1	STATE OF IOWA
2	BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS
3	Board Meeting via Zoom
4	
5	Minutes
6	October 22, 2024
7	
8	The Board of Educational Examiners (Board or BoEE) held a meeting via Zoom on
9	October 22, 2024, due to being unable to meet quorum on the originally scheduled
10	date of October 18, 2024. Chad Janzen, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at
11	4:00 p.m. Members attending were Kathy Behrens, Pam Bleam, Davis Eidahl, Eric St
12	Clair, Ryan Weldon, and Miranda Brus. Also, in attendance was Mike Cavin,
13	Executive Director, Beth Myers, Attorney/Investigator, Diane Dennis, Lori Lavorato,
14	and William Rector, Investigators, David Steward, Assistant Attorney General. Tim
15	Bower, Daniel Zylstra, and Michael Lock and were unable to attend.
16	
17	Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kathy Behrens, to approve the agenda.
18	MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
19	
20	Ryan Weldon moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, to approve the consent agenda
21	(minutes for September 13, 2024). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
22	
23	Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Eric St Clair that the Board go into closed
24	session for the purpose of discussing closed session minutes whether to initiate
25	licensee disciplinary proceedings, the decision to be rendered in a contested case,
26	confidential health information, and mental health information, pursuant to Iowa
27	Code sections 21.5(1)(a), (d), and (f). Roll call vote: Behrens – yes, Bleam – yes, Eidahl
28	– yes; Janzen – yes; St Clair – yes; Weldon – yes; Brus – yes; <b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
29	UNANIMOUSLY
30	
31	The Board returned to open session at 5:40 p.m.
32	

- 1 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case numbers 24-109**,
- 2 the Board find that the evidence gathered in the investigations, including witness
- 3 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
- 4 complaints, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
- 5 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 7 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Miranda Brus that in **case number 24-112**,
- 8 the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional
- 9 Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(1)e(4), 25.3(6) c, d, 25.3(8) a & b, and order the
- 10 Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

11

- 12 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that in **case number 24-116**,
- the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional
- 14 Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(6) s & t, and order the Board staff to proceed
- with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

16

- Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that in **case number 24-117**,
- the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional
- 19 Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(6) s & t, and order the Board staff to proceed
- with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

21

- 22 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that in case number 24-118,
- 23 the Board find that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
- 24 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
- complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
- 26 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

27

- 28 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that in **case number 24-119**,
- 29 the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional
- 30 Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(6) s & t, and order the Board staff to proceed
- with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 1 Miranda Brus moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 24-120**, the
- 2 Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
- 3 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
- 4 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
- 5 matter. Roll call vote: Behrens no, Bleam yes, Eidahl yes; Janzen yes; St Clair -
- 6 yes; Weldon yes; Brus yes; **MOTION CARRIED**

- 8 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that in case number 24-121,
- 9 the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional
- 10 Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(6) s & t, and order the Board staff to proceed
- with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

12

- Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Ryan Weldon, that in **case number 24-114**, the
- Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct
- and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(2) b, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case.
- 16 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17

- 18 Ryan Weldon moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 24-94**, the
- 19 Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct
- 20 and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(3)c, 25.3(6) d & m, 25.3(8) a & b and order the Board
- 21 staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

22

- Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in case number 24-108, the
- 24 Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct
- 25 and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(4)a, b, c, & e, and order the Board staff to proceed with
- the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

27

- 28 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Ryan Weldon, that in **case number 24-104**, the
- 29 Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
- 30 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
- complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
- 32 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in case number 24-98, the
- 2 Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
- 3 statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
- 4 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
- 5 matter. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 7 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Ryan Weldon, that in **case numbers 24-86**,
- 8 **24-138, and 24-148** the board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code
- 9 of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(2) b. MOTION CARRIED
- 10 UNANIMOUSLY

11

- 12 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kathy Behrens, that the Board accept the
- respondent's waiver of hearing and voluntary surrender in **case number 24-171 and**
- 14 **24-176** and issue an order permanently revoking the license with no possibility of
- reinstatement. Roll call vote: Behrens yes, Bleam yes, Eidahl yes; Janzen –
- recused; St Clair yes; Weldon yes; Brus yes; **MOTION CARRIED**

17

- 18 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that the Board accept the
- respondent's waiver of hearing and voluntary surrender in **case number 24-110 &**
- 20 **172,** and issue an order permanently revoking the license with no possibility of
- 21 reinstatement. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

22

- 23 Ryan Weldon moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that the Board accept the
- respondent's waiver of hearing and voluntary surrender in **case number 23-103**, and
- 25 issue an order permanently revoking the license with no possibility of reinstatement.
- 26 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

27

- 28 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that the Board accept the
- respondent's waiver of hearing and voluntary surrender in **case number 23-105.** and
- issue an order permanently revoking the license with no possibility of reinstatement.
- 31 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 1 Ryan Weldon moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that the Board accept the
- 2 respondent's waiver of hearing and voluntary surrender in case number 23-58 & 23-
- 3 **117** and issue an order permanently revoking the license with no possibility of
- 4 reinstatement. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 6 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, that in **case numbers 23-128**
- 7 the Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order
- 8 incorporating the agreement and imposing the agreed upon sanction. **MOTION**
- 9 **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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- 11 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, to accept the signed consents
- to waive the deadline in **case numbers 24-124, and 24-127** and issue orders
- 13 extending the deadline. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

14

- 15 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, to extend the 180-day deadline
- for issuance of the final decision in **case number 24-112** based upon the amount of
- time needed to complete the case process, probable cause of an ethical violation has
- been determined by the Board. Additional time is needed to complete the process, and
- 19 Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an
- 20 opportunity to object. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

