1	STATE OF IOWA
2	BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS
3	701 E. Court Ave., Suite A
4	Des Moines, Iowa 50309
5	Mi mata a
6	Minutes Southern 8, 2022
7 8	September 8, 2023
9	The Board of Educational Examiners (Board or BoEE) held a meeting on September 8,
10	2023. Chad Janzen, Board Chair, called the meeting to order. Members attending
11	were Kathy Behrens, Tim Bower (via Zoom), Davis Eidahl, Rhonda McRina (via Zoom),
12	Kristen Rickey, and Eric St Clair. Also in attendance was Mike Cavin, Executive
13	Director (via Zoom), Joanne Tubbs, Interim Executive Director, Beth Myers,
14	Attorney/Investigator, Diane Dennis, Investigator (via Zoom), Greg Horstmann,
15	Investigator and Andrew Steffensmeier, Assistant Attorney General. Pam Bleam was
16	unable to attend.
17	
18	Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, to approve the agenda.
19	MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
20	
21	Rhonda McRina moved, with a second by Tim Bower, to approve the consent agenda
22	(minutes for August 2, 2023). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
23	
24	Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Eric St Clair that the Board go into closed
25	session for the purpose of discussing closed session minutes whether to initiate
26	licensee disciplinary proceedings, the decision to be rendered in a contested case,
27	confidential health information, and mental health information, pursuant to Iowa
28	Code sections 21.5(1)(a), (d), and (f). Roll call vote: Behrens – yes; Bower – yes; Eidahl-
29	yes; Janzen – yes; Rickey – yes; McRina – yes; St Clair – yes. MOTION CARRIED
30	UNANIMOUSLY.
31	
32	Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in case number 23-70 , the
33	Board find that, although one or more of the allegations in the complaint may be
34	substantiated by the witnesses interviewed in the course of the investigation land/orl

- the documents gathered in the course of the investigation, and the allegations may
- 2 constitute a technical violation of the board's statute or administrative rules; the
- 3 evidence before the board indicates that the alleged violation is not of sufficient
- 4 magnitude to warrant a hearing, and the alleged violation was an isolated incident.
- 5 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 7 Tim Bower moved, with a second by Eric St. Clair, that in case number 23-78, the
- 8 Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
- 9 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
- 11 matter. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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- 13 Tim Bower moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in **case number 23-81**, the
- Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
- statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the
- 16 complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this
- matter. Roll Call: Behrens yes; Bower yes; Eidahl yes; Janzen recused; McRina
- yes; Rickey yes; St Clair yes **MOTION CARRIED.**

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- 20 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Tim Bower, that in case number 23-69, the
- 21 Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
- 22 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
- 24 matter. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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- 26 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in **case number 23-67**, the
- 27 Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the following provisions of the
- 28 Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(3)e, 25.3(6)b, 25.3(8)a and
- order this case set for hearing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- Tim Bower moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in case number 23-45, the
- 32 Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
- 33 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
- 2 matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- 4 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 23-82 and**
- 5 **23-85** the Board combine these cases, and the board deny the motion to dismiss and
- 6 that the Board return the complaints and investigative reports to the investigator to
- 7 gather further information, and return the case to the Board for further consideration.
- 8 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9

- Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Tim Bower, that in case number 23-105, the
- Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the following provisions of the
- 12 Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(1)(b)(1)(2), (1)c & (1)e(3) &
- 13 (1)e(4), and order this case set for hearing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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- 15 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 23-115**,
- the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the following provisions of the
- 17 Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(6)d, and order this case
- set for hearing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

19

- 20 Tim Bower moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in **case number 23-111**, the
- 21 Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the following provisions of the
- 22 Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(2)b, and order this case
- 23 set for hearing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

24

- 25 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Tim Bower, that in **case number 23-118**, the
- 26 Board the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the following provisions
- of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(4)a, b, d, e,
- 28 25.3(6)m, 25.3(8)a & b, and order this case set for hearing. **MOTION CARRIED**
- 29 UNANIMOUSLY.

- Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in **case number 23-74**, the
- 32 Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the following provisions of the

- 1 Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(8)(a) and order this case
- 2 set for hearing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- 4 Tim Bower moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 23-76**, the
- 5 Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the following provisions of the
- 6 Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(8)a, and order this case
- 7 set for hearing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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- 9 Tim Bower moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in **case number 23-22**, the
- 10 Board find that, although one or more of the allegations in the complaint may be
- substantiated by the witnesses interviewed in the course of the investigation [and/or]
- the documents gathered in the course of the investigation, and the allegations may
- constitute a technical violation of the board's statute or administrative rules; the
- evidence before the board indicates that the alleged violation was an isolated incident.
- 15 Roll Call: Behrens no; Bower yes; Eidahl yes; Janzen yes, McRina yes; Rickey
- 16 yes; St Clair no. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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- 18 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Tim Bower, that in case number 23-61, the
- 19 Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the following provisions of the
- 20 Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(3)b, and order this case
- 21 set for hearing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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- 23 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in case number 23-92, the
- 24 Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the following provisions of the
- 25 Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(6)c & d, and order this
- case set for hearing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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- 28 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Tim Bower, that in **case number 23-88**, the
- 29 Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the following provisions of the
- 30 Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(5)a(2) and order this case
- set for hearing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- 1 Tim Bower moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in case number 23-86 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 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 23-91**, the
- 8 Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness
- 9 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
- matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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- 13 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 23-79**, the
- Board acknowledge the agreement filed by the parties and that the Board find
- probable cause to establish a violation of the following provisions of the Code of
- Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(6)d and order this case set for
- 17 hearing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

18

- 19 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 23-14**,
- 20 move that the Board accept the respondent's waiver of hearing and voluntary
- surrender in **case number 23-14**, and that the Board issue an order permanently
- 22 revoking the license with no possibility of reinstatement.

23

- 24 Tim Bower moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in case number 22-112 the
- 25 Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order
- incorporating the agreement of the parties and imposing the agreed upon sanction.
- 27 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 29 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in **case number 23-50** the
- 30 Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order
- incorporating the agreement of the parties and imposing the agreed upon sanction.
- Roll call: Behrens- yes; Bower recused; Eidahl yes; Janzen yes; McRina yes;
- 33 Rickey yes; St Clair yes; **MOTION CARRIED**.

- 2 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number** 23-51 the
- 3 Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order
- 4 incorporating the agreement of the parties and imposing the agreed upon sanction.
- 5 Roll call: Behrens- yes; Bower recused; Eidahl yes; Janzen yes; McRina yes;
- 6 Rickey yes; St Clair yes; **MOTION CARRIED**.

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- 8 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in **case number 23-52** the
- 9 Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order
- incorporating the agreement of the parties and imposing the agreed upon sanction.
- Roll call: Behrens- yes; Bower recused; Eidahl yes; Janzen yes; McRina yes;
- 12 Rickey yes; St Clair yes; **MOTION CARRIED**.

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- 14 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 23-48** the
- Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order
- incorporating the agreement of the parties and imposing the agreed upon sanction.
- Roll call: Behrens- yes; Bower recused; Eidahl yes; Janzen yes; McRina yes;
- 18 Rickey yes; St Clair yes; **MOTION CARRIED**.

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- 20 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in **case number 23-49** the
- 21 Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order
- 22 incorporating the agreement of the parties and imposing the agreed upon sanction.
- 23 Roll call: Behrens- yes; Bower recused; Eidahl yes; Janzen yes; McRina yes;
- 24 Rickey yes; St Clair yes; **MOTION CARRIED**.

25

- 26 Tim Bower moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in **case number 22-111** the
- 27 Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order
- incorporating the agreement of the parties and imposing the agreed upon sanction.
- 29 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, that in **case number 23-56** the
- 32 Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order

1 incorporating the agreement of the parties and imposing the agreed upon sanction. 2 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 3 4 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Tim Bower, that in case number 21-128 the Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order 5 6 incorporating the agreement of the parties and imposing the agreed upon sanction. 7 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 8 9 Andrew Steffensmeier recused during the discussion for the 180-day extensions in 10 closed session. 11 12 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, to extend the 180-day deadline 13 for issuance of the final decision in case number 23-35 based upon the need to 14 schedule the hearing and conclude the contested case process. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 15 16 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, to extend the 180-day deadline 17 for issuance of the final decision in case number 23-37 based upon the need to 18 19 schedule the hearing and conclude the contested case process. Roll call: Behrens-yes; 20 Bower - recused; Eidahl - yes; Janzen - yes; McRina - yes; Rickey - yes; St Clair - yes; MOTION CARRIED. 21 22 23 Tim Bower moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, to extend the 180-day deadline for issuance of the final decision in case number 23-42 based upon the need to schedule 24 25 the hearing and conclude the contested case process. **MOTION CARRIED** 26 **UNANIMOUSLY** 27 Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, to extend the 180-day deadline 28 29 for issuance of the final decision in **case number 23-44** based upon need to schedule the hearing and conclude the contested case process. MOTION CARRIED

