

## **School Ethics Commission Meeting Public Session Minutes**

**December 17, 2019**

Chairperson Robert Bender called the meeting to order at 9:52 a.m.

Notice of the meeting was provided to the State House Press Corps and the Secretary of State and filed as required by the Open Public Meetings Act. In attendance were School Ethics Commission (Commission) members Michael Carucci (arrived at 9:57 a.m.), Michael Collins, Mark Finkelstein, Dennis Roberts, Jude Tanella, Richard Tomko (departed at 12:26 p.m.), and Chairperson Bender.

Also, in attendance were Kathryn Whalen, Director, Offices of School Ethics and Compliance, staff member Jeannine Pizzigoni, and Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Aimee Blenner.

**9:54 a.m.** Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Michael Collins, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss confidential matters and to obtain legal advice regarding the following Complaints and matters involving possible litigation: C60-19; C70-17; C36-19; C45-19; C49-19; C50-19; C51-19; C52-19; C53-19; C56-19 and C57-19 (Consolidated); A21-19; A27-19; A26-19; Doctrine of Necessity filed by the Wayne Township Board of Education; Agency Dkt. No. 150-6/19; C45-17; and proposed revisions to Chapter 28 regulations.

Vote: 6 – Yes 0 – No

**9:54 a.m.** Michael Carucci arrived.

**12:26 p.m.** Richard Tomko departed.

**12:30 p.m.** Open Session

### ***Complaints to Review***

**C60-19** Motion was made by Jude Tanella, and seconded by Dennis Roberts, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote: 6 – Yes 0 – No

***Decisions to Adopt as Written***

**C70-17** Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote: 6 – Yes      0 – No

**C36-19** Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Jude Tanella, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote: 6 – Yes      0 – No

**C45-19** Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote: 5 – Yes      0 – No      1 – Abstention (Jude Tanella)

**C49-19** Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Jude Tanella, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote: 6 – Yes      0 – No

**C50-19** Motion was made by Jude Tanella, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote: 6 – Yes      0 – No

**C51-19** Motion was made by Mark Finkelstein, and seconded by Dennis Roberts, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote: 6 – Yes      0 – No

**C52-19** Motion was made by Jude Tanella, and seconded by Dennis Roberts, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote: 6 – Yes      0 – No

**C53-19** Motion was made by Mark Finkelstein, and seconded by Jude Tanella, to adopt the decision as written

Vote: 6 – Yes      0 – No

**C56-19 and C57-19 (Consolidated)** Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote: 6 – Yes      0 – No

### ***Advisory Opinions***

**A21-19 (Reconsideration)** Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Jude Tanella, to advise as discussed.

Vote: 5 – Yes      0 – No      1 – Abstention (Mark Finkelstein)

**A27-19** Motion was made by Michael Collins, and seconded by Michael Carucci, to advise as discussed.

Vote: 6 – Yes      0 – No

**A26-19** Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Michael Carucci, to adopt the advisory opinion as written.

Vote: 6 – Yes      0 – No

### ***Other Business***

**Doctrine of Necessity** Chairperson Bender acknowledged receipt of the Doctrine of Necessity submitted by the Wayne Township Board of Education.

**Status of Agency Dkt. No. 150-6/19** This matter was on the agenda for informational purposes only.

**C45-17** DAG Blenner presented the Commission with an update on the status of this matter.

**Discussion Regarding Proposed Revisions to Chapter 28 Regulations** This matter was on the agenda for informational purposes only. It is anticipated that a final version of the Commission's proposed regulations will be presented for a vote at the Commission's next meeting (January 21, 2020).

### ***Minutes***

Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to adopt the minutes of the meeting (public and executive) conducted on November 19, 2019, as written.

Vote: 6 – Yes      0 – No

**12:36 p.m.** Motion was made by Michael Collins, and seconded by Michael Carucci, to adjourn.

Vote: 6 – Yes      0 – No

Submitted by:

---

Jeannine Pizzigoni

Approved by:

---

Kathryn A. Whalen, Director