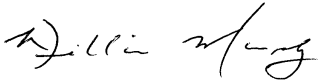





TO: The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: William P. Murphy 

SUBJECT: Appointments and Reappointments to the State Professional Standards and Practices Board for Teaching

DATE: June 1, 2023

AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent)

Should the Board of Regents approve the appointments and reappointments to the State Professional Standards and Practices Board for Teaching (PSPB)?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State regulation.

Proposed Handling

This issue will come before the Full Board for action at its June 2023 meeting.

Procedural History

Terms for members of the PSPB are set forth in section 3.14 of the Rules of the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents appoints members to four-year terms, with the exception of the teacher education student member, who is appointed to a two-year term. PSPB co-chairs are appointed for two-year terms. There are administrator, higher education, P-12 teacher, teacher education student, and public seats on the PSPB.

There are currently five vacancies on the PSPB. One administrator member, two higher education members, one public member, and one student member from a teacher preparation higher education institution. One of the higher education member vacancies is the result of a member resigning before the completion of their four-year term, creating a two-year vacancy that may be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term. The second higher education member vacancy is the result of a member whose term will expire choosing not to serve a second term creating a vacancy. The public member vacancy is similar due to the member's decision not to serve a second term.

The individuals below are recommended for appointment to these vacancies. Additionally, there are five current PSPB members recommended for reappointment.

Background Information

The Department is recommending the following appointments and reappointments to the PSPB:

- Elizabeth Byrnes is recommended to fill one vacant student seat.
- Natasha Cooke-Nieves is recommended to fill one vacant higher education seat.
- Denise Farrelly is recommended to fill one vacant higher education seat, due to a resignation, that expires on June 30, 2025.
- Steve Gamache is recommended to fill one vacant public seat.
- James Skoog is recommended to fill one vacant administrator seat.
- Glen Jeffers (public) and Coretta Wright (administrator) are current PSPB members who are recommended for reappointment for four-year terms. Their current terms expire June 30, 2023.
- Julie Gorlewski (higher education) is a current PSPB member who is recommended for reappointment for a four-year term. The current term expires on September 30, 2023.
- Kathleen Briggs (teacher) and Patrick Wong (teacher) are current PSPB members who are recommended for reappointment for four-year terms. Their current terms expire on December 31, 2023.

Biographical information on the recommended individuals for appointment and reappointment is included (Attachment A). A list of the current PSPB members is included (Attachment B).

Related Regents Items

Not applicable.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED: That the Board of Regents appoints and reappoints the following individuals to the State Professional Standards and Practices Board for Teaching (PSPB) pursuant to section 3.14 of the Rules of the Board of Regents and the PSPB Bylaws: Elizabeth Byrnes (student) for a two-year term commencing July 1, 2023 and expiring June 30, 2025; Steve Gamache (public) for a four-year term commencing June 30, 2023

and expiring June 30, 2027; James Skoog (administrator) for a four-year term commencing July 1, 2023 and expiring June 30, 2027; Denise Farrelly (higher education) to complete the unexpired portion of a four-year term commencing July 1, 2023 and expiring June 30, 2025; Natasha Cooke-Nieves (higher education) for a four year term commencing September 30, 2023 and expiring September 30, 2027; Glenn Jeffers (public) and Coretta Wright (administrator) for reappointment of a four-year term commencing July 1, 2023 and expiring on June 30, 2027; Julie Gorlewski (higher education) for reappointment commencing September 30, 2023 and expiring on September 30, 2027; Kathleen Briggs (teacher) and Patrick Wong (teacher) for reappointment of a four-year term commencing December 31, 2023 and expiring December 31, 2027.

Timetable for Implementation

If approved, the terms of Elizabeth Byrnes (student), Denise Farrelly (higher education), Steve Gamache (public), James Skoog (administrator), Glenn Jeffers (public), and Coretta Wright (administrator) will commence on July 1, 2023; the terms of Julie Gorlewski (higher education) and Natasha Cooke-Nieves (higher education) will commence on September 30, 2023; and the terms of Kathleen Briggs (teacher) and Patrick Wong (teacher) will commence on December 31, 2023.

Attachment A

New York State Professional Standards and Practices Board for Teaching (PSPB)

Appointments

Elizabeth Byrnes
Membership Category: Student
Siena College
Loudonville, NY

Elizabeth Byrnes grew up in Wantagh, New York, and attended Wantagh School District from kindergarten through 12th grade. During her time in Wantagh, she participated in a variety of activities that enriched her educational experience. These included volunteering at Camp A.N.C.H.O.R. for children and adults with disabilities, serving as the President of the Key Club, and serving as the President of Wantagh's chapter of the National Honor Society.

Upon graduating with a Capstone Diploma in 2020, Ms. Byrnes went on to Siena College where she is double majoring in English Education and History and is a member of the Standish Honors Program. She has always known that she wanted to work in the field of education and has an interest in moving on to administration later in her career to create change from a policy standpoint. Ms. Byrnes also has a pointed interest in the field of special education due to her work with Camp A.N.C.H.O.R. She helped with the founding of the Education Club and serves as the Vice President at Siena and is an Orientation Leader, helping to mentor freshmen as they begin their college journeys. Ms. Byrnes is excited about all she will learn on her path to becoming an educator.

Natasha Cooke-Nieves
Membership Category: Higher Education
American Museum of Natural History
New York, NY

Dr. Natasha Cooke-Nieves is the Senior Specialist at the American Museum of Natural History's Master of Arts in Teaching Earth Science Residency Program. As the first residency-based graduate program offered by a museum, Dr. Cooke-Nieves is a professor and clinical supervisor who teaches the Applied Learning in Informal Science Settings and Methods & Assessments in Student Science Research courses to pre-service teachers as well as advises and supervisors the MAT residents in their partner school placements.

