

PELSB Board Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2022

I. Call to Order

Chair Brian Rappe called the meeting to order at 9:33am. The board meeting was held in person and remotely via WebEx.

Board Members present:

Brian Rappe, Chair
Angela Osuji, Vice Chair (via WebEx)
Lucy Payne, Parliamentarian
Julie Coffey
May Lia Thor
Jessa Cook (via WebEx)
Paul Peltier (via WebEx)
Steven Unowsky (via WebEx)

Board members absent:

Reuben Moore
Amy York

Legal Counsel (present at various times):

David Cullen (via WebEx)

Board Staff (present at various times):

Alex Liuzzi, Executive Director
Yelena Bailey, Director of Education Policy
Michelle Hersh Vaught, Rulemaking Specialist
Michelle Sandler, Teacher Education Specialist
Debby Odell, Licensing and Operations Manager
(via WebEx)
Tanwaporn Watanaporn Ohl, Communications
Specialist
Maria Zaloker, Teacher Ethics Specialist (via
WebEx)

II. Approval of Board Meeting Agenda

MOTION: Payne moved to approved the Agenda with flexibility. Coffey seconded the motion.

VOTE: Thor – yes; Unowsky -yes; Cook – yes; Peltier – yes; Rappe – yes; Osuji – yes; Payne – yes;
Coffey – yes.

RESULT: The motion passed.

MOTION: Payne moved for the Board to move to closed session. Thor seconded the motion.

VOTE: Thor – yes; Unowsky – yes; Cook – yes; Peltier – yes; Rappe – yes; Osuji – yes; Payne –
yes; Coffey – yes.

RESULT: The motion passed.

III. Discipline Matters (Closed Session)

MOTION: Peltier moved to make Angela Osuji acting chair. Unowsky seconded the motion.

VOTE: Thor – yes; Unowsky – yes; Cook – yes; Peltier – yes; Rappe – yes; Osuji – yes; Payne – yes; Coffey – yes.

RESULT: The motion passed.

MOTION: Unowsky moved to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Payne seconded the motion. Coffey pulls Curran from the consent agenda.

VOTE: Thor – yes; Unowsky – yes; Cook – yes; Peltier – yes; Rappe – yes; Osuji – yes; Payne – yes; Coffey – yes.

RESULT: The motion passed.

MOTION: Unowsky moved to approve the Curran matter. Payne seconded the motion.

VOTE: Thor – yes; Unowsky – yes; Cook – yes; Peltier – yes; Rappe – yes; Osuji – yes; Payne – yes; Coffey – abstain.

RESULT: The motion passed.

MOTION: Peltier moved to make Brian Rappe the chair and to return to open session. Cook seconded the motion.

VOTE: Thor – yes; Unowsky – yes; Cook – yes; Peltier – yes; Rappe – yes; Osuji – yes; Payne – yes; Coffey – yes.

RESULT: The motion passed.

III. Report Out: Discipline Matters (Open Session)

1. **Mykuhl Cade (FFN 412047)**: The Board adopted a stipulation agreement and consent order whereby Mykuhl Cade’s teaching license is subject to a stayed suspension for four years.
2. **Cherisse Cahill (FFN 504203)**: The Board adopted a stipulation agreement and consent order whereby Cherisse Cahill’s teaching license is subject to a one year stayed suspension.
3. **Elizabeth Curran (FFN 356257)**: The Board adopted a stipulation agreement and consent order whereby Elizabeth Curran’s teaching license is subject to a one year stayed suspension.
4. **Kristine Iturrino (FFN 491193)**: The Board adopted a stipulation agreement and consent order whereby Kristine Iturrino’s teaching licenses are subject to a one year stayed suspension.
5. **Ryan Lantz (FFN 1005107)**: The Board adopted a stipulation agreement and consent order whereby Ryan Lantz’s teacher license is subject to a three year stayed suspension.
6. **Denis McDonald (FFN 501196)**: The Board adopted a stipulation agreement and consent order whereby Denis McDonald’s teaching license is subject to a three year stayed suspension.

