

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on June 1, 2022 via Microsoft TEAMS.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, D.N.Sc. - (RN Member, Chair)
Joseph Bierbaum (Public Member)
Jason Blando - (Public Member)
Lisa S. Freeman, BA - (Public Member)
Jennifer C. Long, APRN, MSN, NNP-BC - (APRN Member)
Geraldine Marrocco, Ed.D., APRN, ANP-BC, FAANP - (RN Member)
Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP, PMHCNS - (RN Member)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Cynthia L. Arpin, RN, MSN – (RN Member)
Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, APRN, ACNS-BC, CNE - (RN Member)
Rebecca Martinez, LPN – (LPN Member)

ALSO PRESENT: Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Dana Dalton, RN, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Helen Smith, RN, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH
Craig Sullivan, Staff Attorney, DPH
Aden Baume, Staff Attorney, DPH

The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. All participants were present via Microsoft TEAMS.

CHAIR UPDATES

Nothing to report.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Jennifer long to approve the agenda as revised. The motion passed unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

Lauren Brown, RN addressed the Board regarding Stone Academy. Ms. Brown who was a clinical instructor for the Stone Academy West Haven Campus, Day Program, spoke as to various deficiencies she encountered while teaching.

It was requested that Ms. Brown put her concerns in writing and send them to the Department of Public Health for investigation.

Stephanie McGuire, APRN inquired about the process for nurses to apply COVID heroes pay. The Department of Public Health will communicate with Ms. McGuire regarding this issue.

NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING

Chair Bouffard reported on NCLEX pass rate statistics.

The NCSBN annual meeting is scheduled for August 17-19, 2022. Board members interested in participating were asked to contact Chair Bouffard

CONNECTICUT LEAGUE FOR NURSING – Monthly Update

Marcia Proto provided an update from the Connecticut League for Nursing and the Deans and Directors.

SCHOOL ISSUES

Goodwin University – Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education Accreditation

Helen Smith reported that the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education(CCNE) has granted accreditation to-the Baccalaureate degree program at Goodwin University to 12/31/2031

Arizona College of Nursing

Diane Smith Levine, Nick Mansour, Matthew Egan, Amber Kool, and Jason Duune were present on behalf of Arizona College of Nursing.

The Board reviewed a request for approval of a prelicensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree Program to be located in East Hartford, CT. The program's feasibility study was approved on May 11, 2022 at which time the Board requested additional information regarding faculty workload.

Joseph Bierbaum made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve the prelicensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree Program. Following discussion, the motion to approve the program failed with only Joseph Bierbaum voting to approve.

The Board requested that updated information regarding the faculty workload be provided by August or September 2022.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to table this matter until June 15, 2022 for the review of additional information. The motion passed with all in favor except Joseph Bierbaum who was opposed.

Southern Connecticut State University – Site Visit

Helen Smith provided a report of a Department of Public Health site visit made to Southern Connecticut State University on 05/10/2022. The visit was required to inspect a new building to which the nursing program has moved.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to approve the site visit. The motion passed unanimously.

NCLEX Results – May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022

The Board reviewed the NCLEX test results for the Connecticut RN and LPN programs

Joseph Bierbaum *left the meeting at 9:50 a.m.*

Goodwin University

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to place the Goodwin University Accelerated RN Program on conditional approval for one year due a NCLEX pass rate of 52 percent. The motion passed with all in favor except Gina Reiners who recused herself from voting. A corrective action plan will be reviewed by the Board at the July meeting.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to place the Goodwin University associate RN Program on conditional approval for one year due a NCLEX pass rate of 69 percent. . The motion passed with all in favor except Gina Reiners who recused herself from voting. A corrective action plan will be reviewed by the Board at the July meeting.

University of Saint Joseph

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to place the University of Saint Joseph Accelerated RN Program on conditional approval for one year due a NCLEX pass rate of 77 percent. . The motion passed with all in favor except Gina Reiners who recused herself from voting. A corrective action plan will be reviewed by the Board at the July meeting.

University of Bridgeport

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to remove the University of Bridgeport, BS Program from conditional approval in that the current NCLEX pass rate is 81 percent. The motion passed with all in favor except Gina Reiners who recused herself from voting.

Gateway Community College

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to remove the Gateway Community College Associate program from conditional approval in that the current NCLEX pass rate is 80 percent. The motion passed unanimously.

Norwalk Community College

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to remove the Norwalk Community College program from conditional approval in that the current NCLEX pass rate is 85 percent. The motion passed unanimously.

Saint Vincent's College

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to remove the Saint Vincent's College Associate program from conditional approval in that the current NCLEX pass rate is 83 percent. The motion passed with all in favor except Mary Dietmann and Jason Blando who recused themselves from voting.

Lincoln Technical Institute

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to extend conditional approval of the Lincoln Technical Institute Shelton Campus Day Program for one year due a NCLEX pass rate of 59 percent. The motion passed unanimously. A corrective action plan will be reviewed by the Board at the July meeting.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to remove the Lincoln Technical Institute Shelton Campus Evening Program from conditional approval in that the current NCLEX pass rate is 81 percent. The motion passed unanimously.

