



MIKIE SHERRILL  
*Governor*

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*Lt. Governor*

*State of New Jersey*  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

DR. LILY LAUX  
*Commissioner*

**STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS  
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING  
VIRTUALLY VIA MS TEAMS  
March 6, 2026**

**Present:** Mr. Ambrose Duckett  
Mr. Robert Ford  
Mr. Derek Jess  
Ms. Michelle McGreivey  
Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak  
Ms. Melissa Pearce  
Dr. Thelma Ramsey  
Dr. Carmela Somershoe

**Absent:** Ms. Gargi Adhikari  
Mr. Kevin Pfister

**Others:** Rani Singh, 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 Trenton Times and Star Ledger in New Jersey. Notice of the virtual access information was provided online on the Department's website and via a link on the Secretary of State's website.

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. Rani Singh, Secretary, took roll call and determined there was a quorum for the meeting.

Mr. Robert Ford moved to adopt the minutes of the January 22, 2026, meeting (Regular and Executive Sessions) and Ms. Melissa Pearce seconded the motion. The Regular Session minutes were approved by a vote of 7-0 with Mr. Duckett abstaining. The Executive Session minutes were approved by a vote of 6-0, with Mr. Duckett and Ms. Orlak abstaining.

### **Individual Credentials Review Presentations**

The following applicants attended the March 6, 2026, meeting to respond to any questions from the Board regarding their applications:

Matthew Cecere  
Mohammed Farid  
Liana Lichter  
Paola Machin  
Anthony McGuana  
Michael McKeen  
Gargi Thakur

The following applicants did not attend the March 6, 2026, meeting:

Jeremy Watson

### **Credentials Review Consent List**

Ms. Dayna Orlak made a motion to adopt the decisions in items “a” through “f” on the credentials review consent list, for the candidates who was present at the January 22, 2026, meeting, and Mr. Derek Jess seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by a vote of 6-0 with Ms. Orlak and Mr. Duckett abstaining.

Ms. Orlak made a motion to adopt the decisions on items “g” through “h” on the credentials review consent list, for the candidates who were not present at the January 22, 2026, meeting, and Mr. Jess seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by a vote of 6-0 with Ms. Orlak and Mr. Duckett abstaining.

Ms. Orlak moved to adopt the decision in item “i” the case remanded from the commissioner. Mr. Jess seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by a vote of 8-0.

The candidates in the following cases were present at the January 22, 2026, meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions:

Nicole Amador	Application for a Principal Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted the certificate.
Hailey Drake	Application for a CTE Teacher of Audio and Visual Broadcasting Production Technology CE and CTE Teacher of Vocational Arts: Theater CE – The Board denied the certificates.
Curtis Leo Mackowiak	Application for a CTE Audio and Visual Broadcast Production Technology CE – The Board denied the certificate.
Kirsten Sciallo	Application for a Standard Supervisor Certificate – The Board denied the certificate.
Jacquelyn Ashley Sweet	Application for a Teacher of Preschool through Grade 3 Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied the certificate.
Joel Vasquez	Application for a Teacher of Mathematics Certificate of Eligibility – The Board denied the certificate.

The candidates in the following cases were not present at the January 22, 2026, meeting. The Board adopted the following decisions:

Ana C Castello Olaya	Application for a Teacher of Spanish Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted the certificate.
Eladio Conchas Guzman	Application for a Teacher of Spanish Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted the certificate.
Irene Wang	Application for a Teacher of Chinese Certificate of Eligibility – The Board granted the certificate.

### **Legal Committee Report**

The Board heard two hearings: the Matter of the Certificates of Kelley Pritchett, Docket Number 2425-187 and the Matter of Andrew Wepner, Docket Number 2223-112. Ms. Pritchett, with her counsel, Mr. Daniel R. Dowdy, Esq. and Ms. Wepner with his counsel, Mr. Sean P. Roe, Esq. both appeared and provided testimony to the Board.

Ms. Melissa 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. Jess and carried by a vote of 8-0. The Board went into closed session at 11:07 am. The Board returned to the public portion of the meeting at 11:41 pm.

Mr. Jess made a motion to return to public session, and Ms. Orlak seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by a vote of 8-0.

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:

Kristie (Desiderio) Babiarz, Docket No. 2425-211 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to accept the proposed consent order in this matter.

Godfrey De La Hoz, Docket No. 2425-180 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to accept the proposed consent order in this matter.