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31 32 33 UNANIMOUSLY

- 1 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Tim Bower, to extend the 180-day deadline for
- 2 issuance of the final decision in **case number 23-46** based upon the need to schedule
- 3 the hearing and conclude the contested case process. **MOTION CARRIED**

4 **UNANIMOUSLY**

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- 6 Tim Bower moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, to extend the 180-day deadline for
- 7 issuance of the final decision in **case number 23-47** based upon the need to schedule
- 8 the hearing and conclude the contested case process. **MOTION CARRIED**
- 9 **UNANIMOUSLY**

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- Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Kristen Rickey, to extend the 180-day deadline
- for issuance of the final decision in **case number 23-53** based upon the need to
- schedule the hearing and conclude the contested case process. **MOTION CARRIED**
- 14 **UNANIMOUSLY**

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- 16 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Tim Bower, to extend the 180-day deadline for
- issuance of the final decision in **case number 23-54** based upon the need to schedule
- the hearing and conclude the contested case process. **MOTION CARRIED**
- 19 **UNANIMOUSLY**

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- 21 Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Tim Bower, that the Board approve the closed
- 22 session minutes from August 2, 2023. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 24 Requests for Reinstatement:
- 25 **Case No. 21-57 In the Matter of Jody Kline.** Ms. Kline was charged with being on
- 26 school premises or a school sponsored activity while under the influence of alcohol.
- 27 The Respondent received a public reprimand, a suspension for 1 year, completion of
- the Ethics for Educators course, and completed a mental health evaluation and
- 29 substance abuse evaluation. Ms. Kline was present before the board. The Respondent
- 30 has met all of the required criteria for reinstatement. Kristen Rickey moved, with a
- second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 21-57**, the Board grant the Respondent's
- request for reinstatement and issues an order stating the basis for the suspension no

longer exists and it will be in the public interest for the license to be reinstated.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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- 4 Communication from the Public:
- 5 None

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- 7 Board Member Reports:
- 8 None

9

- 10 Executive Director's Report
- Joanne will be serving as Interim Executive Director for the next few months,
- beginning today, and also delivered the Director's Report on behalf of Executive
- 13 Director Cavin.

14

- 15 Legislative updates:
- Rules discussed today encompasses all rule adoptions and changes needed per 2023
- 17 legislative action. The BoEE has worked with the Department of Education on
- proposed legislation for next session. One item is to remove the 180-day limitation
- 19 altogether or change to 180 days to complete a BoEE investigation and allow the board
- 20 to determine PC. There is also a proposal to eliminate the short course and
- employment offer for Transitional Coaching Authorization, which would create a more
- 22 streamlined process. There is also a proposal to modify confidentiality law and allow
- 23 the BoEE to turn the complaint and investigation over to law enforcement when
- 24 applicable. We will need additional modifications to allow investigations of non-
- licensed staff (HF 430), to maintain confidentiality and not impair the criminal
- 26 investigation.

- We've made a request to expand Mandatory Reporting to all of Standard 1, including
- 29 physical abuse and to modify the 3 years limitation on complaints in cases where the
- individual was a minor in an in appropriate relationship. This allows an individual to
- 31 file a complaint as an adult against an educator who committed the inappropriate
- 32 relationship when they were a minor.

- Joanne has begun the initial investigation into our rule re-writes as required by the
- 2 Governor's Executive Order, which is due in 2024. Joanne will also be assisting with
- 3 Director Cavin's responsibilities starting today. Staff have been assigned to the AEA
- 4 Superintendent meetings, with Chad Janzen, Kristen Rickey and Davis Eidahl
- 5 assisting to provide BoEE reports to the superintendents in their areas. Interviews
- 6 will be taking place over the next few weeks to fill our open Education Program
- 7 Consultant position. Permission has been granted to begin advertising for a new
- 8 investigator.

- 10 There is no news on additional Board Member appointments. The legislative
- committee on Boards and Commissions approved the continued existence of our
- separate Board. Board members may provide public comment if they desire.