21

- 22 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Ryan Weldon, to extend the 180-day deadline
- 23 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 24-114** based upon probable cause
- of an ethical violation has been determined by the Board. Additional time is needed to
- complete the process, and the Respondent does not object to the extension. **MOTION**
- 26 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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- 28 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, to extend the 180-day deadline
- 29 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 24-116** based upon probable cause
- of an ethical violation has been determined by the Board. Additional time is needed to
- 31 complete the process, and the Respondent does not object to the extension. **MOTION**
- 32 **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 1 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, to extend the 180-day deadline
- 2 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 24-117** based upon probable cause
- 3 of an ethical violation has been determined by the Board. Additional time is needed to
- 4 complete the process, and the Respondent did not object to the extension even though
- 5 given an opportunity to object. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 7 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, to extend the 180-day deadline
- 8 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 24-119** based upon probable cause
- 9 of an ethical violation has been determined by the Board. Additional time is needed to
- complete the process, and the Respondent does not object to the extension. **MOTION**

## **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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- 13 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Ryan Weldon, to extend the 180-day deadline
- 14 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 24-121** based upon probable cause
- of an ethical violation has been determined by the Board. Additional time is needed to
- 16 complete the process, and the Respondent did not object to the extension even though
- given an opportunity to object. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

18

- 19 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Miranda Brus, to extend the 180-day deadline
- 20 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 24-126** based upon the amount of
- 21 time needed to complete the investigation and conclude the contested case process,
- 22 the seriousness of the accused violation is of such a magnitude, additional time is
- 23 required to complete a comprehensive investigation and conclude the case process,
- 24 and dismissal of the case would undermine public trust in educational licenses and
- 25 would result in disparate treatment of similar ethic violations. **MOTION CARRIED**

## UNANIMOUSLY

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- 28 Ryan Weldon moved, with a second by Kathy Behrens, to extend the 180-day deadline
- 29 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 24-113** based upon the need to
- 30 conclude the case process, and justice would not be served by dismissing a pending
- complaint concerning alleged ethical wrongdoing of an educator given the need to
- maintain safe learning environments for Iowa students. **MOTION CARRIED**

## UNANIMOUSLY

1 2 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Ryan Weldon, to extend the 180-day deadline for issuance of the final decision in case number 24-122 based upon the need to 3 4 complete the case process and dismissal of the case would undermine public trust in 5 educational licenses and would result in disparate treatment of similar ethical 6 violations. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7 8 Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, to approve the closed session minutes for September 13, 2024. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9 10 11 Request for Reinstatement: 12 Case No. 23-235, In the Matter of Cody Nelson. Mr. Nelson abandoned his contract as 13 alleged in the complaint. He received a sanction of: suspension of his license for 30 14 days. Mr. Nelson has submitted an application for reinstatement on October 3, 2024 15 and he is eligible for reinstatement of his license. Mr. Nelson was not present before the board. Ryan Weldon moved, with a second by Kathy Behrens, that the Board 16 17 grant the application for reinstatement as the reason for the suspension no longer exists and reinstatement is in the public interest. I further move that the Board 18 authorize the Executive Director to sign the reinstatement order consistent with 19 20 the Board's discussion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 21 22 Case No. 23-57, In the Matter of Chandra Clark. Ms. Clark, during school hours, 23 printed copies of social media posts and anonymously sent them to parents. She 24 admitted to using the district's computer and printer for this purpose and pled guilty 25 to Harassment in the Third Degree, judgement was deferred and her record expunged 26 by the Court. She received a sanction of: a public reprimand, a suspension for a 27 minimum of 30 days from August 7, 2024, complete a 15-hour ethics course and meet with Dr. Haverland. Ms. Clark submitted an application for reinstatement on 28 29 September 30, 2024. She has completed all requirements and is eligible for 30 reinstatement of her license. Ms. Clark was present before the board. Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that the Board grant the application for 31 32 reinstatement as the reason for the suspension no longer exists and reinstatement is

in the public interest. I further move that the Board authorize the Executive Director

to sign the reinstatement order consistent with the Board's discussion. **MOTION** 

## CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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- 4 Case No. 21-44, In the Matter of Kathryn Schmidt. Ms. Schmidt struck a student on
- 5 the side of the face and pulled the student's hair when her ring got tangled while
- 6 demonstrating inappropriate behavior. Ms. Schmidt denies, and does not admit any
- 7 ethical violations or any other allegations in the complaint but acknowledges that the
- 8 allegations, if proven would constitute grounds for discipline. She received a sanction
- 9 of: amended charges, public reprimand, a restriction on her license so that she shall
- 10 not be the sole licensee in a classroom for a minimum of one year, which will continue
- until there is full reinstatement of her license, a mental health evaluation, complete a
- 12 15-hour ethics course, and a course in classroom discipline. Ms. Schmidt applied for
- reinstatement on October 7, 2024 She has completed all requirements and is eligible
- 14 for reinstatement of her license. Ms. Schmidt was not present before the board.
- Ryan Weldon moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that the Board grant the
- application for reinstatement as the reason for the suspension no longer exists and
- 17 reinstatement is in the public interest. I further move that the Board authorize the
- 18 Executive Director to sign the reinstatement order consistent with the Board's
- 19 discussion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

20

- 21 Communication from the Public:
- 22 None

23

- 24 Rules:
- 25 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kathy Behrens to approve the rules for notice.
- 26 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 28 There being no further business, Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kathy
- 29 Behrens, to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**