State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
200 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
March 1, 2018

Present: Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary

Assistant Commissioner Robert Bumpus Ms. Caroline Jones, Deputy Attorney General

Dr. Mary Jane McNally Ms. Kristen Ludman

Mr. Derek Jess Ms. Eileen Johnson

Ms. Naomi Johnson-Lafleur

Absent: Dr. Jonathan Dauber

Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak

Ms. Fidelia Sturdivant

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 19, 2018, and Assistant Commissioner Robert Bumpus seconded the motion. The minutes were then 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:

Heba Abdo Terika Floyd Tammy Lenihan Howard Weinberg Shawn Williams

The Board had no questions for anyone. Ms. Christina Ritchie was not present.

Credentials Review Consent List

Dr. McNally made a motion to adopt the decisions in the following matters on the credentials review consent list, and Assistant Commissioner Bumpus seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

The candidates in the following cases were present at the January 19, 2018 meeting.

Scott Cop Teacher if Technology Education - The Board denied

his application for certification.

Chalyce Glover School Social Worker - The Board denied her

application for certification. However, the Board granted partial credit to include six semester-hour credits for Introductory and Advanced Level Social Case Work, three semester-hour credits for Community Organization, Agencies and Resources and three semester-hour credits for Social Policy and

Public Welfare Services.

School Counselor - The Board denied her application for certification. However, the Board granted partial credit to include six semester-hour credits for Testing and Evaluation and three semester-hour credits for Community Organization, Agencies and Resources.

Lorrie Hunter Teacher of Elementary School Certificate of

Eligibility Reading Specialist - The Board denied her

application for certification.

Dr. Jessica Shoja Supervisor - The Board denied her application for

certification. However, the Board granted partial credit to include a three graduate semester-hour credit elective for Staff Supervision and/or

Curriculum Design and Development.

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Joseph Varano Teacher of Elementary School Certificate of

Eligibility - The Board denied her application for

certification.

The candidate in the following case was not present at the January 19, 2018 meeting.

John Lade Teacher of Students with Disabilities- The Board

denied his application for certification.

The candidate in the following case was not present at the December 8, 2017 meeting.

Adam M. Fitzgerald Teacher of Physical Education Certificate of

Eligibility - The Board denied his application for

certification.

Legal Committee Report

There were two hearings scheduled. The first matter was in *The Matter of the Certificates of Frank P. Bennett, Jr.* Mr. Bennett appeared and a hearing was held.

The next hearing was in *The Matter of the Certificates of Alex Ramadanis*. Mr. Ramadanis appeared with counsel and a hearing was held.

Following the hearings, Ms. Ludman made a motion to go into closed session in order to receive legal advice regarding matters on the Consent Order portion of the agenda, which was duly seconded by Ms. Johnson-Lafleur and carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 11:26 a.m.

The Board returned to the public session at 11:49 a.m. following a motion by Dr. McNally, seconded by Ms. Johnson Lafleur, and carried by a unanimous vote.

The Board then took the following action with regarding to items on the Consent Order portion of the agenda:

Antonio Cardinale - By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to remove the matter from the agenda.

Christina Fasanella – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to reject the proposed consent order in this matter.

Jason Gangi – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to accept the proposed consent order in this matter.

Jill Sheinbaum – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to reject the proposed consent order in this matter.

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

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

Darren G. Ventre - By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificate(s) with the force and effect of a revocation.

Jeffrey D. Deverin - By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to revoke Mr. Deverin's certificates based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and disqualification from public school employment.

Leo A. Donaldson – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to suspend Mr. Donaldson's certificates pending the outcome of the underlying criminal charges.

Dennis R. Thomas – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to remove the matter from the agenda.

Virginia Vertetis – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to revoke Ms. Vertetis' certificates based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and disqualification from public school employment.

Nadine Wright – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to revoke Ms. Wright's certificates based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and disqualification from public school employment.

Jane L. Berkley – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why her certificate(s) should not be suspended based upon the level and nature of the conduct and action against out of state licenses.

Michael P. Ettz – By a vote of 6-0, 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 public school employment.

Gitanjali (Gita) Filippone – By a vote of 6-0, 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 public school employment.

John L. Gastgaber – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and his disqualification from public school employment.

Rhelda Gilchrist – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to seal the record in this matter and to issue an order to show cause as to why her certificate(s) should not be suspended based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Ronald F. Hornish – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and action against out of state licenses.

MD K. Huda - By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and his disqualification from public school employment.

Jill E. Hunt – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to take no action.

Jill S. Kaufmann – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause as to why her certificate(s) should not be suspended based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Maryjo Kindzierski - By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause as to why her certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Daniel H. Lavelle – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct and action against out of state licenses.

Michael D. Leary – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Amiot P. Michel – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to table this matter.

Damacina L. Oke – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause as to why her certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Darryl T. Owens – due to recusals, there was no quorum to address this matter.

Yakik Rumley – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Frank Stout – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to issue an Order to Show Cause as to why his certificates should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Patrick Aiello - By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to vacate the previously issued Order to Show Cause.

James Gardner – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to vacate the suspension in this matter.

Kenyada A. Mitchell - By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to retain the case returned from the Office of Administrative Law.

Laura M. Kane – due to recusals, there was no quorum to address this matter.

Legal Consent List

Ms. Ludman made a motion that the Board adopt the following matters that were on the legal consent list, memorializing the Board's legal decision from a previous meeting, with Ms. Johnson Lafleur seconding the motion. The Board adopted the following orders by a unanimous vote:

Orders to Show Cause

- a. Paul Blass, Jr.
- b. Karen A. Bobb
- c. Donna DeMarco
- d. Dianne E. Ellis
- e. Lesly A. Etheridge
- f. Adam J. Farrington
- g. Francis J. Flood
- h. Lynderia Mansfield
- i. Arthur L. Melton
- j. Dominick F. Novella, Jr.
- k. William C. Posselt
- 1. Kiaya Rickard-Urban
- m. Raymond J. Rotella
- n. Kara V. Salvatoriello

Revocations/Suspensions

- o. Vincent Ajayi-suspend
- p. Meg Geisser-suspend

Other

- q. Margo S. Ardan-block
- r. Brian C. Hicks-block

The matters below were not addressed by the Board because there was no quorum due to the recusals in the below matters.

Matters with Board Member Recusals

- s. Dennis DeMarino-block-Derek Jess recusal
- t. Andrea Giuffrida-adopt with modification OAL Decision-Derek Jess recusal
- u. Kevin M. Jarrett-OSC-Eileen Johnson recusal

None.

New Business

None.

Secretary's Report

None.

Adjournment

Ms. Johnson Lafleur made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Ms. Ludman 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, April 13, 2018 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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