

**State Board of Examiners  
Minutes of Meeting  
200 River View Plaza  
First Floor Conference Room  
Trenton, New Jersey  
December 9, 2016**

**Present:** Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary  
Ms. Caroline Jones, Deputy Attorney General  
Dr. Jonathan Dauber  
Mr. Derek Jess  
Ms. Kristen Ludman  
Dr. Mary Jane McNally  
Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak  
Dr. Timothy Purnell  
Dr. Richard Stepura

**Absent:** Ms. Kristin Hennessy  
Ms. Naomi Johnson-Lafleur

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.

Deputy Attorney General Caroline Jones administered the oath of office to two new members of the Board, Ms. Kristen Ludman and Dr. Richard Stepura. Mr. Jess welcomed Ms. Ludman and Dr. Stepura to the Board.

Dr. Dauber moved to adopt the minutes of the meeting of November 1, 2016, and Dr. McNally seconded the motion. With Ms. Ludman and Dr. Stepura abstaining, 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:

Jacqueline Cestero Bailey  
Christina Briskin  
Morgan Rae Ciani  
Robert Pietrocola

Meron Addisu, Jaime Cohen, Michelle Gueli, Gabriel Panayoti, and Denise Gugel Ruggeri 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 November 1, 2016 meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote, with Ms. Ludman and Dr. Stepura abstaining.

Erin Adasczik	Teacher of Career and Technical Education: Culinary Arts - The Board denied her application for certification.
Marie Gagliano	Teacher of Career and Technical Education: Child and Family Development - The Board denied her application for certification, but granted partial credit for three credits for study in developing skills needed to deal with crisis in families
Jennifer Jarmark	School Counselor - The Board denied her application for certification.
Michael McCoach	Principal Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied his application for certification.
Benjamin Suro	Supervisor - The Board denied his application for certification, but granted partial credit for three graduate elective credits in Curriculum Design and Development.

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 November 1, 2016 meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

Schurr Little	Teacher of Preschool through Grade Three Certificate of Eligibility - The Board denied her application for certification.
Cynthia Rios	Teacher of Bilingual/Bicultural Education – The Board denied her application for certification.
Lina Scarpa	Teacher of Elementary School Certificate of Eligibility - The Board denied her application for certification.

With Dr. McNally recusing, Ms. Desiderio Orlak made a motion that the Board adopt the decision in the following matter on the credentials review consent list, and Dr. Dauber seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following decision by unanimous vote.

Askia Nash	Associate School Library Media Specialist - The Board denied his application for certification.
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**Legal Committee Report**

No one was present for the hearings scheduled on the agenda and the matters were held to the end of the agenda to allow time for the parties to arrive.

Ms. Desiderio Orlak made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive legal advice regarding the matters captioned *In the Matter of the Certificate(s) of Barbara Bampoe-Parry, In the Matter of the Certificate(s) of Rolando Laguna, In the Matter of the Certificate(s) of Joseph Piparo, and In the Matter of the Certificate(s) of Olabisi Dabiri-Okoya*, which was duly seconded by Dr. Dauber and carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 11:08 a.m.

The Board returned to the public session at 11:41 p.m. following a motion by Dr. Stepura, seconded by Dr. Dauber, and carried by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Purnell made a motion to accept the proposed Consent Order in the matter of Barbara Bampoe-Parry, seconded by Dr. Dauber, and approved by unanimous vote.

Dr. Purnell made a motion to reject the proposed Consent Order in the matter of Joseph Piparo, seconded by Dr. Dauber, and approved by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Purnell made a motion to reject the proposed Consent Order in the matter of Rolando Laguna, seconded by Ms. Desiderio Orlak, and approved by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Purnell made a motion to accept the proposed Consent Order in the matter of Olabisi Dabiri-Okoya, seconded by Dr. Dauber, and approved by a unanimous vote.

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

Guy Dippolito – with Dr. Dauber recusing, by a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to suspend Mr. Dippolito’s certificates for a period of six (6) months based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Abelardo Romero – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to revoke Mr. Romero’s certificates based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and his disqualification from employment in public schools.

Lat Sall – By a vote of 5-0, with Ms. Ludman and Dr. Stepura abstaining, the Board voted to suspend Mr. Sall’s certificates for a period of two (2) years based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Vincent Ajayi – By a vote of 7-0, 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.

Antonio J. Cardinale – By a vote of 7-0, 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.

Chong H. Chang – By a vote of 7-0, 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.

