

State Board of Examiners  
Minutes of Meeting

November 4, 1999

Attending: Dr. Mary Jean Guidette, Acting Chairperson  
Ms. Ida B. Graham, Secretary  
Ms. Arlene Lutz, Deputy Attorney General  
Dr. Vito Germinario, Chairperson, Legal Committee  
Dr. Richard Malanowski, Acting Chairperson, Credentials Review Committee  
Dr. Donald Farish  
Ms. Joanne Gales  
Mr. James Gay  
Dr. Robert Petix  
Ms. Deidre Simon  
Mr. Peter Tirri

Absent: Assistant Commissioner Ellen Schechter  
Dr. Ronald Applbaum  
Ms. Ida Bilbow  
Dr. Elspeth Goodin  
Mr. Frank Hicks

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Mary Jean Guidette, Acting Chairperson.

The minutes of the September 23, 1999 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:

Jan E. Geary - Speech-language Specialist. Ms. Geary was accompanied by Ann Miller, Supervisor and Senior Speech-language Specialist at the Bancroft School.  
Megan MacMullin – School Social Worker

### 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:

Gregory Acocella -	Student Personnel Services – Granted
Alyssa Hampson -	Speech-language Specialist – Granted
Virginia Hedges -	Speech-language Specialist – Granted
Marilyn Mazer -	School Nurse. Denied. Partial credit was awarded for 3 credits in school nursing
Ronald Sahli -	School Business Administrator Certificate of Eligibility – 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

Warren P. Chatmon – County Substitute Certificate – 1998 conviction for felony theft.

James Damiano – 1999 conviction for promoting gambling in the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree and possession with intent to distribute a controlled dangerous substance (cocaine) in the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree.

John Danatzko – 1977 drug conviction.

Loran Hector - County Substitute Certificate – 1999 drug conviction.

Randy Kleiner – 1995 conviction for possession of narcotics (heroin) and driving under the influence.

Robert Mauer – 1971 drug conviction.

Charles Young - 1995 conviction for criminal sexual contact in the 4<sup>th</sup> degree.

#### Revoke

Leroy Baldwin –  
Theodore DelGrosso -  
James Lederer -  
John Starling -

### Suspension

John Cerutti

Six (6) year suspension of his certificate. The suspension will begin November 4, 1999 and end November 1, 2005.

Joy Northrop Divencenzi

Five (5) year suspension of all administrative certificates. The effective dates of the suspension are July 1, 2000 until June 30, 2005.

In the matter of Joudon Ford, , the Board unanimously voted to table the matter. The Board requested that Mr. Ford provide official proof of his conditional discharge for the 1973 conviction on charges of weapon possession.

In the matter of the Cynthia Johnson, the Board unanimously voted to deny Ms. Johnson's request for certification following revocation. The Board noted that on April 8, 1997, as part of the Stipulation of Settlement in the matter of Ms. Johnson's tenure hearing with the State-Operated School District of the City of Newark, Ms. Johnson agreed to foreclosure from being a teacher in New Jersey in the future.

In the matter of Jason Phillips, the Board unanimously voted to request that Mr. Phillip's provide official court documentation concerning his March 1999 conviction in the State of Maryland.

In the matter of Arnold Perrone, the Board unanimously voted to table the DYFS matter for further fact finding. If necessary, the Board Chairperson will request an investigation by the Office of Compliance.

In the matter of M.S., the Board unanimously voted to:

- Adopt the ALJ's recommendation for consolidation of the case with DYFS
- Agree that the Board has the predominant interest in the matter and therefore will hear the case first
- Clarify that there is no re-employment or back-pay issue

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

Mauricio Avidgor  
Lorenzo DeRaco  
Jorge Diaz  
Kenneth Dobkin  
James McShea

James Ochse  
Edward Sweeney  
Clyde Williams  
Patrick Yearwood

Dr. Mary Jean Guidette made a motion for the Board to go into executive session at 11:05 AM to discuss a legal matter. The Board moved out of executive session at 11:30 AM.

Deputy Attorney General Arlene Lutz informed the Board that the first legal challenge to the Board's hearing procedures were heard in Frank Robert's appeal to the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey. The Appellate Division affirmed the decision of the State Board of Examiners to revoke Roberts' teaching certificates.

Secretary Ida Graham reviewed the schedule for the comprehensive review of the certification code and asked for volunteers to serve on a committee making certification reform recommendations. Ms. Graham also reminded the Board that currently the Office of Licensing has proposals before the State Board of Education that include raising the grade point average for persons completing teacher training programs, school athletic trainer certification, reciprocity for experienced out-of-state administrators, Pre School through Grade 3 certification and regulations for public school swimming instructors.

Ms. Graham also informed the Board that all future Board meetings for the 1999 - 2000 school year were scheduled to be held at the Katzenbach School for the Deaf in West Trenton due to the poor parking availability at the State Department of Education.

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

Warren P. Chatmon	Loran Hector	Arnold Perrone
James Damiano	Randy Kleiner	Jason Phillips
John Danatzko	Megan MacMullin	M.S.
Joudon Ford	Robert Mauer	Charles Young
Jan E. Geary		

The next meeting of the board is scheduled to be held on December 9, 1999 at the Middle School Auditorium at the Maria H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf, 320 Sullivan Way, West Trenton, New Jersey.

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