

**State Board of Examiners  
Minutes of Meeting  
200 River View Plaza  
First Floor Conference Room  
Trenton, New Jersey  
May 24, 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. Naomi Johnson-Lafleur  
Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak  
Ms. Fidelia Sturdivant

**Absent:** None

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 April 13, 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:

Kimberly Bennett  
Oliver Dobrich  
Michelle Gallagher  
Alexis Hordge  
Michelle Kureger

Benjamin Lieberman  
Kristy McFarlane  
Laura Richards  
Martin Weinstein  
Kimberly Wells

The Board had one question for Ms. Kureger regarding diagnostic tools for reading issues. Mr. Bourcier and Ms. Scott 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 Ms. Desiderio Orlak seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

### **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 Ms. Desiderio Orlak seconded the motion. The candidates in the following cases were present at the April 13, 2018 meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous vote.

Kathleen Brach	School Nurse/Noninstructional - The Board denied her application for certification. However, the Board granted partial credit for six semester-hour credits in school nursing and a course in special education.
Joel Branosky	Teacher of Mathematics Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing - The Board denied his application for certification.
Jonathan Himmelstein	Teacher of Mathematics Certificate of Eligibility - The Board denied his application requesting credit for the course, Econometrics.
Michael Palutis	School Business Administrator Certificate of Eligibility - The Board granted his application for certification.
Evan Waggoner	Teacher of Physical Education Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing - The Board denied his application for certification.

The candidate in the following cases was not present at the April 13, 2018 meeting.

Kathryn Lemerich	School Administrator Certificate of Eligibility - The Board denied her application for certification.
Koreen Lyder	Teacher of English as a Second Language (ESL) – The Board denied her application for certification.
Danielle Tarsi	School Counselor - The Board denied her application for certification. However, the Board grants three graduate semester-hour credits in community agencies, organizations or resources.

### **Legal Committee Report**

There was one hearing scheduled - *The Matter of the Certificates of Glenn Ciripompa*. Mr. Ciripompa appeared with counsel and a hearing was held.

Following the hearings, Dr. 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 Dr. McNally 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 12:05 p.m. following a motion by Ms. Desiderio Orlak and Dr. Dauber, 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:

Adrian McConney - By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to reject the proposed consent order in this matter.

Zachary Naszimento – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to reject the proposed consent order in this matter.

Joseph Tramontana – By a vote of 8-0, with Assistant Commissioner Bumpus recusing, the Board voted to reject the proposed consent order in this matter.

Constance Wiley – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to reject the proposed consent order in this matter and to vacate the Order to Show Cause issued to Ms. Wiley.

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

Annmari Ballentine – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to revoke Ms. Ballentine’s certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and action against her out of state license.

Guy P. Fowler – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to revoke Mr. Fowler’s certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and his disqualification from public school employment.

Gary Gullone – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to vacate the Order to Show Cause issued to Mr. Gullone.

Rolando Laguna – By a vote 8-0, with Assistant Commissioner Bumpus recusing, the Board voted to revoke Mr. Laguna’s certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Christie L. Nicholson – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to revoke Ms. Nicholson’s certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of conduct.

Angelo Romaniello – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to vacate the Order to Show Cause issued to Mr. Romaniello.

Jeffrey P. Zeltt – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to revoke Mr. Zeltt’s certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and action against out of state license.

David M. Browne – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to vacate the Order to Show Cause issued to Mr. Browne.

Belinda Mendez-Azzolini - By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to vacate the Order to Show Cause issued to Ms. Mendez-Azzolini.

Gary J. Minervini – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of his certificate(s) with the force and effect of a revocation.

Patricia Soriano - By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of her certificate(s) with the force and effect of a revocation.

Eugene Cimis – By a vote of 9-0, 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.

Gina Cinotti – By a vote of 9-0, 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.

Richard E. McAllister – By a vote of 9-0, 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.

Marysue Proveaux-Murray – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to take no action.

Pedro P. Rodriguez – By a vote of 9-0, 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.

Neil Samuels – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to seal the record in this matter and to take no action.

Trevor Sanders - By a vote of 9-0, 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.

Darrin Taylor – By a vote of 9-0, 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.

Adam Farrington - By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to reject the voluntary surrender of Mr. Farrington’s certificate(s).

Afzal Shazad - By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to block Mr. Shazad’s application.

Forrest L. Walker – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to block Mr. Walker’s application.

Neicy Della Corte – By a vote of 8-0, with Assistant Commissioner Bumpus recusing, the Board voted to reject the initial decision in this matter and dismiss the Order to Show Cause.

Robert E. Mays – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to retain the matter following Mr. Mays’ failure to appear at the Office of Administrative Law.

## **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 seconding the motion. The Board adopted the following orders by a unanimous vote:

### **Orders to Show Cause**

- a. Augustine Ankomah
- b. Christopher S. Cassese
- c. Jenny M. Divone
- d. Robert Dorn
- e. Rose Farrell
- f. Donna Haun
- g. David L. Hood
- h. David P. Hyatt

- i. Machli K. Joseph
- j. Kevin A. Moreno
- k. Daryl Owens
- l. Thomas J. Reddick
- m. Robert Seda-Schreiber
- n. James Smith

**Revocations/Suspensions**

- o. Frank P. Bennett-revoke
- p. Rochelle Caraway-revoke
- q. Bradley Mea-suspend pending
- r. Clinton Ogden-revoke
- s. Alex Ramadanis-revoke

**Other**

- t. Steve Gallon III-deny certification after revocation

**Matters with Board Member Recusals**

- u. Laura M. Kane – OSC; block – Ms. Ludman made the motion, approved by unanimous vote, with Ms. Johnson recusing.
- v. Colleen MacFerren (Hillard) – OSC – Ms. Johnson Lafluer made the motion, Dr. Dauber seconded and Ms. Ludman recused.

**Old Business**

The Board was provided with a copy of the 2018-2019 meeting calendar.

**New Business**

Ms. Gatti discussed printing agendas, electronic agendas, and related timelines.

**Secretary's Report**

None.

## **Adjournment**

Ms. Johnson Lafleur made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Ms. Desiderio Orlak and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

The next scheduled regular public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on Friday, June 29, 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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