



MIKIE SHERRILL
Governor

DR. DALE G. CALDWELL
Lt. Governor

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

DR. LILY LAUX
Commissioner

**STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING
VIRTUALLY VIA MS TEAMS
April 17, 2026**

Present: Mr. Ambrose Duckett
Ms. Gargi Adhikari
Mr. Robert Ford
Mr. Derek Jess
Ms. Michelle McGreivey
Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak
Ms. Melissa Pearce
Mr. Kevin Pfister
Dr. Thelma Ramsey

Absent: Dr. Carmela Somershoe
Rani Singh, Secretary

Others: Ryan Silver, Deputy Attorney General
Laurie Fichera, Coordinator, State Board of Examiners
Debra Perez, Credentials Review 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 several digital editions of newspapers and posting at the Department of Education. Notice of virtual access information was provided online on the Department of Education's Public Notice webpage, on the State Board of Examiners' website and via a public notice weblink on the Secretary of State's Statewide Legal Notices Listings webpage.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Ambrose Duckett, 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, Coordinator, State Board of Examiners, took roll call and determined there was a quorum for the meeting.

Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak moved to adopt the minutes of the March 6, 2026 meeting (Regular and Executive Sessions) and Dr. Thelma Ramsey seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a vote of 9-0.

Individual Credentials Review Presentations

The following applicants attended the April 17, 2026, meeting to respond to any questions from the Board regarding their applications:

Kelly M. (Warren) Gibbs (Seth Kennedy, Esq.)
Paige Harrison (Seth Kennedy, Esq.)
Chris Hernandez
Stacey Salvia
Terese Taylor

The following applicants did not attend the April 17, 2026, meeting:

Mohammed Farid
Erick Loften- Harris
Liana Lichter
Anthony McGuane
Jeremy Watson

Credentials Review Consent List

Ms. Orlak made a motion to adopt the decisions in items “a” through “d” on the credentials review consent list, for the candidates who was present at the March 6, 2026, meeting, and Dr. Ramsey seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by a vote of 9-0.

The candidates in the following cases were present at the March 6, 2026 meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions:

Matthew Cecere	Application for a Standard Supervisor Certificate – The Board denied the certificate.
Paola Machin	Application for a Teacher of English as a second Language Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing – The Board granted the certificate.

Michael McKeen	Application for a Teacher of Business: Comprehensive Business Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied the certificate.
Gargi Thakur	Application for a Teacher of Business: Comprehensive Business Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied the certificate.

The candidates in the following cases were not present at the March 6, 2026, meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions:

None.

Legal Committee Report

There were no hearings.

Dr. Ramsey 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 Mr. Robert Ford and carried by a vote of 9-0. The Board went into closed session at 10:53 am. The Board returned to the public portion of the meeting at 12:00 pm.

Mr. Ford made a motion to return to public session, and Ms. Melissa Pearce seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by a vote of 9-0.

On return to the public meeting, Mr. Duckett then turned the meeting over to Ms. Pearce to continue the Legal Committee report.

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

Chelsea Combs, Docket No. 2324-142 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to reject the proposed consent order in this matter.

Kelly R. Pritchett Docket No. 2425-187 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted given that no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of the conduct is not unbecoming a teacher, the appropriate response is to dismiss the order to show cause.

Andrew Wepner, Docket No. 2223-112 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted given that no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of the conduct is unbecoming a teacher, the appropriate response and penalty is revocation.

Richard S. Jacoby, Docket No.2425-185 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted given that no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of the conduct is unbecoming a teacher, the appropriate response and penalty is revocation.

Muhammad Wilkerson, Docket No. 2425-121 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted given that no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of the conduct is unbecoming a teacher, the appropriate response and penalty is revocation.

Christina Glen, Docket No. 2425- 134 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to accept the return of the matter from Office of Administrative Law.

Christina Glen, Docket No. 2425- 134 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to reject the dismissal of the order to show cause.

David E. Staggers, Docket No. 2223-151 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to adopt the initial decision from the Office of Administrative Law.

Racquel A. Caramucci (Galietti), Docket No. 2526-200 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct and crime is unbecoming a teacher and they are disqualified from employment with any institution under the supervision of the Department of Education.

Amir Doctry, Docket No. 2526-176 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

James Curtis Geist, Docket No. 2324-166 – By a vote of 8-0, with Ms. Orlak abstaining, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

Rachel J. (Prendeville Gray), Docket No. 2526-172 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

Sharon Manupello, Docket No. 2526-186 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to seal the record in the matter.

Sharon Manupello, Docket No. 2526-186– By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

Erin Myers, Docket No. 2526-184 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

Jessica Nolan, Docket No. 2526-187 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to seal the record in the matter.

Jessica Nolan, Docket No. 2526-187 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

William Callan, Docket No. 2526-173 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to block the application.

Kenneth Lutz, Docket No. 2324-155 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to withdraw the order to show cause for suspension pending the resolution of the underlying criminal proceeding.

Kenneth Lutz, Docket No. 2324-155 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation based on conduct that is unbecoming a teacher.

Isaias Garza, Docket No. 1819-150 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to withdraw the order to show cause for suspension pending the resolution of the underlying criminal proceeding.

Isaias Garza, Docket No. 1819-150– By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation based on conduct and crime and disqualification from employment with any institution under the supervision of the Department of Education.

James P. Welles, Docket No. 2526-191 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of licenses with the same force and conditions as a revocation.

Luke Samuel Zottoli, Docket No. 2425-217 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to block the application.

Matthew Nagie, Docket No. 2526-202 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to block the application.

James Stroebel, Docket No. 2526-204 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to block the application.

Christina M. Salcedo, Docket No. 2526-162 – By a vote of 9-0, the Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of license.

Legal Consent List

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

Orders to Show Cause

- a. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-173 William Callan

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| b. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-182 | Robert H. Conrad |
| c. Agency Dkt. No. 2324-116 | Christina Martinez |
| d. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-183 | Michael J. McCue |
| e. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-150 | Kristin (Salmon) McNamara |

Revocations/Suspensions

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| f. Agency Dkt. No. 2324-174 | Christopher Hillman – Revocation |
| g. Agency Dkt. No. 2425-114 | Dylan Baubles - Revocation |

Other

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| h. Agency Dkt. No. 2425-133 | Renata Alford – Dismissal |
| i. Agency Dkt. No. 2425-115 | Brittany (Savage) Werner – Dismissal |

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Secretary’s Report

None.

Adjournment

Dr. Ramsey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Ms. Gargi Adhikari and the motion carried by a unanimous vote of 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.

The next regularly scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on May 21, 2026.

Minutes prepared by Laurie Fichera