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Governor

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State of New Jersey  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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Commissioner

**STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS  
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING  
VIRTUALLY VIA MS TEAMS  
August 7, 2026**

**Present:** Mr. Ambrose Duckett  
Ms. Gargi Adhikari  
Ms. Michelle McGreivey  
Ms. Melissa Pearce  
Mr. Kevin Pfister

**Absent:** Mr. Robert Ford  
Mr. Derek Jess  
Dr. Thelma Ramsey

**Others:** Kimberly A. Gatti, Acting Secretary  
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. Kimberly A. Gatti, Acting Secretary, State Board of Examiners, took roll call and determined there was a quorum for the meeting.

Mr. Duckett entertained the motion to adopt the minutes of the June 25, 2026, meeting (Regular and Executive Sessions), Mr. Kevin Pfister made the motion and Ms. Melissa Pearce seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a vote of 5-0.

### **Individual Credentials Review Presentations**

The following applicants attended the August 7, 2026, meeting to respond to any questions from the Board regarding their applications:

Muhammed U. Arshad  
Rachel Fieldman  
Kristin Harrison  
Stephanie Lott  
Michael Joseph Marquis  
Kimberly Munroe.  
Ifra Rashid  
Donna Raskin  
Chiana Rodriquez  
Mauricio Leonardo Santos  
Nicholas Shirley

The following applicants did not attend the August 7, 2026, meeting:

None

### **Credentials Review Consent List**

Mr. Pfister made a motion to adopt the decisions in items “a” through “h” on the credentials review consent list, for the candidates who was present at the June 25, 2026, meeting, and Ms. Michelle McGreivey seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Pfister made a motion to adopt the decisions in items “i” through “j” on the credentials review consent list, for the candidates who were not present at the June 25, 2026, meeting, and Ms. McGreivey seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5-0.

The candidates in the following cases were present at the June 25, 2026, meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions:

|               |                                                                                                                           |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Luz Baldwin   | Application for a Teacher of Spanish Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted the certificate.                      |
| Colleen Dancy | Application for an Elementary School Teacher in Grades K-6 Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied the certificate. |

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Regina Marie Femminella | Application for a Standard Middle School with Subject-Matter Specialization: Other World Languages in Grades 5-8 certificate – The Board granted the certificate. |
| Toby Robert Hague       | Application for a Teacher of Health and Physical Education Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied the certificates.                                        |
| Melissa Lynn Harris     | Application for a Teacher of Art Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted the certificate.                                                                  |
| Donald Gary McDermott   | Application for a Standard Elementary School Teacher in Grades K-6 – The Board granted the certificates.                                                          |
| Elizabeth Moliterno     | Application for a Standard Teacher of Social Studies certificate – The Board denied the certificate.                                                              |
| Michael Wong            | Application for a School Teacher of Computer Science certificate – The Board granted the certificate.                                                             |

The candidates in the following cases were not present at the June 25, 2026, meeting.  
The Board adopted the following decisions:

|                         |                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Timothy J. Masterson    | Application for a Teacher of English Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied the certificate.   |
| Jennifer Marie Perrotta | Application for Teacher of Psychology Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted the certificate. |

### **Legal Committee Report**

The Board heard one hearing, in the Matter of the Certificates of Elora Sarkar, Docket Number 2526-166. Ms. Sarkar appeared and provided testimony to the Board. The Board also heard from three character witnesses: Farhan Shahid, Maliha Mohiuddin and Daiyan Satter.

Ms. Pearce 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. Pfister and carried by a vote of 5-0. The Board went into closed session at 11:02 am. The Board returned to the public portion of the meeting at 12:02 pm.

Mr. Pfister made a motion to return to public session, and Ms. Gargi Adhikari seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5-0.

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:

William Bolle, Docket No. 2425-212 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to reject the terms and conditions of the proposed consent order in this matter.

Christine (Traino) D’Avanzo, Docket No.2425-171 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to reject the terms and conditions of the proposed consent order in this matter.

Gregory R. Hans, Docket No. 2526-113 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the terms and conditions of the proposed consent order in this matter.

Tammy Marie Hileman, Docket No. 2425-181 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the terms and conditions of the proposed consent order in this matter.

Alexis N. Meister, Docket No. 295-9/25 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to reject the terms and conditions of the proposed consent order in this matter.

