



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

KEVIN DEHMER
Acting Commissioner

State Board of Examiners Minutes of Meeting VIRTUALLY VIA MS TEAMS January 19, 2024

Present: Mr. Abdul Saleem Hasan
Dr. Mary Jane McNally
Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak
Ms. Melissa Pearce
Ms. Thelma Ramsey
Ms. Rani Singh, Secretary
Ryan Silver, Deputy Attorney General
Laurie Fichera, Coordinator, State Board of Examiners
Susan Nardone, Credentials Appeals Coordinator, State Board of Examiners

Absent: Mr. Derek Jess
Ms. Kristen Ludman

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 Trenton Times and Star Ledger in New Jersey. Notice of the virtual access information was provided online on the Department's website, via memorandum to the Secretary of State and several other individuals and entities and is available at the physical conference room where the meeting has been conducted prior to the public health crisis.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak, Acting Chairperson, who read the appropriate notice that the meeting complied with the Open Public Meetings Act. She also read notice provisions regarding access to the virtual meeting.

Dr. McNally moved to adopt the minutes of the December 8, 2024 meeting (Regular and Executive Session). Ms. Thelma Ramsey seconded the motion. The minutes were then approved by a unanimous vote.

Individual Credentials Review Presentations

Letitia A. Becker asked for an additional time to submit the documentation requested by the board. As a result, her presentation is postponed until the next meeting.

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

Nware R. Burge
Sabrina K. Bush
Carlton T. Bynoe
John A. Cash Jr.-attended with council, Albert Leonardo
Karen Dever
Nicole Kelly
Michael McGorty
Benjamin A. Robiou
Heba Saad
Yamilet Sanchez
Carolina Smith

The following applicants were unable to attend the meeting.

Phil Brady
Jordan Goldklang

The Board had no questions for any of the candidates.

Credentials Review Consent List

Dr. McNally made a motion to adopt the decisions in the following matters on the credentials review consent list, and Mr. Hasan seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous roll call vote. The candidates in the following cases were present at the December 8, 2023 meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions:

Eladio Conchas Guzman	Teacher of World Language: Spanish Certificate of Eligibility – The Board PARTIALLY GRANTED as to 17 semester-hour credits in Spanish and PARTIALLY DENIED as to 12 semester-hour credits in Spanish at the advanced level.
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Peter A. Michael	Teacher of Engineering Technology Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted the certificate.
Tiffany Pilo-Boehm	School Administrator Certificate of Eligibility- The Board denied the application.
Lumy Rodriguez	Standard School Social Worker certificate – The Board PARTIALLY GRANTED as to three graduate-level semester-hour credits in community organizations, agencies and resources and three graduate-level semester-hour credits in social policy and public welfare services, including the care and protection of at-risk children and families; and PARTIALLY DENIED as to six graduate-level semester-hour credits in introductory and advanced social casework, including principles and practices in social casework, interviewing, and methods and skills in diagnosis, and three graduate-level semester-hour credits in medical information, including the role of the social worker in health problems or fundamentals of substance abuse and dependency.
Amanda Rosa	Teacher of Art Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied the application.
David G Seamon	Teacher of Vocational Arts: Theater Certificate of Eligibility (CE) – The Board granted the certificate.
Riley Zoldi	Teacher of Biological Science Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted the certificate.

Dr. McNally then made a motion to adopt the decisions in the following matters on the credentials review consent list, and Mr Hasan seconded the motion. The Board adopted the following decisions by a unanimous roll call vote. The candidates in the following cases were not present at the December 8,2023 meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions:

Tracee Jones	Teacher of Middle School with Subject Matter Specialization: Language Arts/Literacy Standard -. The Board granted the certificate.
Curt Nath	Teacher of Preschool through Grade Three Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing-The Board granted the application.

Legal Committee Report

There was one hearing on the agenda, *IMO Certificates of Ms. Shannon Kennedy*. Ms. Kennedy and her counsel, Ms. Randi Doner April, Esq., were present for the hearing.

Dr. McNally made a motion to go into executive session to receive legal advice regarding matters on the Consent Order portion of the agenda, which was duly seconded by Ms. Melissa Pearce and carried by a unanimous vote. The Board went into closed session at 10:56 am.

The Board returned to the public session following a motion by Ms. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Hasan and carried by a unanimous vote. The Board returned to the public portion of the meeting at 11:17 am.

On return to the public meeting, Ms. Orlak 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:

Brendan J. Dunne – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the proposed consent order in this matter.

Michael B Nicholson – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the proposed consent order in this matter.

Yolanda Jean Pierre - By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted given no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of conduct and crime is unbecoming a teacher, the appropriate response and penalty is revocation.

Yakik Rumley - By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted given no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher, the appropriate response and penalty is revocation.

Richard Sullivan – By a vote of 5.0, the Board voted given no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of conduct and crime and disqualification from employment with any institution under the supervision of the Department of Education, the appropriate response and penalty is revocation.

Brian Holton – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and disqualification from public school employment.

Nicholas C. Jahn – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and disqualification from public school employment.

Danny R. McEaddy – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why his certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and disqualification from public school employment.

Erin Passaro (Confroy)- By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to seal the record.

Erin Passaro (Confroy) – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause as to why her certificate(s) should not be revoked based upon the level and nature of the conduct and crime and disqualification from public school employment.

Sean Huggins – By a vote of 5-0, the Board finds unbecoming conduct of a teacher; however, given the totality of circumstances and mitigating factors, no penalty is warranted.

Leonard Hal Adoff – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to block the application.

Kyle Banner – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of licenses with the same force and effect as a revocation.

Scott M. Klear – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of licenses with the same force and effect as a revocation.

Anthony Linder-Creo – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of licenses with the same force and effect as a revocation.

Favio S. Martell - By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of licenses with the same force and effect as a revocation.

Frank Thompson – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of licenses with the same force and effect as a revocation.

Courtney Bullen – By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to adopt the initial decision from the Office of Administrative Law in this matter.

Scott Silvis - By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to adopt the initial decision from the Office of Administrative Law in this matter.

Brett Yavener- By a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to adopt the initial decision from the Office of Administrative Law in this matter.

Legal Consent List

Ms. Pierce then made a motion to adopt items a-i on the consent list below. Mr. Hasan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Revocations/Suspensions

- a. Sharonda Allen – suspension
- b. Joseph Deshan – revocation
- c. Elizabeth Sonk – revocation

Other

- d. Adam Bersch – block application
- e. Karen Bobb – deny application for certification after revocation
- f. Gaeton Lucibello – dismissal
- g. Vicki Plowden –rescind September block, block application
- h. Keilan Scott – reject and remand
- i. Zachary Smith – remand

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Secretary’s Report

None.

Adjournment

Ms. Ramsey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Mr. Hasan and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 pm.

The next scheduled regular public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on March 1, 2024 either in the first-floor conference room, 100 River View Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey or virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Minutes prepared by Laurie Fichera

Minutes certified by Rani Singh, Secretary