MINUTES – ESPB Special Meeting Thursday, September 22, 2022

Zoom Video Conference

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) special meeting video conference was called to order at 8:01am by Board Chair Brenda Tufte. Board members present were Siri Coleman, Andrea Fox, Sonya Hansana, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, Cory Steiner, Brenda Tufte, and Superintendent Kirsten Baesler. Joshua Standing Elk joined at 8:06am.

Members Ben Johnson and Kathy Lentz were absent.

Also present by video conference were Executive Director Rebecca Pitkin and Amy Bigelow from ESPB and Carl Karpinski from the Attorney General's office.

Carl reminded Board members that due to confidential records the Board will need to go into executive session. He stated only the document and information contained in it can be discussed in executive session. Outside of executive session, information contained in the report cannot be discussed.

Stephen Adams – Reviewed by the Administrative Subcommittee of the Education Standards and Practices Board. Administrative Subcommittee members present were Sonya Hansana, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, and Cory Steiner. Admininistrative Subcommittee member Carly Retterath led the meeting.

The next item on the agenda is for Stephen Adams. This item must be discussed in executive session. Legal authority for closing this portion of the meeting is NDCC 44-04-19.1 and 44-04-19.2. The topic or purpose of this executive session is attorney consultation and discussion and review of confidential records.

Sonya Hansana made a motion to move to executive session. Motion seconded by Cory Steiner. Board members who voted in favor were Siri Coleman, Andrea Fox, Sonya Hansana, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, Cory Steiner, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried. Executive session began at 8:07am and was attended by Board members Siri Coleman, Andrea Fox, Sonya Hansana, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, Joshua Standing Elk, Cory Steiner, Brenda Tufte, and Superintendent Kirsten Baesler. Also present were ESPB Executive Director Becky Pitkin, Carl Karpinski, legal counsel from Attorney General's Office, and Amy Bigelow, ESPB staff and meeting secretary. Executive session ended at 8:14am.

Patti Stedman made a motion to suspend Mr. Adams's license for one year from the date of signed settlement agreement, with required completion of ethics training and Title IX training completed at the applicant's expense. His completed ethics training essay will come back to Board after it's completed. Motion seconded by Sonya Hansana. Administrative Board members who voted yes were Sonya Hansana, Carly Retterath, Patti Stedman, and Cory Steiner. None opposed. Motion carried.

Siri Coleman left the meeting at 8:27am.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29am.

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Menele M. Toyte Chair

Rebecca S. Pitkin -

Secretary/Executive Director