Vincent Paragano, Docket No. 330-9/25 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the terms and conditions of the proposed consent order in this matter.

Joshua Rosenbaum, Docket No. 1819-237 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to reject the terms and conditions of the proposed consent order in this matter.

Kristen L. Severino, Docket No. 2425-191 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the terms and conditions of the proposed consent order in this matter.

Pamela Thomas Docket No.2425-182 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to reject the terms and conditions of the proposed consent order in this matter.

By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to transmit items” L” through “R” on the legal committee report to the Office of Administrative Law.

By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to retain for hearing before the Board items “S” through “T” on the legal committee report .

Jeffrey T. Bauer, Docket No.2425-311 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted given that no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of the conduct and crime is unbecoming a teacher and they are disqualified from employment with any institution under the supervision of the Department of Education and action has been taken on out of state licenses, the appropriate response and penalty is Revocation.

Deandra L. Brown-Palmer, Docket No. 2526-146 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted given that no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of the conduct and crime is unbecoming a teacher and they are disqualified from employment with any institution under the supervision of the Department of Education, the appropriate response and penalty is Revocation.

Paul Pena, Docket No. 2324-186 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to adopt the findings of unbecoming conduct but modify the penalty to a one year suspension.

Justin F. Avitable, Docket No. 2526-239 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

Lena Bilotti, Docket No. 2526-213 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to seal the record in the matter.

Lena Bilotti, Docket No. 2526-213 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

Danielle V. (Ingraham) Bond, Docket No. 2526-237 – By a vote of 5-0, 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.

Sharon Dunlap Docket No. 2526-193 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

Amanda Gutchigian, Docket No. 2526-241 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

Dana H. Stefura, Docket No. 2526-240 – By a vote of 5-0, 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.

Melissa Monestime, Docket No. 2425-312 – By a vote of 5-0, 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 a suspension of one year.

Delma (Pozo) Rose, Docket No. 2526-169 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted given no material facts are in dispute, and the Board finds no unbecoming conduct, the appropriate response is to dismiss the order to show cause.

Akhere Akhuemokhan, Docket No. 2526-221 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to block the application.

Rahmeek Jerme Pacheco, Docket No. 2526-242 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to table the application.

Eric Larson, Docket No. 0708-141 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to grant the ability to apply for certification after revocation.

Darius A. Teel, Docket No. 1718-155 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to deny the ability to apply for certification after revocation.

Joseph S. Davicsin, Docket No. 2526-189 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of licenses with the same force and conditions as a revocation.

Joseph H. Gogulski, Docket No. 2526-160 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of licenses with the same force and conditions as a revocation.

Paul Yang, Docket No. 2526-206 – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of licenses with the same force and conditions as a revocation.

## **Legal Consent List**

Ms. Pearce made a motion to adopt items “A” through “Q” on the legal consent list below. Ms. Adhikari seconded, and the motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

### **Orders to Show Cause**

|                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| a. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-216 | Alaric Chuy         |
| b. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-229 | Michael Hamilton    |
| c. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-225 | Alexandia Newton    |
| d. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-215 | Louis R. Sobo       |
| e. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-195 | Yuri Urrutia        |
| f. Agency Dkt. No. 2425-306 | Andrew D. Walker    |
| g. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-228 | Jack Wilder         |
| h. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-174 | Luke Samuel Zottoli |

### **Revocations/Suspensions**

|                             |                                    |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| i. Agency Dkt. No. 2425-158 | Thomas Carraher – Revocation       |
| j. Agency Dkt. No. 2425-226 | Rebecca E. Coddington – Revocation |
| k. Agency Dkt. No. 2425-227 | Anselmo Girimonte – Revocation     |

- l. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-124
- m. Agency Dkt. No. 2425-314
- n. Agency Dkt. No. 2425-198
- o. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-124

Debra Lasher – Suspension  
Jason Manzella – Revocation  
Jancarlos Santos – Revocation  
Debra Lasher – Suspension

### **Other**

- p. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-231
- q. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-232

Nicole R. White – Block  
Kristopher B. Wright – Block

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Secretary's Report**

None.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Pearce made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Ms. Adhikari and the motion carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 pm.

The next regularly scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on September 18, 2026.

Minutes prepared by Laurie Fichera

Minutes certified by Acting Secretary of the Board, Kimberly A. Gatti.