

State Board of Examiners
Minutes of Meeting

June 19, 1997

Attending: Dr. Barbara Anderson, Chairperson
Ms. Ida B. Graham, Secretary
Ms. Arlene Lutz, Deputy Attorney General
Dr. Thomas Niland, Acting Chairperson, Legal Committee
Dr. Arnold Speert, Chairperson, Credentials Review Committee
Mr. James Gay
Dr. Vito Germinario
Dr. Elspeth Goodin
Dr. Mary Jean Guidette
Mr. Frank Hicks
Mr. Peter Tirri
Ms. Joyce Vereen

Absent: Dr. Ruthie Green Brown
Mr. Richard Malanowski

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Barbara Anderson, Chairperson.

The minutes of the May 15, 1997 meeting were approved and adopted.

Individual Credentials Review - Presentation

The following individuals attended the meeting, made brief presentations and answered questions from the Board regarding their experiences:

Douglas J. Bolton - School Administrator and Principal Certificate of Eligibility.

Mary Ellen Koebel - Elementary School Teacher; Teacher of Music
Ms. Koebel was accompanied by Ms. Kathleen Kelly, former Board of Trustees member of the Essex Youth Theater, Inc. in Montclair, NJ

Kristen Schmidt - Student Personnel Services

Herman White - Speech-language Specialist

Credentials Review Committee Report

The Credentials Review Committee reviewed all credentials review cases and presented its recommendations to the Board. The Board took the following actions:

Richard Detofsky - School Social Worker. Unanimously granted.

Paula Gallagher - Substance Awareness Coordinator. Unanimously denied. Partial credit was awarded for post-baccalaureate study in fundamentals of drug and alcohol abuse and dependency and coordination of prevention program services in school and family setting.

Helena Hopenwasser - Student Personnel Services. Unanimously granted.

Carol Kerr - Speech-language Specialist. Unanimously granted.

Karen Rosenberg - Speech-language Specialist. Unanimously granted.

Deborah Zakarian - Speech-language Specialist. Unanimously denied.

Legal Committee Report

The Legal Committee reviewed all legal cases and presented its recommendations to the Board. The Board took the following actions:

Order to Show Cause

Jerry Corrado
Correen Eustice
Terrence K. Keller
Michael Trzaska

Revoke

Cynthia Johnson-Bradley
David Uman

In the matter of **John R. Hickman, Jr.**, the Board unanimously voted to advise Mr. Hickman that he must provide official documentation delineating the 1991 charges and conviction for making terroristic threats to include the police record and the Judgment of Conviction.

In the matter of **Andrew Morgan**, the Board unanimously voted not to block issuance of a county substitute license. The Board also voted to forward a letter to Mr. Morgan advising him that he will need to get a letter of qualification from the Office of Criminal History Review (OCHR) for purposes of employment. He should also be aware that the OCHR uses a higher

standard of review than the State Board of Examiners. Should he be unsuccessful in obtaining a letter of qualification, the State Board of Examiners will take action to revoke his licenses.

In the matter of **Kenneth Pitter**, the Board unanimously voted to table the matter and seek assistance from the Office of Criminal History Review in determining the meaning of the term “taking indecent liberties with children” under the North Carolina criminal statute.

The Board voted to take no action to suspend, revoke or block licenses to the following individuals:

Gregory Amundsen	Gregory Killian
Michael Colucci	Frank Petrone
Milan W. Douglas	Mary Roberts
Jan Fine	Emmet M. Robinson
Shari Groder	Flora Turner-Rucker
Eliesse Guardiola	John Spear

Mr. Peter Tirri raised questions regarding the investigative report for Mr. Corrado which included a significant amount of information concerning Correen Eustice. Secretary Ida Graham agreed that some of the content appeared not to be pertinent to Mr. Corrado but felt that the investigator showed the nexus between the two cases by including the material. Furthermore, when documents and materials are received, they are presented to the Board just as they are received.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 11:22 A.M. to obtain legal advise and concluded the session at 11:50 A.M.

Dr. Niland made a motion to accept the proposed settlement in the matter of Beverly Ann Grier. The motion was seconded by Dr. Speert and the Board unanimously voted to accept the settlement proposal. The terms of the settlement include suspension of Ms. Grier’s certificates between July 1997 and September 1, 1998. Ms. Grier may not use her certificates for any position in the state of New Jersey that requires certification during the period that her certificates are suspended. As a condition precedent to reinstatement of Ms. Grier’s certificates, Ms. Grier must present to the State Board of Examiners a certification from a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist indicating that she has completed a qualified substance abuse counseling or rehabilitation program and met all requirements for satisfactory completion thereof. If no such certification is presented, Ms. Grier certificates will not be reinstated by the State Board of Examiners.

Dr. Niland also made a motion to advise the attorneys for both Robert Crawford and Christopher Ilconich that a further investigation will be conducted in the matters of their conduct based upon their response to the Orders to Show Cause and for the Board to continue to block issuance of additional licenses to them at this time. Dr. Speert seconded the motion and the Board unanimously accepted the motion.

Secretary Ida Graham extended apologies to the Board on behalf of Assistant Commissioner Ellen Schechter who was unable to attend the June 19th meeting. Ms. Graham further advised that Assistant Commissioner Schechter plans to attend the September 1997

meeting to discuss the Continuing Education proposal. Ms. Graham also advised the Board that Dr. Ruthie Green-Brown will no longer serve as principal but has accepted an administrative position in the Camden School district for the 97-98 school year. Dr. Green-Brown will be submitting her resignation from the Board.

Secretary Graham updated the Board on the Margaret DeLuca legal case. It appears that Ms. DeLuca continues to present fraudulent licenses for purposes of employment.

Kit Hughes Kim, Esquire, advised the Board that all documentation reviewed by the State Board of Examiners is now forwarded to the Division of Pensions when they are notified that an individual's license has been revoked or suspended. Division of Pensions personnel have indicated that the documentation is most helpful when they are determining pension eligibility.

The following cases should be retained by Board members for future reference:

Douglas J. Bolton
Jerry Corrado
Correen Eustice
John R. Hickman, Jr.
Terrence K. Keller

Mary Ellen Koebel
Kenneth Pitter
Kristen Schmidt
Michael Trzaska
Herman White

The next meeting of the board is scheduled to be held September 25, 1997 at 100 Riverview Plaza, first floor conference room, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0500.

IBG:EAH:br:6-19-97minutes