

**State Board of Examiners  
Minutes of Meeting  
200 River View Plaza  
First Floor Conference Room  
Trenton, New Jersey  
October 23, 2014**

**Present:** Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary  
Ms. Caroline Jones, Deputy Attorney General  
Dr. Jonathan Dauber  
Ms. JoAnn Gales  
Mr. Derek Jess  
Dr. Patricia McGeehan  
Dr. Mary Jane McNally  
Dr. Laura Morana  
Mr. Peter Tirri  
Ms. Gloria Tunstall

**Absent:** Ms. Kristin Hennessy  
Dr. Timothy Purnell

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 meeting of September 19, 2014, and Dr. McNally seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

**Individual Credentials Review**

The following applicants attended the meeting to respond to any questions from the Board regarding their applications:

Jessica Dwyer  
Erika Hemstedt

Sean Carney, Janine Hatton, Katherine Mosher, Michael Petrillo, Gina Saggese, Lana Statella and George Wolkiewicz 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. With Mr. Jess abstaining in the Cancalosi, Fehring and Henson matters, the Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

Susan Tellone McCoy	Teacher of Consumer and Technical Education: Health Occupations – The Board granted her application for certification.
Dr. Laurie Cancalosi	School Administrator certificate of eligibility – The Board granted her application for certification.
Shana Fehring	Teacher of Elementary School certificate of eligibility – The Board denied her application for certification.
Glenn Henson	Teacher of Elementary School and Teacher of Biological Science certificates of eligibility – The Board denied his applications 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. With Mr. Jess abstaining, the Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

Asadour Choungourian	School Psychologist – The Board denied his application for certification.
Michael Dappalone	This matter was withdrawn from the agenda.
LaVonne Furlow	School Counselor – The Board granted her application for certification.
Yusuf Jaaber	Teacher of Arabic Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted his 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. With Dr. McNally recusing herself in the Guerriero matter and Mr. Jess abstaining in both matters, the Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

Carla Guerriero	School Library Media Specialist certificate – The Board granted her application for certification.
Rebecca Linton	Teacher of Social Studies – The Board denied her application for certification but granted her partial credit for nine of the 12 semester-hour credits in Social Studies, including a course in United States

history.

### **Legal Committee Report**

The Legal Committee reviewed all legal cases and presented its recommendations to the Board. The Board took the following actions:

Lalelei Kelly – The Board tabled this matter.

Angela Kemp – The Board tabled this matter.

Dr. McGeehan made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive legal advice regarding a settlement proposal in the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of John Tracey*, which was duly seconded by Ms. Gales and carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 11:36 a.m. The Board returned to the public session at 12:06 p.m.

John Tracey – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to reject the proposed settlement and consent order in this matter.

Phillip Birnbaum – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificate(s) based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Liza Cruz-Diaz – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificate(s) based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Jennifer M. DeGroat (Ingerman) – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificate(s) based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and the relinquishment of her certificates in another state.

Daniel N. Desir – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke his certificate(s) based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Chrystine Cooper Hoeltzel – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificate(s) based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and the surrender of her certificates in another state.

Jean Mary Ovide – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to suspend his certificate(s) pending the disposition of criminal charges.

Patricia Ruggeri-Nacer – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificate(s) based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Anne Marie Ubl – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Dr. McGeehan recusing herself, the Board voted to revoke her certificate(s) based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime and her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Gary Villapiano – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Dr. Morana abstaining, the Board voted to deny his request to remove his decision from the Department’s website. However, the Board agreed to amend the decision.

Darryl T. Powell – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to vacate the vote from the last meeting and to adopt the Administrative Law Judge’s decision with modification as to the penalty and to suspend his certificate(s) for 2 years.

David A. Clune – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct and his failure to report his arrest to his district.

Charles Ferrara, 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 certificate(s) should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

William T. Muzzio, Jr. – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Jess recusing himself, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificate(s) 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 M. Pekarek – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Jill A. Sheinbaum – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why her certificate(s) should not be suspended pending the disposition of criminal charges.

Dr. McGeehan made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive legal advice regarding the matter captioned *In the Matter of the Certificates of Joseph Tramontana*, which was duly seconded by Ms. Gales and carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 12:20 p.m. The Board returned to the public session at 12:22 p.m.

Joseph Tramontana – By a vote of 7 to 1, with Mr. Tirri opposing, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Kalee S. Warnick – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why her certificate(s) should not be suspended pending the disposition of criminal charges.

Thomas M. Weir – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be suspended pending the disposition of criminal charges.

Lisa Heisroth – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against her certificate(s).

Maria Mendez – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against her certificate(s).

Bruno Vagnarelli – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action against his certificate(s).

John Sico – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain additional information.

Michael Sico – By a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Tirri recusing himself, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Rose M. Serra – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why her certificate(s) should not be revoked based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Brenda Mapp – By a vote of 5 to 2, with, Ms. Gales and Dr. McNally opposing and Ms. Tunstall recusing herself, the Board voted to grant her request to apply for certification after revocation.

Alexandra Amorim – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter.

Yema-Yengeh Barrie-Sandy – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter in order to obtain additional information.

William F. Spain – By a vote of 8 to 0, the Board voted to take no action to block his application for certification.

Dr. Morana 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. McGeehan seconded the motion. With Mr. Jess abstaining, the Board adopted the following orders by a unanimous vote.

### **Orders to Show Cause**

Jessica Banks  
Lee Brockington  
Christopher Chepelevich  
John C. Coulton  
Elyse C. Cromwell

Frank C. Dolan  
Randall O. Johnson  
Patrick N. McGwier  
Brian L. Miele  
Christi Pemberton  
Carl B. Pinnaro  
Lisa A. Sivillo  
Gregory J. Stull  
Glenn Washburn

**Revocations/Suspensions**

Tray K. Barnard  
Jason B. Fennes  
Michael Furey  
Christine Krzeminski  
Yvette Nichols

**Other**

Allena M. Williams

Dr. Morana 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 Dr. McNally seconded the motion. With Ms. Tunstall recusing herself and Mr. Jess abstaining, the Board adopted the following order to show cause by a unanimous vote.

Ralphiel D. Mack

Dr. Morana 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 Dr. McNally seconded the motion. With Mr. Tirri recusing himself and Mr. Jess abstaining, the Board adopted the following order to show cause by a unanimous vote.

Shellie Mackson

Dr. Morana made a motion that the Board adopt the following matter that was on the legal consent list memorializing the Board's legal decision, and Dr. McNally seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following suspension order by a unanimous vote.

Darryl T. Powell

**Old Business**

There was no old business.

**New Business**

Mr. Jess congratulated Dr. Purnell, who was not present, on being named Somerset County and Region Superintendent of the Year. The Board reviewed a report issued by the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance titled “Elizabeth Public Schools, Christopher Columbus School No. 15, Alleged NJ ASK 3 Breach” and directed staff to schedule the certificate-holders named in the report for review at a future meeting for consideration of whether to initiate proceedings against their certificates.

### **Secretary’s Report**

Dr. Higgins reported that the Department would be proposing revisions to the certification and teacher preparation regulations at the State Board of Education’s meeting in November or December.

Mr. Tirri asked Dr. Higgins if there was any information regarding staff members losing their certificates under the new evaluation process. Dr. Higgins responded that most of those cases had gone to arbitration and that no additional cases had been referred to the Board yet. As requested by Mr. Tirri, Dr. Higgins indicated that he would keep the Board advised regarding the number of such cases that could be referred to the Board for review.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Tunstall 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 12:45 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Friday, December 12, 2014 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-10/23/14