

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
200 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
March 1, 2012**

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

Absent: Mr. Derek Jess

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

Ms. Gales moved to adopt the minutes of the January 19, 2012 meeting, and Dr. McNally 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:

Claire Hamm	Supervisor
Hosam Mansour	Teacher of Chemistry certificate of eligibility
Edward Smith	Supervisor

Jonna Calvanico, who is seeking a Director of School Counseling certificate, Megan Hubbard, who is seeking a Teacher of Preschool through Grade Three certificate of eligibility, and Diane Price, who is seeking a Substitute Credential, were not present at the meeting.

Credentials Review Consent List

Dr. McNally made a motion that the Board adopt the decisions in the following matters on the credentials review consent list, and Ms. Hennessy seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Matthew Hemighaus	Teacher of Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization in Mathematics – The Board granted his application for certification.
Heather Leech	Emergency Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant certificate – The Board denied her application for certification.
James Lewis	Teacher of Elementary School and the Teacher of Students with Disabilities certificates of eligibility – The Board denied his applications for certification.
Rhiannon Morgan	Teacher of Career and Technical Education-Visual Arts certificate of eligibility – 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:

Amanda Wright-Stafford – Ms. Wright-Stafford and her attorney, Alan O. Dixler, Esq., appeared before the Board for a hearing on the sanction issue. Following the hearing, the Board took the matter under advisement and deferred determination until a future meeting.

Michael Maurer – 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 and his disqualification from public employment.

Troy Allen Rushing – 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.

Gustavo Bordenabe – 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 and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Robert Cholowinski – 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.

Christopher Tippie – 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 and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Joseph Quartaro – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to vacate its vote at the January 19, 2012 meeting to revoke his certificates. By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to suspend his certificates indefinitely until a determination could be made following a hearing in which he was able to participate in his defense.

Dr. McGeehan made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive legal advice in the Melvin Cummings and Ivan Ruiz matters, which was duly seconded by Dr. McNally and carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 11:53 a.m. Ms. Tunstall recused herself from the Melvin Cummings matter and did not participate. The Board returned to the public session at 1:17 p.m.

Melvin Cummings – By a vote of 5 to 0, with Ms. Tunstall recusing herself, the Board voted to reject the proposed settlement in this matter.

Ivan Ruiz – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to reject the proposed settlement in this matter.

Amy Brewer – 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 employment in the public schools.

Mamady Camara – 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 suspended pending resolution of criminal charges.

Donna Covely – 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 employment in the public schools.

Lorye Craver – 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 employment in the public schools.

William Davis – 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.

Patricia Gallegos – 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 employment in the public schools.

Derek Hildreth – 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 suspended pending resolution of criminal charges.

John Iurato – 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 employment in the public schools.

David Kelly – 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 employment in the public schools.

Francisco Lindo – 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 employment in the public schools.

Justin Mannick – 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 employment in the public schools.

Stephen Omert – 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.

Amalbi Perez – 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 employment in the public schools.

Valerie Purciello – By a vote of 5 to 0, with Mr. Tirri 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 and crime and her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Jeffrey Ranck – 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.

Kelly Richter-Jobes – 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 employment in the public schools.

Randi True – By a vote of 5 to 1, with Mr. Tirri opposing, 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.

Lara Wilson – 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 suspended pending her successful completion of a Pretrial Intervention program.

Sharonda Wilson – By a vote of 5 to 0, with Ms. Gales recusing herself, the Board voted to vacate the order to show cause that had been issued to her.

Judith Pitcher – The Board discussed this matter and determined not to reopen its determination to revoke her certificates.

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

Frank Melchiorre – 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.

Loren Caso – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to grant his request to amend the revocation order issued in this matter.

Dr. McGeehan 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. Hennessy seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following orders by a unanimous vote, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself in the William Gross matter.

Orders to Show Cause

Gary Basile
Zuzana Bracok
Jose Cardenas
Anthony Coluccio, Jr.
Francisco Planas-Borgstrom

Revocations/Suspensions

Steven Arpaia
Steven Batoff
Martin Gendel
William Gross
Michele Johnson
Curtis Key
Samuel Skipper
Robin Winkis
Ronald Zaleski

Other

Zuzana Bracok
Frederick Costales
Rebecca Jones
Darian McKinney
Trishelle Petach

Dr. McNally made a motion that the Board adopt the following matter that was on the legal consent list memorializing the Board's legal decision from a previous meeting, and Ms. Gales seconded the motion. With Dr. McGeehan recusing herself, the Board adopted the following order by a unanimous vote.

Order to Show Cause

Kathryn Schmicking Guerra

Dr. McGeehan made a motion that the Board adopt the following matter that was on the legal consent list memorializing the Board's legal decision from a previous meeting, and Ms. Gales seconded the motion. With Dr. McNally recusing herself, the Board adopted the following order by a unanimous vote.

Revocation

Michael Steele

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Dr. Higgins reported that Board members had received a copy of a tentative meeting schedule for the 2012-13 school year.

Secretary's Report

There was no secretary's report.

Adjournment

Dr. McGeehan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Ms. Hennessy and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Thursday, April 5, 2012, 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-3/1/12