13

- 14 Financial Report
- 15 Financials have been included. Please reach out if you have any questions. FY23 came
- out about 6% above previous year. Clarity is about 1/3 of the way through the
- 17 requested updates to our application system. All improvements will be implemented
- when all the tasks have been completed. The goals were to improve customer
- 19 interaction, streamline processing, and improved casefile and waiver searching
- 20 capabilities.

21

- 22 License Report
- 23 Renewals are just over 3 weeks out. Conditionals are at 3-5 days in most cases, if
- complete applications submitted. Online requests for the use of substitute teachers to
- 25 start a year, extended time for sub authorizations, and expansion of Paraeducators are
- open. As of Wednesday September 6th, 262 out of 275 requests have been approved
- for open positions. The streamlined application for MA+ and 10 years' experience for
- renewal opened on July 1st and 207 have been processed, with 314 submitted for
- 29 review.

- NASDTEC Professional Practices Institute will take place in November in Rhode Island.
- 32 At this time Beth will be attending and will also attend a Special Education Law
- 33 conference in Omaha this Fall.

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2	Rules
3	Joanne Tubbs reviewed the amendments, as outlined in the Discussion Memo
4	regarding Amend IAC 282 Chapter 11, COMPLAINTS, INVESTIGATIONS, CASE
5	HEARINGS, and Amend IAC 282 Chapter 12, FEES. No action was taken at this
6	meeting on the rule changes. Rule changes were shared to inform the board of
7	changes, answer their questions or hear their comments. There is a new rulemaking
8	process and this stage is gaining permission to do rulemaking.
9	
10	Petition for Waiver
11	Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Tim Bower, that the Board approve PFW 23-
12	08 Ryan Summers. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Reasons for approval: On
13	August 17, 2023, the Board received a Petition from Mr. Summers requesting a waiver
14	of the rule for the requirements of an extension of an Initial License. Mr. Summer
15	holds a conditional one-year license and a substitute license. The conditional license
16	expired on August 21, 2015. The substitute license is valid until August 31, 2028. Mr.
17	Summers was denied another year on his initial license. He has had an initial license
18	for three years, but has not secured a sign off to convert his initial license to a
19	standard license. Mr. Summers has reflected on his previous experiences and knows
20	better how to handle difficult students and situations. He has support and desire to
21	be a teacher. Mr. Summers would endure hardship in not being able to pay for his
22	degree and use the degree he worked to achieve. The granting of this waiver would
23	benefit the community by providing an English/Language Arts teacher.
24	
25	Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Kathy Behrens, that the Board deny PFW 23-
26	09 Hans Andersen. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Reasons for denial: On July
27	31, 2023, the Board received a Petition from Anderson requesting a waiver of the rule
28	for the requirements of an extension of an Initial License. Mr. Anderson holds a
29	conditional one-year license and a substitute authorization. The conditional license
30	expired on June 30, 2022. The substitute authorization is valid until July 31, 2028.

Mr. Anderson was denied another year on his initial license. He has had an initial

standard license. The district supports allowing Andersen to get a job in another

license for three years, but has not secured a sign off to convert his initial license to a

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- district and work on achieving full licensure. Mr. Andersen never revealed another job
- offer. The Board supported the ability of Mr. Anderson to file a future waiver, should
- 3 employment in a position requiring a teaching license was secured.

- 5 Rhonda McRina moved that the board consider the waiver on the condition that
- 6 additional documentation is provided for PFW 23-10 Kristine Sutton. The **MOTION**
- 7 **FAILED** because of a lack of a second. Kristen Rickey moved, with a second by Tim
- 8 Bower, that the Board table the consideration until such time as additional
- 9 information is received for **PFW 23-10 Kristine Sutton**. Roll call: Behrens recused;
- Bower yes; Eidahl- yes; Janzen yes; McRina yes; Rickey yes; St Clair yes.
- 11 **MOTION CARRIED.** Ms. Sutton was present before the board via Zoom. Katie
- Schoolen, attorney for ISEA, and representative for Ms. Sutton, was also present
- before the board. The board did not feel they had enough information at this time
- 14 approve or deny the waiver. The board tabled to allow Ms. Sutton time to submit
- additional information to the board for review.

- 17 There being no further business, Kathy Behrens moved, with a second by Eric St
- 18 Clair, to adjourn the meeting at 1:44 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**