

Board Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Payne called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Board Meeting was held in person and via WebEx.

Board members present:

Dr. Lucy Payne, Board Chair
Amy Aho (Virtual)
Brandee Shoemaker
Dr. Gift Saloka (arrived during closed session)
Dr. Kurt Stumpf (Virtual)
Jennifer Trask
Justin Hoelscher
Glazell Toledo (Virtual)
Rochelle Dyer
Janie Yang (Virtual)

Board staff (present at various times):

Dr. Yelena Bailey, Executive Director
Erin Doan, Director of Educator Preparation and Pathways
Katherine Oswald, Office Manager
Steve Rollin, Rulemaking Attorney
Michelle Sandler, Teacher Education Specialist
Caren Custer, Licensure Compliance Specialist
Maria Zaloker, Teacher Ethics Attorney (Virtual)

Attorney General's Office:

Nathan Hartshorn, Assistant Attorney General
Carly Rasmussen, Assistant Attorney General
David Cullen, Assistant Attorney General

II. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Trask moved to approve the Agenda with flexibility. Shoemaker seconded the motion.

VOTE: All aye.

RESULT: The motion passed.

III. ORAL ARGUMENTS

The board heard oral arguments in the matter of Mr. Steven D. Williams's license. The board was advised by Assistant Attorney General Nathan Hartshorn. Oral arguments were made by Assistant Attorney General Carly Rasmussen. Neither Mr. Williams, or their attorney, were present.

MOTION: Dyer made a motion to move into Closed Session. Trask seconded the motion.

VOTE: All aye.

RESULT: The motion passed.

IV. DISCIPLINE MATTERS (Closed Session)

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 13D.01, subdivision 2, the Board moved into closed session for the purposes of disciplinary proceedings.

V. REPORT OUT: DISCIPLINE MATTERS (Open Session)

Chair Payne announced Board action from Closed Session as follows:

1. Gary Auen (1020451): The Board adopted findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order, whereby Gary Auen's renewal application is denied.
2. Georgina Kowalczyk (FFN 495624): The Board adopted a stipulation agreement and consent order whereby Georgina Kowalczyk's teaching license is subject to a two year stayed suspension.
3. Justin Lerfald (FFN 512262): The Board adopted a stipulation agreement and consent order whereby Justin Lerfald's teaching license is subject to a five year stayed suspension.
4. Deyvon Long (FFN 1025695): The Board adopted findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order, whereby Deyvon Long's teaching licenses are automatically revoked.
5. Jerome Noel (FFN 1035390): The Board adopted a stipulation agreement and consent order whereby Jerome Noel's teaching license is subject to a one year stayed suspension.
6. Mandlakayise Mabindisa-Stelly (FFN 512339): The Board adopted findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order, whereby Mandlakayise Mabindisa-Stelly's renewal application.
7. Thomas Matuseski (FFN 325479): The Board adopted a stipulation agreement and consent order whereby Thomas Matuseski's teaching license is subject to a two year stayed suspension.
8. Sheryl Schoenfeld (FFN 1021521): The Board adopted a stipulation agreement and consent order whereby Sheryl Schoenfeld's teaching license is subject to a two year stayed suspension.
9. Wayne Wallace (FFN 295889): The Board adopted a stipulation agreement and consent order whereby Wayne Wallace's teaching license is revoked.
10. Steven Williams (FFN 1032680): The Board adopted findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order, whereby Steven Williams's teaching license is revoked.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Aho moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Trask seconded the motion.

VOTE: All aye.

RESULT: The motion passed.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Fiscal Year 2026 Retreat Dates

Dr. Yelena Bailey, PELSB Executive Director, presented two possible dates for the 2026 fiscal year Community Partner Breakfast and Public Retreat sessions:

- Thursday, June 25 with the board meeting on Friday, June 26
- Monday, June 15 and move the board meeting to Tuesday, June 16

Board training on January 22, 2026, and moving the board meeting to January 23, 2026, had been voiced as preference at the July 18, 2025, board meeting.

Trask made a motion to adopt the dates of January 22 and 23 and Monday, June 15 and move the board meeting to Tuesday, June 16. Shoemaker seconded the motion.

VOTE: All aye.

RESULT: The motion passed.

