State Board of Examiners Minutes of Meeting

February 24, 2000

Attending: Assistant Commissioner Ellen Schechter, Chairperson

Ms. Ida B. Graham, Secretary

Ms. Arlene Lutz, Deputy Attorney General

Dr. Vito Germinario, Chairperson, Legal Committee

Dr. Elspeth Goodin, Chairperson, Credentials Review Committee

Ms. Ida Bilbow Dr. Donald Farish Ms. Joanne Gales Mr. James Gay

Dr. Mary Jean Guidette Dr. Richard Malanowski

Mr. Peter Tirri

Absent: Dr. Ronald Applbaum

Dr. Robert Petix Ms. Deidre Walker

The meeting was called to order by Assistant Commissioner Ellen Schechter, Chairperson. Deputy Attorney General Michael Walters, who will be advising the State Board of Examiners, was introduced to the Board.

The minutes of the November 4, 1999 meeting were approved and adopted. Dr. Elspeth Goodin abstained from the vote.

Individual Credentials Review - Presentation

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

Faith B. Fisher – Supervisor

Robert G. Klinck – School Administrator and Principal Certificates of Eligibility

Margo J. Pisack – School Nurse

Lenore S. Powell – School Psychologist

Gloria Velebir – Teacher of the Handicapped

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:

Jan E. Geary – Speech-language Specialist – Granted Megan MacMullin – School Social Worker - Granted

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

Peter Bellomo – Drug conviction. Permanent disqualification from public school employment by the Office of Criminal History Review.

Robert H. Bolmer – Convicted on charges of sodomy with a juvenile and debauching and impairing the morals of a minor.

Sandra Joyner – Proven tenure changes for chronic and excessive absenteeism, unbecoming conduct and abandonment of position.

Rossie Kearson – Convicted on charges of theft by deception. Permanently disqualified from public school employment by the Office of Criminal History Review.

Daniel Lynn – Convicted on charges of sexual assault, criminal sexual contact and official misconduct.

Walter Moore – Convicted on charges of subscribing to a false tax return.

Patrick Riley – Drug conviction. Permanent disqualification from public school employment by the Office of Criminal History Review

Revoke

Peter Loria Anthony Puca Eugene Williams Daniel Woodside

In the matter of **Lawrence Bridget** the Board unanimously voted to block issuance of a certificate to him based upon his permanent disqualification from public school employment by the Office of Criminal History Review. The disqualification was based upon Mr. Bridgets 1990 and 1995 drug convictions.

In the matter of **Calvin Cuavers** the Board unanimously voted to block issuance of a certificate to him based upon his permanent disqualification by the Office of Criminal History Review. The disqualification was based upon a 1979 conviction on charges of complicity to 4th degree robbery/conspiracy to commit robbery.

In the matter of **Stewart Diaz** the Board unanimously voted to block issuance of a certificate to him pending receipt of additional information.

In the matter of **Thomas Imhof** the Board unanimously voted to vacate the Order to Show Cause issued to him on November 5, 1998 as his conviction has been expunged.

In the matter of **Jason Phillips** the Board unanimously voted to block his application for certification for the following reasons. The Board unanimously voted to deny certification based upon the level and nature of his conduct. In addition, the Board found insufficient evidence of rehabilitation because Mr. Phillips is still on probation. Finally, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A: 6-7.1, his conviction permanently disqualifies him from employment in any school or institution under the supervision of the Department of Education.

In the matter of **Theresa Lockhart Ranuro** the Board unanimously voted to block issuance of a certificate to Ms. Lockhart Ranuro based upon her permanent disqualification from public school employment by the Office of Criminal History Review. The disqualification was based upon Ms. Lockhart Ranuro's 1990 drug conviction.

In the matter of **Michael Trzaska** the Board unanimously voted to vacate the Order to Show cause issued to Mr. Trzaska on June 19, 1997 as his conviction has been expunged.

In the matter of **Hugo Vicari** the Board unanimously voted to vacate the Order to Show Cause issued to Mr. Vicari on January 23, 1997 as the tenure charges against Mr. Vicari were dismissed.

In the matter of **Daniel Woodside** the Board authorized the Board Secretary to indicate to the Division of Pensions that the Board strongly recommends that the State Board of Examiners action have no impact on Mr. Woodside's pension benefits.

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

Alberta Blackwell

Eileen Brogan

Karen Krumbine

Ketih Buckmaster

Ja-Neen Coombs

Rupert Crawford

Joudon Ford

Anthony Polizzi

Kevin Jenkins Kerry Van Eenennaam

The Deputy Attorney General Arlene Lutz advised the Board that the Supreme Court refused to hear Frank Robert's appeal in the matter of the revocation of his teaching certificate.

The Supreme Courts action affirms the State Board of Examiners authority to conduct hearings when no material facts of a case are in dispute.

Assistant Commissioner Ellen Schecter made a motion to appoint JoAnne Gales to the Credentials Review Committee. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Secretary Ida Graham advised the Board that Frank Hicks resigned from the Board due to an expansion of his job responsibilities. His resignation was accepted and his contributions to the Board will be missed. Secretary Graham also alerted the Board that the Division of Pensions has indicated that they will be forwarding, for the Board's review, numerous judgments of conviction for teaching staff members convicted for participation in a fraudulent insurance scheme.

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

Peter Bellomo Walter Moore
Faith Fisher Margo J. Pisack
Sandra Joyner Lenore S. Powell
Rossie Kearson Gloria Velebir

Robert Klinck

The next meeting of the board is scheduled to be held on April 6, 2000 at the Middle School Auditorium at the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf, 320 Sullivan Way, West Trenton, NJ.

IBG:EAH:kb:February Minutes without Soc. Sec. #