

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
200 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
November 1, 2011**

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

Absent: Ms. Kristin Hennessy
Dr. Patricia McGeehan, Chair, Legal Committee

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 September 22, 2011 meeting, and Mr. Derek seconded the motion. 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:

Raymond Coxe	School Administrator Certificate of Eligibility
Michael Jefferson	Principal

Suzanne Fico, who is seeking a School Counselor certificate, William Hartz, who is seeking a Teacher of Technology Education Certificate of Eligibility and a Teacher of Elementary School Certificate of Eligibility, and Lorraine Ommundsen, who is seeking a Teacher of Students with Disabilities certificate, were not present at the meeting. Megan Luteran, who is seeking an Emergency Speech Language Specialist certificate, was withdrawn from the agenda.

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 September 22, 2011 meeting. With Dr. McNally and Ms. Tunstall abstaining, the Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Mary Cunningham	School Counselor – The Board granted her application for certification.
Maria Buono Higgins	Teacher of Italian – The Board granted her application for certification.
Nancy Mason	Teacher of Preschool through Grade 3 – 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 Mr. Jess seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were not present at the September 22, 2011 meeting. The Board adopted the following actions by a unanimous vote.

Beatrice Greenberg	Supervisor – The Board granted her application for certification.
Theresa Hippelwith	Teacher of Mathematics – The Board denied her application for certification.
Jane Srygley	Teacher of Mathematics – The Board granted her application for certification.

Cynthia Larcheveque was withdrawn from the consent list.

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 present at the July 28, 2011 meeting. With Mr. Tirri abstaining, the Board adopted the following action by a unanimous vote.

Dorothy Grossman	Teacher of Students with Disabilities – 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:

Kevin A. Ricardo – Mr. Ricardo 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.

John W. Cohrs – By a vote of 4 to 0, with Dr. McNally abstaining, the Board voted to vacate the order to show cause it had issued to him.

Larry A. Angney, II – This matter was withdrawn from the agenda.

Lesley Dorsett – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to suspend her certificate pending resolution of the underlying criminal charges.

Robert C. Hawkins – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificates based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and the surrender of his certificates in lieu of discipline in another state.

John P. Socrates – By a vote of 5 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.

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

Gary Villapiano – By a vote of 5 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.

Sharonda L. Wilson – Ms. Gales recused herself, and this matter was withdrawn from the agenda due to the lack of a quorum.

Gilbert Alvarez – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his certificates.

Craig L. Bell – By a vote of 5 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.

Deborah L. Cantz – By a vote of 5 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.

Nedra A. Clark – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to dismiss the petition filed in this matter and take no action against her certificates.

Brian M. Cummins – By a vote of 5 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.

Wesley Gilmer – By a vote of 4 to 1, with Mr. Tirri opposing, 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.

Lalelei B. Kelly – By a vote of 5 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 her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Angela Kemp – By a vote of 5 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 her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

C.L. – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against her certificates.

Raissa A. Maynard – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to dismiss the petition filed in this matter and take no action against her certificate.

Kristi Pennypacker – By a vote of 5 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.

Manuel Portalatin – By a vote of 5 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 lieu of discipline in another state.

Yakik Rumley – By a vote of 5 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, the surrender of his certificates in another state and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Peter G. Weindorfer – By a vote of 5 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, the revocation of his certificates in another state and misrepresentations on his certification application.

Joseph Winkelried – By a vote of 5 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.

Gregory Young – By a vote of 5 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.

John G. Forman – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

George N. Franks – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

Joel A. Levy – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

Jay S. Duhl – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of his Teacher of Italian certificate pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 6A:9-17.12*.

James Damiano – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to grant his request for certification after revocation.

Matthew N. Russell – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to accept the proposed settlement and consent order in this matter, in which he relinquished his certificates with the force and effect of a revocation.

Mr. Tirri 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 Dr. McNally seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following orders by a unanimous vote.

Orders to Show Cause

Brian Ammon
Lonnie Booher
James Dickinson, Jr.
Ana Dionisio
Nelson Evans, Jr.
Ann Garcia
June Kelly
Nailah Keno
Mark Kisselbach
Judah Landa
Maria Parise
Donald Salaam
Jonathan Titmas

Revocations

Daniel Belton

Michael Dougherty
Leonard Matarese
Jason Rodriguez

Other

Donald Barnes
Cameron Gaskins
Peter Kliman
Jessica Roy

Jayne Howard, Rodney Lofton and Michael Dougherty were withdrawn from the legal consent list due to the lack of a quorum since Ms. Tunstall recused herself. William (Guillermo) Santamaria was withdrawn from the legal consent list due to the lack of a quorum since Mr. Jess recused himself.

The Legal Committee reviewed the following legal case and presented its recommendation to the Board. The Board took the following action:

Donald E. Barnes – By a vote of 5 to 0, the Board voted to deny his request for a stay of the Board’s decision to revoke his certificate.

Mr. Tirri made a motion that the Board add the following matter to the legal consent list memorializing the Board’s legal decision, and Ms. Gales seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following order by a unanimous vote.

Request for a Stay

Donald Barnes

Ms. Gales made a motion to go into closed session in the Joseph Mifsud matter, which was duly seconded by Mr. Jess and carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 12:14 p.m. The Board returned to the public session at 12:24 p.m.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Secretary’s Report

Dr. Higgins reported that the Department was currently undertaking a complete review of the education code. Although licensing is part of that review, the revisions to the licensing code

appear to be relatively small at this point. Upon inquiry by staff, the Board indicated that it would like to review the application of any applicant who reports two or more DUI convictions.

Adjournment

Ms. Gales made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Mr. Jess and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Friday, December 16, 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-11/1/11