B. Arts Steering Committee Update

Steve Rollin, PELSB Rulemaking Attorney, gave an update on the arts rulemaking process. First, outlining what has already been done to address feedback for the recommendations at past board meeting as well as plans to identify community partners to offer additional feedback through surveys and listening sessions.

Mr. Rollin also presented the proposed next steps timeline for gathering the community partner feedback; having the survey be sent out in September, gather feedback in October, and present findings to the board in November.

Board members voiced appreciation to the committee's responsiveness to their concerns and feedback.

C. R4863 Update

Mr. Rollin reviewed previous proposal changes from April and then the recommendations put forth by the R4863 Subcommittee, which met three times in July. The recommendations address portfolio streamlining, meaningful progress licensure, early childhood education licensure, ethnic studies licensure, and computer science licensure. Mr. Rollin also noted additional issues that were brought up after the subcommittee adjourned.

Board members raised three major concerns:

- misalignment between how K-12 standards are moving forward and how teacher preparation cannot currently endorse ethnic studies applying to anything outside of social studies
- if ethnic studies would be endorsed at the same time as teacher preparation or after; and if the size of the endorsement scope is so large it would be better as a license
- discrepancy on grade level and course topic limitations among licenses

Board members also asked about the anticipated timeline to get updated rule language.

Mr. Rollin proposed sending the current draft to the Minnesota Revisor's Office to get a fresh copy and then make changes from there. Allowing for further discussion at September's board meeting and then action in October.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. CTE EdTPA Cut Scores

Michelle Sandler, PELSB Teacher Education Specialist, presented that there is now an edTPA for CTE. Minnesota does not currently have a cut score for the CTE edTPA (to be used for teacher preparation program accountability and for licensure via portfolio candidates).

Board members asked about a potential conflict to rules if a cut score is not established. The Board hopes to take action at September's board meeting.

X. REPORTS

A. COMMITTEES & SUBCOMMITTEES

i. Executive Committee

The committee met on August 6 to approve the board meeting agenda.

ii. Licensing Committee

The committee met on August 13, they approved cross-curricular delivery permissions, discretionary variances, out-of-field permissions, and tiered licenses. The next meeting is on August 27.

iii. Teacher Preparation Committee

The committee met on August 6. All items are on the consent agenda. The next meeting is on September 8.

iv. Legislative Committee

The committee met on August 11 to review upcoming meetings and establish potential future priorities. The next meeting is on September 15.

v. Increase Teachers of Color and Indigenous Teachers Committee

No report.

vi. Standards and Rules Advisory Committee

The committee met on August 7 to get feedback for the district survey that will be going out to collect information for the Supply and Demand Report. They also discussed the art licensure recommendations; Max C. was in attendance to present and engage in community partner discussion.

B. Staff Report

Dr. Bailey gave a 'save the date' notice for October 10; NASDTEC's Executive Director will be giving an in-person presentation on the Interstate Mobility Teacher Compact.

Dr. Bailey announced that PELSB staff member Tyra Reck will be leaving.

C. Chair Report

Chair Payne thanked education partners who attended the Standards and Rules Advisory Committee and engaged in the art licensure discussion. Dr. Payne appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to process the work of the board retreat and establish action; appointing Dr. Stumpf, Ms. Toledo, and herself to work with Dr. Bailey and staff. She finished by encouraging board members to mentor and support new teachers or staff members at work.

XI. ADJOURN

Chair Payne adjourned the meeting at 11:51 am.

Appendix A: CONSENT AGENDA

I. APPROVE MINUTES

Approve Minutes from July 18, 2025, board meeting.

II. UNIT APPROVALS

	Unit	Recommendation
i.	University of St. Thomas	Continuing Approval with Focus Areas (accept interim report)

III. PROGRAM APPROVALS

St. Cloud State University

	Program	Staff Recommendation
i.	Middle Level Mathematics	Continuing approval

IV. LICENSES AND PERMISSIONS

None.

V. TEACHER PREPARATION – DISCRETIONARY VARIANCES

	Unit/Program	Rule	TPC Recommendation
a.	Bemidji State University	8705.1010, Subp. 3C2b	Approve with conditions
b.	St. Cloud State University (ECSE candidate)	8705.1010, Subp. 3B1b	Approve with conditions
c.	Winona State University	8705.1010, Subp. 3C(2)	Approve