

**State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
200 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
July 30, 2020**

Present: Ms. Aimee Blenner, Deputy Attorney General
Ms. Rani Singh, Secretary
Mr. Derek Jess
Ms. Thelma Ramsey
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
Ms. Suzana Zeitz
Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak
Ms. Kristen Ludman
Ms. Naomi Johnson-Lafleur

Absent: Dr. Jonathan Dauber

DUE TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS AT THE TIME, THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIRTUALLY VIA SKYPE.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Derek Jess, Acting Chairperson, who read the appropriate notice that the meeting complied with the Open Public Meetings Act. He also read notice provisions regarding access to the virtual meeting.

Ms. Ludman moved to adopt the minutes of the meeting of June 26, 2020. Ms. Desiderio Orlak 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:

Neysa Acosta
Edgar Betelu
Karen Hudon Bott
Matthew Butterly
Beth Ann Judge
Danielle Mangini
April Provenzano

The Board had a question for Ms. Karen Hudson Bott and she responded to the question. Applicant Marthe Salomon-Samedy was on the agenda and 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. Ludman seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous roll call vote. The candidates in the following cases were present at the June 26, 2020 meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions:

Angela Blackshear	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant Certificate - The Board denied her application in part and granted it as to completion of orientation in psychological testing requirement.
Rachel Ferguson	Teacher of Elementary Education Certificate of Eligibility– The Board denied her application.
Marie Kawasaki	Teacher of Students with Disabilities Standard Certificate – The Board denied the application.
Jamarious Nickerson	Provisional Renewal Teacher of English Certificate- The Board granted his application.
Samantha Rebimbas	Teacher of Dance Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied her application.
Allison Soulias	Teacher of Preschool Through Third Grade Certificate - The Board denied her application.
Vaughn Stanley	Teacher of Computer Science Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted his application.
Sean Truesdell	Teacher of Health and Physical Education Certificate - The Board denied his application.

Ms. Desiderio Orlak moved to adopt the decision in the matter of Dr. Christine Lopez, and with Ms. Ludman seconded, and with Dr. McNally recusing, the matter was adopted by unanimous vote.

Dr. Christine Lopez	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant – The Board denied her application.
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Dr. McNally moved to adopt the decision in the matter of Bridge Balunis, who did not appear at the June 26, 2020 meeting. With Ms. Desiderio Orlak seconding, the matter was adopted by unanimous vote.

Bridget Balunis

Standard Elementary Teaching Certificate – The Board denied her application.

Legal Committee Report

There were no hearings on the agenda.

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 10:49 am.

The Board returned to the public session following a motion by Ms. Ludman, seconded by Dr. McNally and carried by a unanimous vote. The Board returned to the public portion of the meeting at 11:01 am.

The Board then took the following action with regarding items on the agenda:

Seth Knoll – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to accept the proposed consent order in this matter.

Robert C. Asch – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to revoke Mr. Asch’s certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the underlying conduct and crime and disqualification from public school employment.

Stevan A. Austino - By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to revoke Mr. Austino’s certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime as well as disqualification from public school employment.

Kimberly A. Bargiel – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to revoke Ms. Bargiel’s certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime as well as disqualification from public school employment.

Staci A. Laubauskas – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to revoke Ms. Laubauskas’ certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and disqualification from public school employment.

Velita Smith – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to revoke Ms. Smith’s certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the conduct and action against out of state license(s).

Pasquale J. Antonelli - By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment with the force and effect of revocation.

Alexandra Reiner - By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment with the force and effect of revocation.

John Podesta - 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 upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Victoria E. Sterling-Scales – 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 upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and disqualification from public school employment.

Lizandra I. Rios – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to adopt the initial decision in this matter.

Elizabeth Sheehy – By a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to adopt the factual findings from the Initial Decision from the Office of Administrative Law, finding unbecoming conduct and modifying the penalty to a one (1) year suspension.

Legal Consent List

Ms. Ludman then made a motion to adopt items a-y on the consent list below. Ms. Johnson-LaFleur seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Orders to Show Cause

- a. Hannah E. Burton
- b. Vincent Cinquina
- c. Christopher Faley
- d. Christopher Kastner
- e. Jennifer Newbern
- f. Nancey A. Nikiperowicz
- g. Kimberely Peschi

Revocations/Suspensions

- h. Stephanie A. Carafa – suspension pending
- i. Thomas Dame – revocation
- j. Adam J. Farrington – revocation
- k. Brian D. Fogelson – revocation
- l. Matthew Goetke – revocation
- m. Anthony V. Iorio – revocation
- n. Mark A. Kinney – suspension pending
- o. Bradley E. Mea – revocation
- p. Donna M. Moll – revocation
- q. Jonathan A. Moll – revocation
- r. Vanessa Morrison – revocation

- s. Elizabeth Pearce – revocation
- t. Reynald Perry – revocation
- u. Joshua L. Rosenbaum – revocation
- v. David E. Troiano – revocation

Other

- w. Michael Conway – block
- x. Andrea Giuffrida – vacate and remand
- y. Karen B. Gruen – adopt OAL decision dismissal

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Secretary’s Report

None.

Adjournment

Ms. Ludman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Ms. Zeitz and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 am.

The next scheduled regular public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on September 18, 2020 either in the first-floor conference room, 200 River View Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey or virtually via Skype.

Minutes prepared by Kimberly A. Gatti

Minutes certified by Rani Singh, Secretary