

MINUTES – Special Meeting
Thursday, December 1, 2023
Teams Meeting

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Chair Cory Steiner. Board members present by video conference were Jenny Bladow, Siri Coleman, Amber Fridley, Deb Follman, Sonya Hansana, Evan Kritzberger, Kathy Lentz, Angela Nagel, Patti Stedman, and Cory Steiner. Superintendent Kirsten Baesler was absent.

Also present were ESPB Executive Director Rebecca Pitkin, Assistant Director Mari Riehl, and Amy Bigelow from ESPB, and Allyson Hicks from Office of Attorney General.

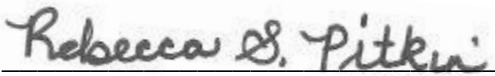
Baron, Ryan – Mr. Baron has been charged with offenses where if he's convicted, would require the revocation of his license under NDCC 15.1-13-26. Allyson recommends that at this time, Mr. Baron's license be suspended, and if he's convicted of any offenses based on the underlying facts of the case that his license be permanently revoked under NDCC 15.1-13-25. This is a state case, so handled as normal. Mr. Baron does currently hold a valid license in Minnesota and Becky has notified the Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board of the case in North Dakota. Mr. Baron has posted bond. As stipulations of his bond he is not allowed to leave the state and there's a protection order in place for Midkota schools.

Jenny Bladow asked if she has a student teacher placed at Midkota for next semester if that needs to be disclosed. Allyson said no, as that is a completely separate matter and would not be a conflict.

Evan Kritzberger made a motion to issue settlement agreement to suspend Mr. Baron's license immediately. If he pleads or is found guilty of any charge based on the underlying facts of the case his license would immediately be revoked. Motion seconded by Patti Stedman. Evan said based on the information provided to the Board, he sees the motion as being appropriate. He also stated if Mr. Baron is convicted of anything not covered by the settlement agreement that it come to the Board again. Board members who voted yes were Jenny Bladow, Siri Coleman, Amber Fridley, Deb Follman, Sonya Hansana, Evan Kritzberger, Kathy Lentz, Angela Nagel, Patti Stedman, and Cory Steiner. None opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37am.


Chair


Secretary/Executive Director