issued and to take no action against his certificates.

J.M. – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to adopt the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge that no action was warranted against his certificates.

Marianne Madara – By a vote of 9 to 0, the Board voted to adopt the decision of the Administrative Law Judge to revoke her certificates.

Ruth Megargee – By a vote of 8 to 1, with Dr. Pfeffer opposing, the Board voted to adopt the decision of the Administrative Law Judge to suspend her certificates for one year.

Bernard Saez – By a vote of 7 to 2, with Dr. Pfeffer and Ms. Tunstall opposing, the Board voted to adopt the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge that no action was warranted against his certificate.

A motion was made by Mr. Gay in each of the following cases to ratify the Board's vote to adopt the decisions on the legal consent lists at the September 11 and October 16, 2008 meetings. Each motion was duly seconded and adopted by a unanimous vote.

Orders to Show Cause

Jovan Alvarez
Keri Ann Brekne
James Dougherty
Anthony Franco
Raymond Gilmore
Layshell Layton
Joseph Lemme
Ryan Lore
Scott Marlin
Luciano Martinez
Christian McCarthy
Isaac Pitts
Maria Saco
Christopher Welch

Hearings

Greg Eisenstein
Barbara Horner
Jacqueline Johnson
Eric Larson
William Thompson

Other

Eileen Bowker
Amaris Brown-Davis
Madeline Capizzio
Nina Chavis
Tara Friel
Dolores Hyman
Janice Jones
Stephen Kramer
Stephanie Nock
Adriana Preacher
Jason Purvis
Janet Romano
Julie Sachson
Judy Safi
Rosalyn Vinson
Davon Williams

A motion was made by Mr. Gay to ratify the Board's vote to adopt the decision in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Substitute Credential of Robert E. Dilullo*, which was on the legal consent list at the October 16, 2008 meeting, and Dr. McGeehan seconded the motion. With Mr. Crowley recusing himself, the motion was adopted by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Dr. McGeehan to ratify the Board's vote to adopt the decision in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificate of K.W.*, which was on the legal consent list at the September 11, 2008 meeting, and Mr. Crowley seconded the motion. With Mr. Gay recusing himself, the motion was adopted 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 October 16, 2008 meeting, and Mr. Crowley seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

Orders to Show Cause

Paul Ash
Matthew Bergman
Steven Gonzalez
Carl Hill
Gary Holman
James Kazanjian
Lori Lowenstein-Mase
Taufeeq Mitchell
Richard Naylor

Hearings

Askia Nash
Paul Sturm

Other

Darren Gamel
Mark Hessing
Craig McDaniel
Olga Verycken-Ramirez

Mr. Gay made a motion that the Board adopt the legal decision in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Substitute Credential of Toniann Cerbo* that was on the legal consent list, and Mr. Crowley seconded the motion. The decision was adopted by a vote of 8 to 0, with Dr. McGeehan recusing herself.

Mr. Gay made a motion that the Board adopt the legal decision in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Substitute Credential of Cornell Davis* that was on the legal consent list, and Mr. Crowley seconded the motion. The decision was adopted by a vote of 8 to 0, with Dr. Pfeffer recusing himself.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Secretary's Report

Dr. Higgins reported that Michael Kruczek had resigned from the Board. A resolution honoring his service on the Board will be presented at the February meeting. In addition, Dr. Higgins reported that the amended licensing code had become effective effect on January 5, 2009. The regulations now include a provision requiring certificate holders to report their arrest or indictment for any crime or offense to their superintendent within 14 calendar days.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Monday, February 23, 2009, 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-1/13/09