

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
200 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
January 7, 2010**

Present: Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary
Ms. Cynthia Rimol, Deputy Attorney General
Ms. JoAnn Gales, Chair, Credentials Review Committee
Mr. Terrence Crowley
Mr. Derek Jess
Dr. Patricia McGeehan
Dr. Christopher Nagy, Chair, Legal Committee
Mr. Peter Tirri
Ms. Gloria Tunstall

Absent: Dr. Dawood Farahi
Mr. Thomas MacGregor
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
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.

Mr. Crowley moved to adopt the minutes of the December 2, 2009 meeting, and Mr. Jess seconded the motion. With Mr. Dr. Nagy, Dr. McGeehan and Mr. Tirri 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:

David Davenport School Counselor

Kimberly Scott Supervisor

Erin Gardner, who is seeking a Teacher of Elementary School (K-5) and a Teacher of Business: Finance and Economics 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 December 2, 2009 meeting. With Dr. Nagy, Dr. McGeehan and Mr. Tirri abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Susan Bresnan	School Library Media Specialist – The Board granted her application for certification contingent upon successful completion of two course requirements.
Jennifer Crea	Teacher of Italian Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied her application for certification.
Donald Osbourne	Teacher of the Handicapped – The Board denied his application for certification.
Amador Rodriguez	Associate School Library Media Specialist Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing – The Board granted his application for certification.

Taheedah Baker Jones, James Maher and Kristi Monaghan were withdrawn from the consent list.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 not present at the December 2, 2009 meeting. With Dr. Nagy and Dr. McGeehan abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Carmela Appierto Hunter	Principal – The Board denied her application for certification.
Malisa DeSantis	Teacher of Art Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing – 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:

Juanita Worthy – Ms. Worthy appeared before the Board for a hearing on the sanction issue. The Board deferred determination until a future meeting.

Keah Worthy – Ms. Worthy appeared before the Board for a hearing on the sanction issue. The Board deferred determination until a future meeting.

Jeffrey S. Doogan – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his substitute credential based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Abel Oderanti – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to suspend his substitute credential pending disposition of criminal charges filed against him.

Robert Spivey, Jr. – By a vote of 7 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.

Christopher M. Strazza – By a vote of 7 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.

Anthony Paraskevopoulos – This matter was withdrawn from the agenda.

Donald E. Barnes – By a vote of 7 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.

James A. Byrd – By a vote of 7 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.

Loren Caso – By a vote of 7 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.

Allison Galiano – By a vote of 7 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, her disqualification from employment in the public schools and her dishonest misrepresentation on her application.

Jose Gonzales – By a vote of 7 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.

Scott Powell – By a vote of 7 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.

Dennis Wright – By a vote of 7 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.

Kristine M. Yarmula – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain additional information.

Joseph F. Zinkiewicz – By a vote of 7 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.

Joseph Mauro – By a vote of 7 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.

William Callahan – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to grant his request to amend the order of revocation.

Christopher P. Ciuppa – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to vacate its action of September 17, 2009, which granted preliminarily his request to redact the minutes of a previous meeting. Then, by a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to deny his request to redact the minutes. However, the Board agreed to amend the minutes of that meeting.

Anne L. Holmes – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to accept the proposed settlement and consent order in this matter, in which she relinquished her certificate with the force and effect of a revocation.

Edward C. Flynn – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

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

Adam Aquilina
Susan Finnigan
Lorraine Garvilla
Annette Guagliardo
John Hilkevich
Eric L. Johansen, Jr.
Sean McGuirk
Tom Oye
Judith Pitcher
Naideileen Ramos
Luciana Recchione
Ivan Ruiz
Brian Taylor

Robert Walsh

Other

Joseph Mazarella
Emanuel Aaron
Jason Franklin

Dr. Nagy made a motion that the Board remove Curtis Robinson and Anthony Yurchak from the vote on the legal consent list in order to consider the draft decisions in those matters later in the meeting, and Mr. Crowley seconded the motion. The Board adopted the motion by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Crowley made a motion for the Board to recess the meeting, and Dr. Nagy seconded the motion. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote, and the Board went into recess at 11:40 a.m. The Board returned from the recess at 11:54 a.m.

Assistant Commissioner Barbara Gantwerk was present at the meeting at this time.

Dr. Nagy made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive legal advice, and Mr. Crowley seconded the motion. With Ms. Tunstall recusing herself, the motion was carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 11:55 a.m. The Board returned to the public session at 12:35 p.m.

Timothy A. Yurchak – Mr. Yurchak appeared before the Board for a hearing on the sanction issue. The Board deferred determination until a future meeting. Dr. McGeehan recused herself.

Emma Painter – By a vote of 6 to 0, with Mr. Crowley recusing himself and Ms. Gantwerk abstaining, 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.

Michael J. Smith – By a vote of 6 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself and Ms. Gantwerk 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.

James Squicciarini – By a vote of 6 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself and Ms. Gantwerk 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.

Deidre Simon – By a vote of 6 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself and Ms. Gantwerk abstaining, the Board voted to deny her request to amend the minutes of a previous meeting.

Dr. Nagy made a motion that the Board adopt the decision in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Curtis Robinson* that was on the legal consent list, and Dr.

McGeehan seconded the motion. By a vote of 6 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself and Ms. Gantwerk abstaining, the Board adopted the decision.

Dr. Nagy made a motion that the Board adopt the decision in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Anthony Yurchak* that was on the legal consent list, and Mr. Crowley seconded the motion. By a vote of 6 to 0, with Dr. McGeehan recusing herself and Ms. Gantwerk abstaining, the Board adopted the decision.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Dr. Higgins reported that Dr. Carlos Hernandez had resigned from the Board.

Secretary's Report

There was no secretary's report.

Adjournment

Mr. Crowley made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Dr. McGeehan and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Thursday, February 11, 2010, in the first floor conference room, 200 River View Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey.

Minutes prepared by Jeffrey H. Lieberman

Minutes certified by Robert R. Higgins, Secretary

RRH/JHL/Minutes-1/7/10