

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
200 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
March 3, 2016**

Present: Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary
Ms. Caroline Jones, Deputy Attorney General
Dr. Jonathan Dauber
Mr. Derek Jess
Ms. Naomi Johnson-Lafleur
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
Dr. Laura Morana
Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak
Dr. Timothy Purnell

Absent: Ms. Kristin Hennessy
Dr. Patricia McGeehan

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

Dr. McNally moved to adopt the minutes of the meeting of January 21, 2016, and Ms. Johnson-Lafleur seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Legal Committee Report

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

Tracey R. Harding – By a vote of 6 to 0, with Dr. Dauber recusing himself, 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.

Individual Credentials Review

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

Adnan Brkovic
Mary Dillon
Ruth Quiles (reconsideration)
Rajalakshmi Raghuraman

Mark Ferlanti, Carin Francisco, Carolyn Grace and Aracelis Ortiz 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 Dr. Dauber seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were present at the January 21, 2016 meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Michael Allen | Teacher of Mathematics certificate of eligibility – The Board denied his application for certification. |
| Patrick Baker | Teacher of Art certificate of eligibility – The Board granted his application for certification. |
| Michelle Barsch | Teacher of American Sign Language certificate of eligibility – The Board granted her application for certification. |
| Brian Baumann | Principal certificate of eligibility – The Board denied his application for certification. |
| David Farrell | Teacher of Chemistry certificate – The Board denied his application for certification. |
| Jason Leonard | Teacher of Chinese certificate of eligibility – The Board granted his application for certification. |

Dr. McNally made a motion that the Board adopt the decisions in the following matters on the credentials review consent list, and Dr. Dauber seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were not present at the January 21, 2016 meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Stephanie Broas | School Counselor certificate – The Board granted her application for certification. |
| Justin Fagan | Teacher of Earth Sciences certificate of eligibility – The |

Board denied his application for certification.

Tamira Ferrer

Teacher of Elementary School certificate – The Board denied her application for certification.

Alissa Gerent

Reading Specialist certificate – 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:

Jeff B. Simon – This matter was withdrawn from the agenda.

Jennifer A. Cornine – Ms. Cornine and her attorney, Stephen B. Hunter, Esq., appeared before the Board for a hearing on remand on the sanction issue. Following the hearing, the Board took the matter under advisement and deferred determination until a future meeting.

Dr. Morana left the meeting at this time.

Adrienne R. Prosini – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to suspend her certificate(s) for 3 years based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Mary E. Purcell – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to suspend her certificate(s) for 3 years based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Vinnette Richardson (Chipepo) – By a vote of 6 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.

Phyllis R. Smith – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to revoke her certificate(s) based on the level and nature of the conduct.

Dr. Purnell made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive legal advice regarding settlement proposals, which was duly seconded by Dr. Dauber and carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 12:05 p.m. The Board returned to the public session at 12:42 p.m.

John J. Gibson – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to accept the proposed settlement and consent order in this matter and to revoke his certificate(s).

Ronald Klimik – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to accept the proposed settlement and consent order in this matter and to suspend his certificate(s) for 20 years.

Joseph T. Mahon – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to reject the proposed settlement and consent order in this matter.

John J. Neary – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to accept the proposed settlement and consent order in this matter and to revoke his certificate(s).

Bruce Reisman – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to reject the proposed settlement and consent order in this matter.

Shawn Sochaski – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to reject the proposed settlement and consent order in this matter.

David Van Buren – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter.

Fern Zinkoski – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to table this matter.

John A. Radzik – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to grant the petitioner's motion for leave to file exceptions as within time.

Nicholas C. Brown – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to adopt the decision of the Administrative Law Judge on remand and to revoke his certificate(s).

Robert L. Colasuono – By a vote of 6 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.

Tonilee Coleman – By a vote of 6 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 and crime and her disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Jason R. Gangi – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to seal the record in this matter. By a vote of 6 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.

Joseph S. Giambri – By a vote of 6 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.

Deborah E. Griffith – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to seal the record in this matter. By a vote of 6 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.

James Habel – By a vote of 6 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 crime and his disqualification from employment in the public schools.

Jenye V. Knox – This matter was withdrawn from the agenda.

Mahmoud I. Okal – By a vote of 6 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 crime.

Rita O'Malley – By a vote of 6 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.

Julio Pina-Catena – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be suspended pending disposition of criminal charges.

Justin R. Soccol – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to seal the record in this matter. By a vote of 6 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.

Zachary A. Smithlin – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to block his application for certification.

Joseph P. Miktus – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of his Teacher of Students with Disabilities certificate of eligibility, pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-4.11*.

David M. Adams – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificate(s) with the force and effect of a revocation.

Lance S. Cowan – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificate(s) with the force and effect of a revocation.

Hallie M. Karu – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of her certificate(s) with the force and effect of a revocation.

Christiano D. Porto – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificate(s) with the force and effect of a revocation.

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

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

Dr. Purnell made a motion to add Joseph M. Ferraina to the agenda, which was duly seconded by Dr. Dauber and carried by a unanimous vote.

Joseph M. Ferraina – By a vote of 6 to 0, the Board voted to seal the record in this matter.

Dr. Dauber 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. Purnell seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following orders by a unanimous vote.

Orders to Show Cause

Allison C. Anderson
Theophilus Burroughs
Ashley M. Certo
John Costello
Nicole L. Dufault
Keith S. Lockwood
Edward C. Meier
Emilio J. Perez
Stanley Zdon, III

Revocations/Suspensions

Andrea H. Grannemann
Doretta A. Healy
Brian L. Miele
Diana H. Park

Other

Yemeh-Yengeh Barrie-Sandy
Angela C. D'Amico
Xavier Downs

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Staff distributed a tentative meeting calendar for 2016-17 to the members of the Board. Based on information provided by Dr. Higgins, the Board agreed to a family's request for the granting of a posthumous certificate. Staff informed the Board that an answer to an order to show cause in the Ron S. Tuitt matter was being distributed for consideration at the April meeting.

Secretary's Report

There was no secretary's report.

Adjournment

Ms. Johnson-Lafleur made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Dr. Purnell and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Thursday, April 14, 2016 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-3/3/16