

**State Board of Examiners  
Minutes of Meeting  
200 River View Plaza  
First Floor Conference Room  
Trenton, New Jersey  
June 10, 2010**

**Present:** Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary  
Ms. Cynthia Rimol, Deputy Attorney General  
Ms. Shannon Ryan, Deputy Attorney General  
Mr. Terrence Crowley  
Ms. JoAnn Gales, Chair, Credentials Review Committee  
Mr. Derek Jess  
Mr. Thomas MacGregor  
Dr. Patricia McGeehan  
Dr. Mary Jane McNally  
Dr. Christopher Nagy, Chair, Legal Committee  
Ms. Gloria Tunstall

**Absent:** Assistant Commissioner, Chair  
Dr. Dawood Farahi  
Mr. Peter Tirri

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

The Board observed a moment of silence in memory of former Board member Dr. Adam Pfeffer.

Dr. McNally moved to adopt the minutes of the April 29, 2010 meeting, and Dr. Nagy seconded the motion. With Mr. MacGregor and Dr. McGeehan 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:

Ashley DiBiasi	School Psychologist
Rita Koromi	Principal
Sara Lamont	Teacher of Students with Disabilities
Susan Mosley	Teacher of Elementary School (N-8)
Francis Nkam	Principal Certificate of Eligibility
Sol Pineiro	Substance Awareness Coordinator

Anne Mucci, who is seeking a Principal certificate, John Plaugic, who is seeking a Teacher of Social Studies Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing, and William Vanore, who is seeking a Director of School Counseling Services 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 Mr. Jess seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were present at the April 29, 2010 meeting. With Mr. MacGregor and Dr. McGeehan abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Altagracia Acosta	School Counselor – The Board granted her application for certification.
Barbara Nichols	Associate School Library Media Specialist – The Board denied her application for certification but granted her partial credit for three of the six areas of study necessary to fulfill this endorsement’s requirements.
Juliana Pollara Parsons	Teacher of Elementary School and Teacher of Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization in Science – 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 Dr. McNally seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were not present at the April 29, 2010 meeting. The Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Loretta Lombardi	Teacher of Students with Disabilities – The Board granted her application for certification.
Vincent Spadavecchia	Teacher of Technology Education – The Board denied his

application for certification but granted him partial credit based on education and experience.

Ms. Gales made a motion that the Board adopt the decision in the following matter on the credentials review consent list, and Ms. Tunstall seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following action by a unanimous vote.

Kathleen Sullivan	Teacher of American Sign Language – The Board denied her application for certification but granted her partial credit for six credits (albeit not advanced) in American Sign Language, fulfillment of the SCPI requirement and the Second Language Acquisition and Related Methodologies course and for completion of the 24 hour pre-service program.
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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:

Eric L. Johansen, Jr. – 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.

Frank Mattiace – 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.

Sean C. McGuirk – By a vote of 8 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.

Tom A. Oye – 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.

Yorgo Papadakis – 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.

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

Robert P. Walsh – 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.

Juan Davies – 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.

Steve Gallon III – 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.

Nickolas R. Genovese – 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.

Raymond E. Hyman, Jr. – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Dr. McGeehan recusing herself, 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.

James D. Kearney, Jr. – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Ms. Tunstall recusing herself, 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.

Judith Meller – 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.

Sandra J. Nelson – 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 and crime.

Stanley Williams – 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.

Stephen Fox – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Crowley recusing himself, the Board voted to adopt the findings and conclusions of the Administrative Law Judge and to revoke his certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct.

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

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

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

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

Vanda Ronald Horton – By a vote of 7 to 1, with Ms. Gales opposing, the Board, on second review, voted to block his application for certification based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Michael C. Saunders – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain additional information.

Migdalia Flores – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Dr. Nagy recusing himself, the Board voted to block her application for certification based on the level and nature of the conduct and crimes.

Frederick W. Clayton – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificate with the force and effect of a revocation.

Robert A. Santini – 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.

Mark Sorensen – 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.

Lorraine R. Garvilla – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to accept the proposed settlement and consent order in this matter, in which she relinquished her certificates effective July 1, 2010 with the force and effect of a revocation.

Anthony Paraskevopoulos – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to grant his motion for a stay of the Board’s decision to suspend his certificate pending determination of his appeal to the Commissioner.

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. With Mr. MacGregor and Dr. McGeehan abstaining, the Board adopted the following orders by a unanimous vote.

Orders to Show Cause

James Craig  
Charles Davis  
Joseph Mifsud  
Joseph Quartaro  
David Singer  
Angela Stellwag  
Kristine Yarmula

Revocations/Suspensions

Tracy Booth  
Warren Brown  
Robert Godfrey  
John Teopengco  
Nelson Trias

Other

Lynn Ann D'Amelio  
Michelle Hartman  
Joel Ignall  
Matthew Messa  
Erik Saunders  
Barry Staton  
David Vanden Heuvel

Carlos A. Garcia – Mr. Garcia appeared before the Board for a hearing on the sanction issue. The Board deferred determination until a future meeting.

James Kazanjian – This matter was withdrawn from the agenda.

Dr. McGeehan left the meeting at this time.

Joseph Mazarella – Mr. Mazarella, his witnesses and his attorney, Michael I. Inzelbuch, Esq., appeared before the Board for a hearing on the sanction issue. Following the hearing, Mr. MacGregor made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive legal advice in this matter, and Dr. Nagy seconded the motion. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 1:16 p.m. The Board returned to the public session at 1:35 p.m. The Board deferred determination of this matter until a future meeting.

**Old Business**

Dr. Higgins updated the Board on the status of proposed amendments to the licensing regulations.

**New Business**

Dr. Higgins reported that the members of the Board had received a copy of a report issued by the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance titled “Branchburg Township School District, Fiscal Concerns Involving Former Business Administrator” for review of the conduct of district’s Director of Special Education.

**Secretary’s Report**

There was no secretary’s report.

## **Public Comment**

Mr. Crowley opened the meeting to comments from the public on any matters which had not been discussed during the meeting or presented as part of the agenda. Vincenza Spina, who had testified during the sanction hearing in a legal case earlier in the meeting, requested to address the Board regarding that matter. Mr. Crowley reiterated that comments outside the record on pending legal cases could not be permitted since the Board's review of such matters was limited to consideration of the record before it, including testimony presented during the sanction hearing. As a result, Ms. Spina chose not to address the Board.

Robert Petrelli requested information regarding the procedure and time frame for revocation proceedings before the Board. Staff provided Mr. Petrelli with the requested information.

## **Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Thursday, July 22, 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-6/10/10