IV. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Osuji moved to approve the consent agenda. Payne seconded the motion.

VOTE: Thor – yes; Unowsky – yes; Cook – yes; Peltier – yes; Rappe – yes; Osuji – yes; Payne – yes; Coffey – yes.

RESULT: The motion passed.

V. Public Comment

No one spoke during public comment.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Assessment and Accountability Work Group Proposal

Alex Liuzzi gave an overview of the Assessment and Accountability Work Group draft proposal. The proposal provides a timeline of regular check-ins with the board, check-ins specific to reaching out to stakeholders, and recommended membership.

MOTION: Payne moved to adopt the recommendation with the stipulation that the Executive Committee will monitor and adjust the proposal as needed on behalf of the board. Coffey seconded the motion.

VOTE: Thor – yes; Unowsky – yes; Cook – yes; Peltier – yes; Rappe – yes; Osuji – yes; Payne – yes; Coffey – yes.

RESULT: The motion passed.

B. Early Childhood Education (ECE) Pedagogy Standard Setting

Alex Liuzzi gave an overview of Pearson's presentation at August's board meeting and provided various recommendations for board action to address passing scores for this exam.

MOTION: Peltier moved to set the passing score as recommended from the panel and revisit the passing score within a year. Osuji seconded the motion.

VOTE: Thor – yes; Unowsky – yes; Cook – yes; Peltier – yes; Rappe – yes; Osuji – yes; Payne – no; Coffey – no.

RESULT: The motion passed.

VII. New Business

A. Bilingual/Bicultural Education Licensure Rule (8710.4150) Recommendations

Michelle Hersh Vaught introduced Dr. Mary Hudgens Henderson, professor at Winona State University. Dr. Mary Hudgens Henderson presented recommendations from an advisory group, which has been researching and collaborating for over a year, on possible revisions to the Bilingual/Bicultural Education Licensure Rule (8710.4150).

VIII. Reports

Committees and Subcommittee Reports

1. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee discussed agenda topics for the September 16 Board meeting as well as MTLE data.

2. Licensing Committee

The Licensing Committee met on August 24 and: received and approved 7 IPPS (20 educators) from approved model delivery districts; received and approved 4 requests for new IPPs (4 educators); received and approved 2 OFPs; received 6 discretionary variance requests. On August 30, the Licensing Committee received and approved 6 discretionary variance requests; they also received 4 tiered license requests, denying 3 and approving 1. The Licensing Committee met on September 9 and: received 13 requests for existing model delivery districts (9 educators), requesting more information from 2, approving 11; received 4 requests for new IPPs (8 educators), approving all; received and approved 1 OFP; received 7 discretionary variance requests, denying 2 – one did not meet the requirements for Tier 1 or Tier 2, the other applicant did not have a degree from a regionally accredited university – the committee approved the remaining 5; and received 2 tiered license requests, denying 1 and approving 1. The next Licensing Committee meeting is Tuesday, September 20 at 4:00pm.

3. Teacher Preparation Committee

The Teacher Preparation Committee met. The Committee recommended denial of a request around meeting non-pedagogical content standards through coursework with the intent of addressing the issue more broadly.

4. Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee met on September 13 to discuss legislative goals for 2023.

5. Operations Committee – no report

6. Increase Educators of Color and Indigenous Educators Committee – no report

7. Standards and Rules Advisory Committee – no report

Staff Report

Liuzzi thanked PELSB staff for their hard work and announced an Education Staff Tool Kit collaboration with the Minnesota Department of Education and the Office of Higher Education.

Chair Report

Chair Rappe thanked PELSB staff for pulling the Board meeting together after having various technological equipment stolen from their office.

IX. Adjourn

Chair Rappe adjourned the meeting at 10:42am.