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Governor

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State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PO Box 500
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

KEVIN DEHMER
Acting Commissioner

**STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
MINUTES OF MEETING
VIRTUALLY VIA MS TEAMS
January 16, 2025**

Present: Dr. Jorden Schiff
Ms. Gargi Adhikari
Mr. Robert Ford
Mr. Derek Jess
Ms. Kristen Ludman
Ms. Michelle McGreivey
Ms. Melissa Pearce
Mr. Kevin Pfister
Dr. Thelma Ramsey
Dr. Carmela Somershoe

Absent: Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak
Rani Singh, Secretary

Others: Ryan Silver, Deputy Attorney General
Laurie Fichera, Coordinator, State Board of Examiners

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIRTUALLY VIA MS TEAMS.

This meeting was duly noticed pursuant to the requirements of law. In compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-10a, the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was given by way of notice filed with the Secretary of State, and publication in Trenton Times and Star Ledger in New Jersey. Notice of the virtual access information was provided online on the Department's website, via a memorandum to the Secretary of State and several other individuals and entities, and is available at the physical conference room where the meeting has been conducted prior to the public health crisis.

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

Ms. Laurie Fichera took roll call and determined there was a quorum for the meeting.

Ms. Melissa Pearce moved to adopt the minutes of the December 6, 2024, meeting (Regular and Executive Session). Ms. Kristen Ludman seconded the motion. The minutes were then approved by a vote of 10-0.

Individual Credentials Review Presentations

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

Michael Carlin
Flavia Gray
Jennifer Rosh
Shona Wright

The following applicant did not attend the January 16, 2025 meeting. The board did not have any questions for her.

Faith Popowich

Credentials Review Consent List

Mr. Robert Ford made a motion to adopt the decisions in items “a” through “d” on the credentials review consent list, for candidates who were present and not present at the December 6, 2024, meeting, and Ms. Pearce seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by a vote of 10-0.

The candidates in the following cases were present at the December 6, 2024, meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions:

Katherine Baker	Teacher of Health and Physical Education Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied the certificate.
William A. Dawson	Teacher of Audio, Visual Broadcast Production Technology Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted the certificate.
Georgios Georgoulas	Teacher of Student with Disabilities standard certificate - The Board denied the certificate.

The candidate in the following case was not present at the December 6, 2024, meeting. The Board adopted the following decision:

Kimberly Lopes	Reading Specialist certificate – The Board granted the certificate.
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Legal Committee Report

There were no hearings on the agenda.

Ms. Ludman made a motion to go into the executive session to receive legal advice regarding matters on the Legal Consent Order portion of the agenda, which was duly seconded by Ms. Gargi Adhikari and carried by a vote of 10-0. The Board went into closed session at 10:43 am.

The Board returned to the public session following a motion by Ms. Ludman, seconded by Ms. Pearce and carried by a vote of 9-0. The Board returned to the public portion of the meeting at 11:29 a.m. Mr. Derek Jess did not return to the meeting following executive session.

On return to the public meeting, Dr. Schiff turned the meeting over to Ms. Ludman to continue the Legal committee report.

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

David Aufiero - By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to accept the proposed consent order in this matter.

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

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

Dana Sermabekian – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to accept the proposed consent order in this matter.

Rafael Dossantos-Rocha – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted given that no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher, the appropriate response and penalty is revocation.

Christopher Miller – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted given that no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of conduct and crime is unbecoming of a teacher, and due to being disqualified for employment with any institution under the supervision of the Department of Education, the appropriate response and penalty is revocation.

Joshua DeSantis – 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 conduct.

Samuel Harrison – 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 suspended based on level and nature of conduct.

Richie Lopez – 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 level and nature of conduct.

Jill C. (Persson) Myers – 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 level and nature of conduct.

Kathleen Shiobhan Clyne – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to block the application for certification.

Andrea Diaz-Chaparro – By a vote of 8-0, with Ms. Melissa Pearce being recused, the Board voted to adopt the initial decision from the Office of Administrative Law in this matter.

Steven McCartney – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to block the application for certification.

Legal Consent List

Ms. Ludman made a motion to adopt items “a” through “m” excluding item “f” on the legal consent list below. Ms Pearce seconded, and the motion passed by a vote of 9-0.

Ms. Ludman then made a motion to adopt item “f” on the legal consent list below. Ms. Adhikari seconded, and the motion passed by a vote of 8-0, with the recusal of Ms. Pearce.

Orders to Show Cause

- a. Keith Allen
- b. Dylan Baubles
- c. Louis G. Cambria
- d. Emily P. Chang
- e. Erin Gawronski

Revocations/Suspensions

- f. Harry Guerriere - revocation
- g. Lorraine Land – revocation
- h. Luke Maginnis - suspension
- i. Raymond Morison – revocation

Other

- j. Rochelle Caraway – deny application for certification after revocation
- k. Cassie (Glazer) Finley – block application
- l. Douglas Petty – accept return and reject dismissal
- m. Tamara Reyes – deny application for certification after revocation

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. Pearce and the motion carried by a unanimous vote of 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on February 28, 2025, either in the first-floor conference room, 100 River View Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey, or virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Minutes prepared by Laurie Fichera
Minutes certified by Rani Singh, Secretary