

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting (Amended April 12, 2013)
200 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
June 16, 2011**

Present: Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary
Ms. Jennifer Campbell, Deputy Attorney General
Ms. JoAnn Gales, Chair, Credentials Review Committee
Ms. Kristin Hennessy
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
Dr. Christopher Nagy, Chair, Legal Committee
Mr. Peter Tirri
Ms. Gloria Tunstall

Absent: Assistant Commissioner, Chair
Mr. Derek Jess
Dr. Patricia McGeehan

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. Higgins read a resolution honoring Dr. Christopher Nagy for his service to the Board and conveying best wishes to Dr. Nagy. Ms. Tunstall made a motion to adopt the resolution, which was seconded by Dr. McNally and approved by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Nagy moved to adopt the minutes of the May 12, 2011 meeting, and Dr. McNally seconded the motion. With Ms. Tunstall abstaining, the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Individual Credentials Review

The following individual attended the meeting to respond to any questions from the Board:

Teresa DiMartino

Teacher of French

Maximiliano Cuevas, who is seeking a Supervisor certificate, Karin Huckel, who is seeking a School Counselor certificate, and Karen LeVasseur, who is seeking a School Counselor 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 12, 2011 meeting. With Ms. Tunstall abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Elizabeth Brown Reid	Teacher of English as a Second Language – The Board denied her application for certification.
Maria Buono-Higgins	Teacher of Italian – The Board granted her application to substitute her experience for the required second language acquisition and related methodology course.
Michelle Derpich	Principal certificate of eligibility – The Board denied her application for certification.
Karen Goldberg	Teacher of Art certificate of eligibility – The Board granted her application for certification.
Ryan Lilienthal	Teacher of Social Studies certificate of eligibility – The Board denied his application for certification but granted him credit for five advanced level semester-hour credits in American history.
Mary Anne McStravick	School Business Administrator provisional certificate – 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 not present at the May 12, 2011 meeting. With Ms. Tunstall abstaining, the Board adopted the following action by a unanimous vote.

Melissa Clark	Teacher of Preschool through Grade Three – The Board denied 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:

Alicia M. Pickul – Ms. Pickul and her counsel, Brian G. Howell, Esq., appeared before the Board for a hearing on the sanction issue. By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to table the matter for determination at a future meeting.

R.A. – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Lawrence Butler, Jr. – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Megan J. Laboy – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Stephen A. Legler – By a vote of 6 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.

Brian L. Taylor – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Jill S. Zell – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Steven B. Batoff – By a vote of 6 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 the revocation of his certificates in Pennsylvania.

Bienvenido Cueto – Dr. McNally recused herself, and this matter was withdrawn from the agenda due to the lack of a quorum.

Kimberly DeMatteo – By a vote of 6 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 public employment.

Martin A. Gendel – By a vote of 6 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.

Marsha Gordon – By a vote of 6 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.

William D. Gross – By a vote of 6 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.

Michele M. Johnson – By a vote of 6 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 and crime.

Curtis H. Key – By a vote of 6 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 the surrender of his certificates in Pennsylvania in lieu of discipline.

Michael Maurer – By a vote of 6 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 public employment.

Robert G. Schanne – By a vote of 6 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.

Samuel C. Skipper – By a vote of 6 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 the revocation of his certificates in Pennsylvania.

Cathleen Van Vorst – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter pending determination of tenure charges pending before the Commissioner.

Robin L. Winkis – By a vote of 6 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 and the revocation of her certificates in Pennsylvania.

Amanda Wright-Stafford – By a vote of 6 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 and her disqualification from public employment.

Ronald A. Zaleski – By a vote of 6 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 the surrender of his certificates in Pennsylvania in lieu of discipline.

Steven M. Arpaia – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to vacate the order to show cause that had been issued to him and to issue a new order to show cause as to why his certificate should not be suspended pending his successful completion of a pretrial intervention program.*

* Arpaia's record was expunged by an Order of Expungement issued on December 13, 2012.

Benjamin J. Norton – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to vacate the order to show cause that had been issued to him.

Troy Allen Rushing – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to amend the order to show cause that had been issued to him.

Judith Meller – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to accept the proposed settlement and consent order in this matter, in which she relinquished her certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

George H. Friery, Jr. – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

Guillermo Falcon, Jr. – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Tamika Z. McKinnon – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block her application for certification.

Julius Young – By a vote of 3 to 3, with Dr. McNally, Mr. Tirri and Ms. Tunstall opposing, a motion to deny his application for certification after revocation failed. By a vote of 3 to 3, with Ms. Gales, Ms. Hennessy and Dr. Nagy opposing, a motion to grant his application for certification after revocation failed. By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter for further review.

Dr. Nagy made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive legal advice, which was duly seconded by Dr. McNally and carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 12:27 p.m. The Board returned to the public session at 12:36 p.m.

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 Ms. Gales seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following orders by a unanimous vote.

Orders to Show Cause

Larry Angney II
Mukundcha Bhatt
Fredric Cluggish
Darnell Coleman
Ryan Giovanelli
Robert Hawkins
Joel Levy
William Mayes
Kevin Ricardo
Craig Rokosz
John Socrates

Revocations

Juan Borja
Kevin Kriesel
Wendell Lee
Sameria O'Neil
Marcus Rhaney
Sandrea Steinmetz
Stanley Williams
Lawrence Young

Other

Shmuel Blau
Lynn Ann D'Amelio

Dr. McNally recused herself, and the order to show cause for Michael Steele that was on the legal consent list memorializing the Board's legal decision from a previous meeting was withdrawn due to the lack of a quorum.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Dr. Higgins reported that the members of the Board had received a copy of the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement for Educator Licensure 2010-2015 for review. Dr. Nagy made a motion to accept the agreement, which was duly seconded by Ms. Gales and carried by a unanimous vote. Dr. Higgins also reported that Board members had received a copy of a report issued by the State Auditor with regard to the Trenton school district for review. In addition, Dr. Higgins related that regulations concerning the alternate route for superintendents would be before the State Board of Education at adoption level in July. He also indicated that he would be meeting with the Acting Commissioner to discuss filling the vacancies on the Board.

Secretary's Report

There was no secretary's report.

Adjournment

Dr. Nagy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Dr. McNally and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Thursday, July 28, 2011, 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-6/16/11