

**State Board of Examiners  
Minutes of Meeting  
200 River View Plaza  
First Floor Conference Room  
Trenton, New Jersey  
April 13, 2018**

**Present:** Dr. Robert Higgins, Secretary  
Assistant Commissioner Robert Bumpus  
Ms. Caroline Jones, Deputy Attorney General  
Dr. Jonathan Dauber  
Dr. Mary Jane McNally  
Ms. Kristen Ludman  
Mr. Derek Jess  
Ms. Eileen Johnson  
Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak

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

Ms. Ludman moved to adopt the minutes of the meeting of March 1, 2018, and Dr. McNally seconded the motion. The minutes were then approved by a unanimous vote, with Ms. Desiderio Orlak abstaining.

**Individual Credentials Review**

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

Kathleen Brach

Joel Branosky  
Jonathan Himmelstein  
Michael Palutis  
Evan Waggoner

The Board had a question for Mr. Branosky regarding his ACT/SAT scores in lieu of basic skills. Koreen Lyder, Kathryn Lemerich, and Danielle Tarsi were 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, with Ms. Desiderio Orlak abstaining.

The candidates in the following cases were present at the March 1, 2018 meeting.

Dr. Heba Abdo	Principal Certificate of Eligibility - The Board denied her application for certification.
Terika Floyd	Principal Certificate of Eligibility - The Board denied her application for certification.
Tammy Lenihan	Teacher of Comprehensive Business Certificate of Eligibility - The Board denied her application for certification.
Howard Weinberg	School Administrator Certificate of Eligibility - The Board denied his application for certification.
Shawn Williams	Teacher of Mathematics - The Board denied his application for certification.

The candidate in the following case was not present at the March 1, 2018 meeting.

Christina Ritchie	Principal Certificate of Eligibility - The Board denied her application for certification.
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### **Legal Committee Report – Part 1**

Due to the potential loss of quorum with a Board member needing to leave the meeting by 11:45 am, the Board addressed the following agenda items:

Colleen McFerren (Hillard) – By a vote of 6-0, with a recusal by Ms. Ludman, 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 revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Laura M. Kane – By a vote of 6-0, with Ms. Johnson recusing, the Board voted to seal the record in this matter, block Ms. Kane’s pending application for certification, and 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.

### **Legal Consent List**

Due to the potential loss of quorum with a Board member needing to leave the meeting by 11:45 am, the Legal Consent List was addressed out of agenda order. 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 Dr. Dauber seconding the motion. The Board adopted the following orders by a unanimous vote, with recusals as noted below:

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

- a. Jane L. Berkley
- b. Michael P. Ettz
- c. Gitanjali (Gita) Fillippone
- d. John L. Gastgaber
- e. Rhelda Gilchrist
- f. Ronald F. Hornish
- g. MD K. Huda
- h. Jill S. Kaufmann
- i. Maryjo Kindzierski
- j. Daniel H. Lavelle
- k. Michael D. Leary
- l. Damacina L. Oke
- m. Yakik Rumley
- n. Frank Stout

#### **Revocations/Suspensions**

- o. Jeffrey D. Deverin-revoke
- p. Leo A. Donaldson-suspend pending
- q. Virginia Vertetis-revoke
- r. Nadine Wright-revoke

#### **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

## Legal Committee Report – Part 2

At 11:09 am, the Board returned to the Legal Committee Report portion of the agenda. There were two hearings scheduled. The first matter was in *The Matter of the Certificates of David M. Browne*. Mr. Browne's counsel appeared and relied upon his submissions.

The next hearing was in *The Matter of the Certificates of Belinda Mendez-Azzolini*. Ms. Mendez-Azzolini appeared with counsel and a hearing was held.

Following the hearings, Dr. Jonathan Dauber 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 Assistant Commissioner Bumpus and carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 11:22 a.m. Mr. Jess left the meeting during executive session at 11:45 am.

The Board returned to the public session at 12:04 p.m. following a motion by Ms. Ludman, seconded by Dr. McNally, 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 reject the proposed consent order in this matter.

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

Joseph Tramontana – Due to loss of quorum, the Board could not hear this matter. Assistant Commissioner Bumpus recused.

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

Steven M. Carter – 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.

David Eidel - 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.

Eric T. Howell – 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.

Nestor A. Saavedra - 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.

Brian R. Budd – the Board did not hear this matter and it was removed from the agenda.

Rochelle Caraway - By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to revoke Ms. Caraway's certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

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

Clinton Ogden – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to revoke Mr. Ogden's certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Frank P. Bennett – By a vote of 4-0, with Ms. Desiderio Orlak and Dr. Dauber abstaining, the Board voted to revoke Mr. Bennett's certificates based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and disqualification from public school employment.

Alex Ramadanis – By a vote of 4-0, with Ms. Desiderio Orlak and Dr. Dauber abstaining, the Board voted to revoke Mr. Ramadanis' certifications certificates based upon the level and nature of the conduct and action against out of state license.

Augustine Ankomah – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to seal the record in this matter and then 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.

Christopher S. Cassese – 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.

Jenny M. Divone – 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.

Robert Dorn – 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.

Rose Farrell – 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 crime.

Donna Haun – 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 and crime and action against out of state licenses.

David L. Hood - 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.

David P. Hyatt – 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 his certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Machli K. Joseph – 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 suspended based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and his disqualification from public school employment.

Kevin A. Moreno - 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.

Daryl Owens – 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 his certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Thomas J. Reddick – 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.

Robert Seda-Schreiber – 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.

James Smith – 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.

Steve Gallon III – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to deny Mr. Gallon’s application for certification after revocation.

Tara P. Disturco – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to take no action to block Ms. Disturco’s application for certification.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

Ms. Zuberger discussed the 2018-2019 Board calendar.

## **Secretary's Report**

None.

## **Adjournment**

Assistant Commissioner Bumpus made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Ms. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

The next scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Thursday, May 24, 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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