

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
100 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
June 22, 2009**

Present: Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary
Ms. Cynthia Rimol, Deputy Attorney General
Ms. JoAnn Gales, Chair, Credentials Committee
Mr. Terrence Crowley
Mr. Derek Jess
Mr. Thomas MacGregor
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
Dr. Christopher Nagy
Mr. Peter Tirri
Ms. Gloria Tunstall

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

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Peter Tirri, Acting Chair, who read the appropriate notice that the meeting complied with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Dr. Nagy moved to adopt the minutes of the May 11, 2009 meeting, and Dr. McNally seconded the motion. With Mr. Jess and Ms. Tunstall abstaining, the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Resolution

Dr. Higgins read a resolution honoring Mr. James Gay for his service to the State Board of Examiners and conveying best wishes to Mr. Gay on his retirement. Mr. Crowley made a motion to adopt the resolution, which was seconded by Dr. Nagy and 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:

Celeste Buchinsky	Emergency Speech Language Specialist
Julie Cartusciello	School Counselor
Tammi Chiarulli	Emergency Speech Language Specialist
Nidia deOliviera	Standard Teacher of English as a Second Language
Sandra Ford	Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant
Ronit Gottesman	Teacher of Elementary School, Teacher of Health, and Teacher of Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization in Science Certificates of Eligibility with Advanced Standing
Conswaylo Harris Riley	School Psychologist
Dr. Anne Marie Nixon	School Counselor
Nasia Smith	Standard Teacher of Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization in Language Arts/Literacy
Evangelia Zavolas	Standard Teacher of Preschool through Grade Three

Maria Varano Morris, who is seeking a School Counselor certificate, Virginia Reagle, who is seeking a School Nurse certificate, and Deborah Schwartz, who is seeking a Principal 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, and Dr. McNally seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were present at the May 11, 2009 meeting. With Mr. Jess and Ms. Tunstall abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Angelique Alvarez	Standard Teacher of Mathematics – The Board granted her application for certification.
Pamela Barrett	Teacher of the Handicapped – The Board denied her application for certification.
Dr. Robert Belding	Standard Teacher of Physical Science – The Board denied

his application for certification but credited him with 3 semester hours in chemistry.

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| Gary Berger | School Counselor – The Board granted his application for certification. |
| John Payne | Teacher of English Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing – The Board denied his application for certification. |
| Grant Sporny | Standard Teacher of Social Studies – 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 consent list, and Dr. McNally seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were not present at the May 11, 2009 meeting. With Mr. Jess and Ms. Tunstall abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

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| Sybilree Fitzgerald | School Counselor – The Board granted her application for certification. |
| Donna Paolin | School Counselor – The Board denied her application for certification. |
| Stephanie Yandola | Teacher of Preschool through Grade Three Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing – 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, and Dr. McNally seconded the motion. The candidate in the following case was present at the May 11, 2009 meeting. With Mr. Jess and Ms. Tunstall abstaining, and Mr. Crowley recusing himself, the Board adopted the following action by a unanimous vote.

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| Deborah Harvey | Teacher of Students with Disabilities – The Board granted her application for certification. |
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Legal Committee Report

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

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

Matthew Bergman – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Thomas M. Caffrey – 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.

Seth Catana – 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 and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Maria C. Saco – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Marylu Vurro – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Brian T. Coar – 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.

Daniel P. Corvino – 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 and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Jeffrey S. Doogan – 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.

Ana Ferreira – 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.

Lourdes Leon – 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.

Susan M. Olsen – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why her substitute credential should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Timothy A. Yurchak – 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.

Gene R. Clementson – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself, the Board voted to vacate the order to show cause it had issued and to take no action against his certificates.

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

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

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

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

Valerie R. Ivkovich – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain additional information.

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

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

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

Cynthia D. Sullivan – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain additional information.

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

Ildelfonso Trevino – 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 crimes.

Keith J. Volkmer – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain additional information.

Matthew S. Engelson – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

Robert Ingenito – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

Christopher T. Welch – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

David O’Neal – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the consent order in this matter and revoke his certificates.

M.B. (formerly M.S) – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to deny her application for certification after revocation.

Barry Staton – The Board granted his request to address the Board with regard to his application for certification after revocation. Thereafter, by a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter for further review.

Lisa A. Denardi – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to vacate the suspension of her certificates as a result of the expungement of her record.

V.R. – This matter was withdrawn from the agenda.

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

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 a previous meeting, and Mr. Crowley seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

Orders to Show Cause

Rose Farrell
Carlos Garcia
Nicholas Polisenio

Hearings

Anthony Calandrillo
Timothy Fetter
Anthony Franco
Beth Gurtov
Lori Lowenstein-Mase
Richard Naylor

Application for a Stay

Ruth Megargee

Dr. Nagy made a motion that the Board adopt the decision in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Erica J. Umosella* that was on the legal consent list, and Dr. McNally seconded the motion. The decision was adopted by a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Crowley recusing himself.

Old Business

The Board reviewed and discussed documents supporting the report issued by the Office and Fiscal Accountability and Compliance titled “Stanhope School District, Possible Deficit and Reporting Deficiencies.”

New Business

There was no new business.

Secretary’s Report

Dr. Higgins reported that the Commissioner will be issuing regulations shortly implementing a recently-enacted statute establishing a pilot program for certification in mathematics and science. In addition, Dr. Higgins reported that regulations to ease the certification requirements for out-of-state teachers are expected to be adopted by the State Board of Education in September or October. Dr. Higgins also reported that the licensing office will be moving to 200 River View Plaza in September.

Adjournment

Mr. Crowley moved to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Mr. Jess and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Tuesday, July 28, 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-6/22/09