

**State Board of Examiners  
Minutes of Meeting  
100 River View Plaza  
First Floor Conference Room  
Trenton, New Jersey  
July 28, 2009**

**Present:** Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary  
Ms. Cynthia Rimol, Deputy Attorney General  
Ms. JoAnn Gales, Chair, Credentials Committee  
Mr. Terrence Crowley, Chair, Legal Committee  
Mr. Derek Jess  
Mr. Thomas MacGregor  
Dr. Patricia McGeehan  
Dr. Adam Pfeffer  
Mr. Peter Tirri  
Ms. Gloria Tunstall

**Absent:** Barbara Gantwerk, Assistant Commissioner, Chair  
Dr. Carlos Hernández  
Dr. Mary Jane McNally  
Dr. Christopher Nagy

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.

Mr. Crowley moved to adopt the minutes of the June 22, 2009 meeting, and Mr. Jess seconded the motion. With Dr. McGeehan and Dr. Pfeffer 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:

Anne Marie Contino	Teacher of Preschool through Grade 3 Certificate of Eligibility
Christian D’Alessio	Teacher of Audio/Visual Broadcast Production Technology Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing
Peter Davis	Teacher of Technology Education
Theresa Kerschner	Teacher of Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization in Mathematics
Gina DeMonte	Standard Substance Awareness Coordinator
Annette Frohlich	Teacher of Comprehensive Business
Amber Palmieri	Teacher of the Handicapped
Debelvia Peterson	Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant
Franklin Stebbins	Supervisor

Karen LeVasseur, who is seeking a School Counselor certificate, was 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 Mr. Jess seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were present at the June 22, 2009 meeting. With Dr. McGeehan and Dr. Pfeffer abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Celeste Buchinsky	Emergency Speech Language Specialist – The Board denied her application for certification.
Julie Cartusciello	School Counselor – The Board granted her application for certification.
Tammi Chiarulli	Emergency Speech Language Specialist – The Board denied her application for certification.
Nidia deOliviera	Standard Teacher of English as a Second Language – The Board denied her application for certification.

Sandra Ford	Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant – The Board denied her application for certification.
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 – The Board denied her application for certification.
Coswaylo Harris-Riley	School Psychologist – The Board granted her application for certification.
Dr. Anne Marie Nixon	School Counselor – The Board denied her application for certification.
Nasia Smith	Standard Teacher of Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization in Language Arts/Literacy – The Board denied her application for backdated issuance of certification.
Evangelia Zavalas	Standard Teacher of Preschool through Grade Three – The Board denied her 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 Mr. Jess seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were not present at the June 22, 2009 meeting. With Dr. McGeehan and Dr. Pfeffer abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Maria Varano Morris	School Counselor – The Board granted her application for certification.
Virginia Reagle	School Nurse – The Board denied her application for certification but gave her credit for a one semester-hour credit practicum.
Deborah Schwartz	Principal – The Board denied 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:

Keri Ann M. Brekne – 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.

Steven Gonzalez – 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.

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

Gary Holman – 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.

Layshell Layton – 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.

Samantha Pytleski – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Cecelia Schneider – 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.

Demetrick A. Williams – 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.

Gregory Monsolino – This matter was withdrawn from the agenda.

Todd J. Broxmeyer – 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.

Michael Hailey – 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.

Anne I. Holmes – By a vote of 8 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.

Patricia Johnson – 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.

Robert B. Johnson – 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.

Joseph E. Macanga – 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.

Steven B. McGuire – 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.

Juanita Worthy – 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.

Keah Worthy – 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.

Morris Gartenberg – By a vote of 7 to 1, with Dr. Pfeffer opposing, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain additional information.

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

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

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

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

Sherri Parmenter – By a vote of 6 to 0, with Mr. MacGregor recusing himself and Dr. Pfeffer abstaining, the Board voted to block her application for certification based on the level and nature of the conduct and crimes.

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

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

Ildfonso Trevino – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification as the result of the expungement of his convictions.

Keith J. Volkomer – By a vote of 6 to 2, with Mr. Jess and Dr. Pfeffer opposing, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Lisa C. Glide – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of her certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

Nicholas Martin – The Board granted his request to address the Board with regard to his application for certification after revocation. Mr. Martin and his counsel, Robert B. Gidding, Esq., addressed the Board. Thereafter, by a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter for further review.

L. H. – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to adopt the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge that no action was warranted against his certificates.

V. R. – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the late exceptions filed by the Deputy Attorney General and to table this matter in order to provide V.R. with the opportunity to file reply exceptions.

Carrie D. Ali – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself, the Board voted to accept her explanation for not appearing at the hearing scheduled in the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and to re-transmit this matter to OAL for a hearing.

Steven Schantz – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the proposed settlement and consent order in this matter and to accept the relinquishment of his certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

Mr. Crowley 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. MacGregor seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

#### Orders to Show Cause

Nicholas Brown  
Brian Coar  
Daniel Corvino  
Jeffrey Doogan  
Ana Ferreira  
Lourdes Leon  
Susan Olsen

#### Hearings

Matthew Bergman  
Thomas Caffrey  
Seth Canata  
Maria Saco  
Marylu Vurro

#### Application for certification after revocation

M.B.

Mr. Crowley made a motion that the Board adopt the order to show cause in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Timothy Yurchak* that was on the legal consent list, and Mr. MacGregor seconded the motion. The order was adopted by a vote of 6 to 0, with Dr. McGeehan recusing herself and Dr. Pfeffer abstaining.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

### **Secretary's Report**

Dr. Higgins reported that the Office of Licensure and Credentials will be presenting proposed amendments to the licensing code to the State Board of Education in October or November. The proposed amendments include provisions pertaining to swimming coaches and the procedures for the issuance of substitute credentials. Dr. Higgins also reported that the Department has provided additional staff to the Office in order to assist with the intake process. In addition, Dr. Higgins reported that the Office will be moving to Building 200 in River View Plaza on September 25, 2009.

Dr. Pfeffer asked questions and commented on several legal cases reviewed by the Board.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 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-7/28/09