Porter & Chester

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to place the Porter & Chester Bridgeport Campus Day Program on conditional approval for one year due a NCLEX pass rate of 60 percent. The motion passed unanimously. A corrective action plan will be reviewed by the Board at the July meeting.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to remove Porter & Chester Enfield Day Program from conditional approval in that the current NCLEX pass rate is 100 percent. The motion passed unanimously.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to remove Porter & Chester Hamden Campus Day Program from conditional approval in that the current NCLEX pass rate is 83 percent. The motion passed unanimously.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, not to grant a third year of conditional approval and to schedule a hearing to consider program closure for the Porter & Chester Rocky Hill Evening Program due to a NCLEX pass rate of 77 percent. The motion passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for October 2022.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to remove Porter & Chester Waterbury Day Program from conditional approval in that the current NCLEX pass rate is 88 percent. The motion passed unanimously.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to remove Porter & Chester Waterbury Day Program from conditional approval in that the current NCLEX pass rate is 88 percent. The motion passed unanimously.

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to extend conditional approval of the Porter & Chester Waterbury Evening Program for one year due a NCLEX pass rate of 43 percent. The motion passed unanimously. A corrective action plan will be reviewed by the Board at the August meeting.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to remove Porter & Chester Hamden Campus Evening Program from conditional approval in that the current NCLEX pass rate is 83 percent. The motion passed unanimously.

Stone Academy

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, not to grant a third year of conditional approval and to schedule a hearing to consider program closure for the Stone Academy East Hartford Day Program due to a NCLEX pass rate of 62 percent. The motion passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for October or November.

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to extend conditional approval of the Stone Academy East Hartford Evening Program for one year due a NCLEX pass rate of 48 percent. The motion passed unanimously. A corrective action plan will be reviewed by the Board at the August meeting.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to place Stone Academy Waterbury Day Program on conditional approval for one year due a NCLEX pass rate of 61 percent. The motion passed unanimously. A corrective action plan will be reviewed by the Board at the August meeting.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long to place Stone Academy Waterbury Evening Program on conditional approval for one year due a NCLEX pass rate of 65 percent. The motion passed unanimously. A corrective action plan will be reviewed by the Board at the August meeting.

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to extend conditional approval of the Stone Academy West Haven Evening Program for one year due a NCLEX pass rate of 47 percent. The motion passed unanimously. A corrective action plan will be reviewed by the Board at the August meeting.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Lisa M. Simon, L.P.N. - Petition No. 2021-578

Staff Attorney Linda presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Lisa M. Simon. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Gina Reiners moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension in that respondent's continued practice as a nurse is a clear and immediate danger to public health, safety, and welfare. The motion was seconded by Geraldine Marrocco and passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for July 6, 2022.

CONSENT ORDERS

Stephanie A. Esposito, RN, APRN - Petition Nos: 2021-4; 2021-294

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented a Consent Order in the matter of Stephanie A. Esposito, RN, APRN. Respondent was represented by Attorney Stanley Peck.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a reprimand and a \$1000.00 civil penalty. After discussion the failed passed unanimously. The Board recommended a revision to include a period of probation and an increased civil penalty amount.

Michelle Rosa-Harris, LPN Petition No.: 2020-658

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina presented a Consent Order in the matter of Michelle Rosa-Harris, LPN. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to approve the Consent Order which imposes for a period probation for two years. The motion passed with all in favor except Lisa Freeman who was opposed.

Gina Reiners left for the day at 12:06 p.m.

Danielle Howley, L.P.N. Petition No. 2021-557

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented a Consent Order in the matter of Danielle Howley, LPN. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Linda Fazzina, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a reprimand; probation for a period of eighteen months and a permanent restriction in that respondent shall at no time be employed as a nurse for a personnel provider service, assisted living services agency, homemaker-home health aide agency, home health care agency, and shall not be self-employed as a nurse. The motion passed unanimously.

Richardson Montas, L.P.N. - Petition No. 2019-1299

Staff Attorney Aden Baume presented a Consent Order in the matter of Richardson Montas, LPN. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to approve the Consent Order which imposes for a reprimand and probation for one year. The motion passed unanimously.

Break 12:12 to 12:45 pm

HEARINGS

Lynn Dougan, R.N. Petition No. 2021-1192

Staff Attorney Aden Baume was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to grant the Department of Public Health's oral request to deem allegations admitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Following the close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding. Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, that respondent be found on all charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, that respondent's registered nurse license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Portia Hamilton aka Portia Dayon, RN Petition No. 2022-447

Staff Attorney Craig Sullivan was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to grant the Department of Public Health's oral request to deem allegations admitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Following the close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding. Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, that respondent be found on all charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, that respondent's registered nurse license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm on a motion by Jennifer Long, seconded by Lisa Freeman.

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc.
Chair Board of Examiners for Nursing