Nataly V. Diaz, Docket No. 2324-171 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to reject the proposed consent order in this matter.

Nysere Nunn, Docket No.2324-175 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to accept the proposed consent order in this matter.

Michele Nycz, Docket No. 2425-107 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to accept the proposed consent order in this matter.

Renata Alford, Docket No. 2425-133– By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted given that no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of the conduct is unbecoming a teacher, to dismiss the Order to show cause.

Brittany A. (Savage) Werner, Docket No. 2425-115 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted given that no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of the conduct is unbecoming a teacher, to dismiss the Order to show cause.

Christopher Hillman, Docket No. 2324-174 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted given that no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of the conduct and crime, and due to being disqualified for employment with any institution under the supervision of the Department of Education, the appropriate response and penalty is revocation.

Dylan Baubles, Docket Number 2425-114 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted given that no material facts are in dispute and the level and nature of the conduct is unbecoming a teacher and action against out of state licenses., the appropriate response and penalty is revocation.

Tammy Marie Hileman, Docket No. 2425- 181 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to return the Matter to the Office of Administrative Law.

William Callan, Docket No. 2526-173 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to seal the record in the matter.

William Callan, Docket No. 2526-173 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

Robert H. Conrad, Docket No. 2526-182 – By a vote of 8-0, 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.

Christina Martinez, Docket No. 2324-116 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to seal the record in the matter.

Christina Martinez, Docket No. 2324-116 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

Michael J. McCue, Docket No. 2526-183 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to seal the record in the matter.

Michael J. McCue, Docket No. 2526-183 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

Kristin (Salmon) McNamara, Docket No. 2526-150 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to seal the record in the matter.

Kristin (Salmon) McNamara, Docket No. 2526-150 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to issue an order to show cause for revocation, given the level and nature of conduct is unbecoming a teacher.

Aiza Nawaz, Docket No. 2526-170 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to take no action.

DaneJa Jefferson-Falana, Docket No. 2526-188 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to take no action.

Chloe L. Berger, Docket No. 2526-181 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of licenses with the same force and conditions as a revocation.

Amy L. D’Ovidio, Docket No. 2526-189 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of licenses with the same force and conditions as a revocation.

James William Wiegand, Docket No. 2425-222 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to accept the relinquishment of licenses with the same force and conditions as a revocation.

Andrea (Pinkos) Ruiz, Docket No. 2526-175 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of licenses. with the same force and conditions as a revocation.

Christina M. Salcedo, Docket No. 2526-162 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to table the matter.

Eric Larson, Docket No. 0708-141 – By a vote of 8-0, the Board voted to table the matter.

### **Legal Consent List**

Ms. Pearce made a motion to adopt items “a” through “m” on the legal consent list below. Mr. Derek Jess seconded, and the motion passed by a vote of 8-0.

Ms. Orlak made a motion to adopt item “n” on the legal consent list below. Mr. Derek Jess seconded, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Ms Pearce’s recusal.

Ms. Pearce made a motion to adopt items “o” through “q” on the legal consent list below. Mr. Derek Jess seconded, and the motion passed by a vote of 8-0.

### **Orders to Show Cause**

- a. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-168 Christopher Bates
- b. Agency Dkt. No. 1617-173 Jennifer Grecco
- c. Agency Dkt. No. 1819-205 Gail Grube
- d. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-163 Keith M. Gunther
- e. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-147 Dimitrios Harritopulos
- f. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-128 Toshira N. Maldonado
- g. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-171 Michele McGinn
- h. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-165 Ryan T. Ramsay
- i. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-169 Delma (Pozo) Rose
- j. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-166 Elora Sarkar
- k. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-167 Kirk Toland
- l. Agency Dkt. No. 2526-164 Ryan Vandermay

### **Revocations/Suspensions**

- m. Agency Dkt. No. 2425-138 Keith Allen – revocation
- n. Agency Dkt. No. 1920-110 Teresa Guerriere – revocation
- o. Agency Dkt. No. 2425-165 Richie Lopez – revocation
- p. Agency Dkt. No. 2324-180 Rosa B. (DaSilva) Teixeira – suspension

## **Other**

q. Agency Dkt. No. 2425-201 Clayton Gonzalez – block

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Secretary's Report**

None.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Robert Ford made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Mr. Jess and the motion carried by a unanimous vote of 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 am.

The next regularly scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on April 17, 2026.

Minutes prepared by Laurie Fichera

Minutes certified by Rani Singh, Secretary