

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
200 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
July 22, 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
Dr. Patricia McGeehan
Dr. Christopher Nagy, Chair, Legal Committee
Mr. Peter Tirri
Ms. Gloria Tunstall

Absent: Assistant Commissioner, Chair
Dr. Dawood Farahi
Dr. Mary Jane McNally

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 10, 2010 meeting, and Dr. Nagy seconded the motion. With 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:

Aaron Bullock Principal Certificate of Eligibility

Michael Carrington Provisional Teacher of English as a Second Language

(renewal)

Ron Evans	Teacher of Students with Disabilities and Teacher of Elementary School
Joseph Fano	Teacher of Social Studies and Teacher of Psychology
Debra Lazar	Teacher of Students with Disabilities
Dr. Anne Miller	School Administrator Certificate of Eligibility
Ronald Moreno	Teacher of Law Enforcement
Lauren Natale	Emergency Speech Language Specialist (renewal)
Darlene Yarusinsky	Teacher of Preschool through Grade Three

Deborah Brisk, who is seeking a Teacher of Students with Disabilities Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing and a Teacher of Elementary School Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing, Dana Piombino Weber, who is seeking a Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant Certificate, and Timothy Wenger, who is seeking a Teacher of German Certificate of Eligibility, 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. The Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Lorraine Ferrante	Teacher of Students with Disabilities – The Board denied her application for certification.
Sharon Daye Rider	Substance Awareness Coordinator – The Board denied her application for certification.
Raymond Ruiz	Substance Awareness Coordinator – The Board denied his 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 Mr. Jess seconded the motion. The candidate in the following case was not present at the April 29, 2010 meeting. The Board adopted the following action by a unanimous vote.

Rebecca Weintraub	Substance Awareness Coordinator – The Board denied her application for certification.
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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 10, 2010 meeting. The Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Ashley DiBiasi	School Psychologist – The Board denied her application for certification but granted her credit for the practicum and externship requirements.
Rita Koromi	Principal – The Board denied her application for certification.
Sara Lamont	Teacher of Students with Disabilities – The Board denied her application for certification.
Susan Mosley	Teacher of Elementary School (N-8) – The Board denied her application for certification.
Francis Nkam	Principal Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied his application for certification but found that he had fulfilled the five years of successful teaching required of candidates seeking a Principal Certificate of Eligibility.

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 10, 2010 meeting. The Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Anne Mucci	Principal – The Board denied her application for certification.
John Plaugic	Teacher of Social Studies Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing – The Board denied his 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:

James Kazanjian – Mr. Kazanjian appeared before the Board for a hearing on the sanction issue. The Board deferred determination until a future meeting.

Carlos A. Garcia – By a vote of 5 to 1, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself and Ms. Tunstall opposing, 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.

Joseph Mazzearella – By a vote of 5 to 0, with Dr. McGeehan and Mr. Tirri abstaining, the Board voted to accept for consideration a supplemental brief submitted by counsel for Mr. Mazzearella. By a vote of 5 to 0, with Dr. McGeehan and Mr. Tirri abstaining, the Board voted to deny the request by counsel for Mr. Mazzearella for an additional hearing. A motion to revoke Mr. Mazzearella’s standard principal certificate was defeated by a vote of 3 to 2, with Dr. McGeehan and Mr. Tirri abstaining and Ms. Gales, Mr. Jess and Ms. Tunstall opposing.

John Hilkevich – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct and crimes.

Eric L. Johansen, Sr. – 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.

Scott Powell – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Luciana C. Recchione – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificate based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Julianna Schultz – By a vote of 6 to 1, with Mr. Tirri opposing, 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.

Michael J. Smith – By a vote of 6 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Gilbert Young, Jr. – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct.

R.A. – 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.

Mary Ellen Bechard – By a vote of 7 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.

Broderick L. Boxley – 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.

Anthony J. Iazzetta – This matter was withdrawn from the agenda.

Megan J. Laboy – 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.

Karen S. Ledden – By a vote of 6 to 0, with Mr. Crowley recusing himself, 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.

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

Edgar B. Padilla – 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.

Jeffrey K. Powell – 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.

Marcus Rhaney – 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.

Tamica R. Ruffin – By a vote of 7 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 and her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Lawrence R. Young – 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.

Richard A. Koppenaar, Jr. – By a vote of 7 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 and crime and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Niall D. Bridgeman – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Augustine O. Onaga – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Daniel M. Wolkenfeld – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Karen B. Binder – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of her certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

Douglas Brustman – 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.

James I. Clancy – 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.

Julius Young – By a vote of 7 to 0, the Board voted to table his application for certification after revocation in order to request his appearance at a future meeting to respond to questions.

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 orders by a unanimous vote.

Orders to Show Cause

Juan Davies
Steve Gallon, III
Nickolas Genovese
Judith Meller
Sandra Nelson
Stanley Williams

Revocations/Suspensions

Eric Johansen, Jr.
Frank Mattiace
Sean McGuirk
Tom Oye
Yorgo Papadakis
William Thomas
Robert Walsh

Other

Vanda Ronald Horton
Trischelle Petach

Mr. Crowley made a motion that the Board adopt the decision in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Application for Certification of Migdalia Flores* that was on the legal consent list, and Dr. McGeehan seconded the motion. By a vote of 6 to 0, with Dr. Nagy recusing himself, 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 Certificate of Stephen Fox* that was on the legal consent list, and Dr. McGeehan seconded the motion. By a vote of 6 to 0, with Mr. Crowley recusing himself, the Board adopted the decision.

Dr. Nagy made a motion that the Board adopt the order to show cause in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Raymond E. Hyman, Jr.* 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, the Board adopted the order.

Dr. Nagy made a motion that the Board adopt the order to show cause in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of James D. Kearney, Jr.* that was on the legal consent list, and Dr. McGeehan seconded the motion. By a vote of 6 to 0, with Ms. Tunstall recusing herself, the Board adopted the order.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Secretary's Report

Dr. Higgins reported that Thomas MacGregor had resigned from the Board. Reappointments to the Board will be considered by the State Board of Education at its August meeting, and appointments to several vacancies on the Board are expected to be considered by the State Board at its September meeting.

In addition, Dr. Higgins reported that the licensing office had been provided with temporary staff for the summer to assist with customer service. He also reported that proposed amendments to the licensing code would be presented to the State Board in September. The amendments will include revision of the regulation concerning substitutes and replacement of the emergency Speech Language Specialist certificate with an alternate route certificate so as to better comply with federal regulations.

In response to a question from Dr. McGeehan, Dr. Higgins reported that the turnaround time for issuing standard certificates to applicants who have completed provisional teacher programs is currently ten weeks. The office is awaiting approval for four new credentials examiners, and all of those certificates will be issued by the start of the school year.

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 12:33 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Thursday, September 16, 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-7/22/10