Deborah Coulson – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to seal the record in this matter. By a vote of 7-0, 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 Dunckley – By a vote of 7-0, 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.

Michael D. Fleming – By a vote of 7-0, 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.

Karen L. Gitelman –By a vote of 7-0, 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.

Brian L. Hurff – By a vote of 7-0, 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 public schools.

Christopher D. Kuhn – By a vote of 7-0, 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 public schools.

Barbara Moazamian – By a vote of 7-0, 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.

Barbara Pyne – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to seal the record in this matter. By a vote of 7-0, 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

Luz Ravines – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to seal the record in this matter. By a vote of 7-0, 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

Jason L. Sanders – By a vote of 7-0, 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.

Stephen R. Schweizer – By a vote of 7-0, 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.

Jeffrey Tagliareni - By a vote of 7-0, 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 Ferraina – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to vacate the order to cause issued against Mr. Ferraina.

David Pekarek – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to deny the motion for reconsideration and to dismiss the motion for a stay pending reconsideration.

Matthew Diglio – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to take no action to block Mr. Diglio's application.

Jaelyn Stier – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to take no action to block Ms. Stier's application.

Kyle D. Weedon – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to vacate the November 1, 2016, action to block Mr. Weedon's application. By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to take no action to block Mr. Weedon's application.

George E. Bolzoni a/k/a Perez - By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificate(s) with the force and effect of a revocation.

Julia DePinto-Perez - By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of her certificate(s) with the force and effect of a revocation.

Rick C. Gazzola - By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificate(s) with the force and effect of a revocation.

Adrian Petway - By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificate(s) with the force and effect of a revocation.

Mallory L. Christ - By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of her certificate(s) with the force and effect of a revocation.

No one appeared for the hearings that were scheduled on the agenda.

A member of the public requested to speak. Billy Hayes, a Trenton resident appeared and indicated that he is an education activist. He expressed concern that there was no public comment section on the agenda. He believes that the public should be able to comment on these topics. He also believes that there should be a process by which the public may report/refer concerns regarding teacher conduct to the Board.

### **Legal Consent List**

The Board received an amended Legal Consent List and a decision in *IMO the Certificates of David Pekarek* for review. The Board took a few minutes to review the material prior to voting on same.

Dr. Dauber made a motion to amend the legal consent list to include the written decision in *IMO the Certificates of David Pekarek*, seconded by Dr. Stepura, and unanimously approved by the Board.

Dr. Dauber made a motion to remove item w (Kyle Weedon-block) from the consent list. With Ms. Desiderio-Orlak seconding the motion and Dr. Stepura and Ms. Ludman abstaining, the Board voted unanimously to remove Mr. Weedon from the Consent List.

Dr. Dauber then made a motion that the Board adopt the following matters that were on the amended legal consent list memorializing the Board's legal decision from a previous meeting, with Dr. McNally seconding the motion. The Board adopted the following orders by a unanimous vote, with Dr. Stepura and Ms. Ludman abstaining.

#### **Orders to Show Cause**

- a. Donald DeWitt
- b. Dorvid. Y. Durant
- c. Brian D. Fogelson
- d. John Hackney
- e. Edmund Harman
- f. Elisha R. Harris
- g. Rebecca Jacob
- h. Nicholas Kita
- i. Jenye Knox
- j. Lee Kornhauser
- k. Lisa D. Whitaker McGee

- l. Julio Pina-Catena
- m. Jinwoo Seong
- n. Eric M. Strand
- o. Gregory J. Stull
- p. Joseph P. Wilson
- q. Neal E. Ziskind

Revocations/Suspensions

- r. Tonilee Coleman-revoke
- s. James Habel-revoke
- t. Ronald Tuitt-suspend

Other

- u. Kerry Heck-block
- v. David E. Wagner-deny request for leave to answer
- w. Removed per above vote
- x. David Pekarek – deny motion (see below)

Dr. Dauber made a motion to approve item x (David Pekarek) on the consent list. With Dr. McNally seconding the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

None.

**Secretary's Report**

Dr. Higgins reported that Office of Certification and Induction is putting together some technical and substantive amendments to code and the State Board of Examiners will be given information on those changes.

Dr. Purnell advised the Board that Mr. Jess was honored as Business Administrator of the year at a recent event.

## **Adjournment**

Dr. Stepura made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Dr. Dauber and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Friday, January 19, 2017 in the first floor conference room, 200 River View Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey.

Minutes prepared by Kimberly A. Gatti

Minutes certified by Robert R. Higgins, Secretary

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