

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

ANGELICA ALLEN-MCMILLAN, Ed.D. Acting Commissioner

State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting
200 River View Plaza
First Floor Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey
April 1, 2021

**Present:** Ms. Aimee Blenner, Deputy Attorney General

Laurie Fichera, Deputy Attorney General

Ms. Thelma Ramsey
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak
Mr. Abdul Saleem Hasan
Ms. Melissa Pearce
Ms. Kristen Ludman

Ms. Rani Singh, Secretary

**Absent:** Mr. Derek Jess

Dr. Jonathan Dauber Ms. Suzana Zeitz

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

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak, Acting Chairperson, who read the appropriate notice that the meeting complied with the Open Public Meetings Act. She also read notice provisions regarding access to the virtual meeting.

Dr. McNally moved to adopt the minutes of the meeting of February 26, 2021. Ms. Ludman 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:

Samuel Casqueira

Barbara Fanik Shakema Geer Christopher Rodia Amanda Soll Sora H. Zucker

The Board had no questions for any of the present candidates. Mr. Casqueira made a statement regarding his eligibility for the GPA flexibility. An individual identified as Ms. Geer's mother spoke on her behalf regarding her writing abilities.

Dennis Hall and Cosar Taalu were not present, and the Board did not have a question for them.

#### **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 February 26, 2021 meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions:

Joseph Bruno IV Renewal of Provisional Certificate Teacher of

Elementary Grades K-6 - The Board denied his

application.

Denise Kline Preschool through Third Grade Certificate of

Eligibility – The Board denied her application.

Michael Kornegay Social Studies Certificate of Eligibility and an

accompanying Teacher of Students with Disabilities Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied his

applications.

Dr. McNally made a motion to adopt the decision in the following matter on the credentials review consent list, and Ms. Ludman seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following decision by a unanimous roll call vote. The candidate in the following case was not present at the February 26, 2021 meeting. The Board adopted the following decision:

Yeon Lang Cha Elementary Grades K-6 Certificate of Eligibility –

The Board denied her application.

The Board then entertained comment from members of the public. Specifically, Ms. Lesley Etheridge requested to comment on the matter pending before the Board regarding revocation of her educator certificates. At 10:59 am, Ms. Etheridge made a statement to the Board. Her statement concluded at 11:08 am.

Jillian and Magaly Milton made a statement to the Board regarding a matter previously decided by the Board.

### **Legal Committee Report**

There were two (2) hearings on the agenda. The first one, *IMO Certificates of Acey Moseley*, was postponed as Mr. Moseley's niece appeared on the virtual meeting indicating that he had passed away.

The second hearing, *IMO the Certificates of Kimberley Peschi*. Ms. Peschi appeared with her legal counsel. Both Ms. Peschi and her counsel made statements to the Board.

Ms. Ludman then 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 11:33 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 11:52 am.

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

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

Melissa A. Fitzpatrick – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to revoke Ms. Fitzpatrick's certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the underlying conduct.

Bradley Sakevich – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to revoke Mr. Sakevich's certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the underlying conduct and action against out of state certificate(s).

Major M. Smith III – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to revoke Mr. Smith's certificate(s) based upon the level and nature of the underlying conduct and crime and disqualification from public school employment.

Sean M. DiGiovanna - By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment with the force and effect of revocation.

Nicole DuFault – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment with the force and effect of revocation.

Taylor Kemp – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment with the force and effect of revocation.

Jean N. Allen - By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why her certificate(s) should not revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime.

Ernesto Austin – 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.

Lora M. Cimiluca – 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 revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Rayna Culver - 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 disqualification from public school employment.

Michael T. Davis - 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 revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct.

Edward Grasso - 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 license(s).

Cindy Jimenez – 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.

Scott Levy – 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.

Keyan Ostad-Hashemi – 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.

George T. Pantos - 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 disqualification from public school employment.

Jake Pantos - 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 disqualification from public school employment.

Valorie B. Sanders - 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 license(s).

Jennifer N. Tubens - 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.

Joel Vargas-Muniz - 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.

Debbie Milordo – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to block the application.

Alexander Smith – By a vote of 6-0, the Board vote to take no action to block the application.

Shawn D. Cier – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to dismiss the second order to show cause as moot.

Keilan J. Scott – By a vote of 6-0, the Board voted to retain the case from the Office of Administrative Law.

### **Legal Consent List**

Ms. Ludman then made a motion to adopt items a-q on the consent list below, removing item r from the agenda due to recusals and associated lack of quorum. Ms. Pearce seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

# **Orders to Show Cause**

- a. Mariann C. Balmann
- b. Tarley Cooper
- c. Nicholas Dotoli
- d. Todd Foster
- e. Steven P. Lourenco
- f. William J. Mattison
- g. Nicole Oates (Diodato)
- h. Amada Sanjuan
- i. Bill Winters

# **Revocations/Suspensions**

- j. David Broach revocation
- k. Garret J. Cunningham revocation
- 1. Lesley Etheridge revocation
- m. Amy F. Garcia revocation
- n. Davina M. Levari revocation
- o. Jennifer Newbern suspension
- p. Dawn Norcross revocation

q. Amanda R. Richardson – revocation

## **Other**

r. Rodney Beaver – revocation (T. Ramsey and A. Hasan recuse)

#### **Old Business**

None.

#### **New Business**

The Board entered a resolution honoring the work of Deputy Attorney General Aimee Blenner Rosseau.

### Secretary's Report

None.

### Adjournment

Ms. Ludman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Ms. Ramsey and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 pm.

The next scheduled regular public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on May 13, 2021 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