Dr. Cooke-Nieves is a graduate of Columbia University, Teachers College (Ed.D), the College of St. Rose (SBL, SDL), CUNY: Brooklyn College (MSEd), and Vassar College (BA). At the start of her educational career, she was a Science Coach and Teacher at

PS/MS 282, implementing hands-on learning and launching a science fair and family night. Afterward, she was a Science and Math Instructional Specialist for the Children First Network in NYC, providing professional development for schools by empowering instructors and administrators with effective tools to accelerate student achievement. During this time, she was also an adjunct lecturer at Brooklyn College, teaching elementary science education, biology, and chemistry courses to pre-service teachers.

Dr. Cooke-Nieves currently serves on the Science Content Advisory Panel (SCAP) at NYSED and in the past was an item writer for the elementary state science exam. She is an active Association for Science Teacher Education (ASTE) member, serving on the Election Committee.

In 2004, she earned National Board Certification and in 2010 was given the prestigious Milken Educator Award. As an educational researcher and teacher educator, Dr. Cooke-Nieves is committed to connecting cultural institutions to teaching and learning. She has presented at conferences and published her qualitative research related to culturally responsive and sustaining teacher preparation, pre-service observation tools, mentoring, and informal science institutions. And when not working at AMNH, she loves visiting other museums!

Denise Farrelly

Membership Category: Higher Education
Kingsborough Community College
Brooklyn, NY

Denise Farrelly, Ed.D., is the Education Program Director and an Assistant Professor of Education within the Department of Behavioral Sciences at Kingsborough Community College. She mentors preservice teachers in culturally and linguistically diverse public schools across Brooklyn, NY, focusing on reflective supervision as a professional development approach. Prior to her career in higher education, she was an elementary school teacher in New York City public schools. She holds a NYS permanent K-5 teacher certification with an extension in gifted education.

Her central research focus is developing, implementing, and measuring classroom pedagogies that promote equity, diversity, and inclusion for community college students. Her most recent peer-reviewed journal publication presents a 6-week learning module aimed at deepening students' understanding of cultural humility. Her secondary research focus is digital computing practices that promote social pedagogy and professional preparation for preservice teachers. Her recent publication provided a mixed-methods analysis of students' perceptions of ePortfolio usage to deepen reflective practices and advance professional development.

Steve Gamache**Membership Category: Public****Deputy Director of the Legislative Commission on Rural Resources in the New York Senate
Albany, New York**

Steve Gamache grew up in the Capital Region and is a product of New York schools. Attending Fordham University, he studied English and continued to the College of Saint Rose, where he earned a master's degree in adolescent education. In 2010, he moved to New Orleans to begin his teaching career, where he taught high school and middle school ELA for eight years. He also taught for an additional two years in a Boston middle school.

In New Orleans, Gamache worked in two turnaround schools, both of which advanced from an F to a C on Louisiana's state report card in just two academic years. At the second turnaround school, he was a member of the school's leadership team where he helped make decisions about school culture and academic programming, conducted school walkthroughs and observations, led academic coaching and professional development sessions, and helped foster the use of data in the school's teaching practices. As a result of his own students' academic growth and his work in developing other teachers, the Louisiana Department of Education awarded him the Milken Educator Award in 2019.

In 2020, he moved back to the Albany area with his wife, Diana, teaching middle school ELA for two years in his hometown of Troy. In 2022, after twelve years in the classroom, Gamache switched careers to his current role as deputy director of the Legislative Commission on Rural Resources in the New York Senate. In this position, he works with individuals and groups from New York's rural communities across a host of issues that include housing, education, and environmental causes.

James Skoog**Membership Category: Administrator****Chappaqua Central Schools
Chappaqua, NY**

Jim earned a Bachelor of Science in Education, a Master of Science in Education, and a Certificate of Advanced Study in School Administration from SUNY at New Paltz. To begin his career, he taught in Newburgh City Schools for nine years, teaching second grade, third grade, and instructional technology. During that time, Jim also worked as a math consultant for a publisher that created elementary math curriculum and materials.

Mr. Skoog transitioned to school administration after taking a job as a middle school assistant principal at Highland Middle School in Highland, N.Y. In that role, he served on the county-wide school improvement council and the instructional council for the district. After one year, he left Highland Schools to take a job as an elementary school assistant principal in the Chappaqua Central School district in Westchester

County. Five years later, Jim became the principal of Westorcharde Elementary School in the district, where he has been for the last 16 years.

He is currently the president of the Chappaqua Administrators Association and has also served as a fellow for the Educational Policy Fellowship Program in Washington, DC.

Reappointments

Kathleen Briggs

Membership Category: Teacher
Lake Placid Elementary School
Lake Placid, New York

Ms. Briggs earned a Bachelor of Music Education from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam, and a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies with a concentration in Teaching Reading from SUNY Plattsburgh. She has been employed by the Lake Placid Central School District since 1989. For the first ten years, she worked at every level teaching general and vocal music. In 1999, she began working exclusively at the elementary level teaching general music to grades K-5 and instrumental music to grades 4 and 5. She directs both a band and a chorus and is co-editor of the yearbook. She has collaborated with colleagues who teach third and fifth grade to create an integrated curriculum including music, art, and social studies. She has been a mentor to new teachers and served on many different committees.

Ms. Briggs is active in the Lake Placid Education Association, serving as a building representative and as co-president. She has represented Zone 6 (Clinton, Essex, and Franklin counties) for the New York State School Music Association and has recently served as the Secretary to the Beta Mu chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Outside of school, Ms. Briggs volunteers at events in the community and has served on the Board of Trustees to the EM Cooper Wilmington Library, holding offices of secretary, vice president, and president. She also directs a community handbell choir. She is currently serving as secretary of the Board of Directors of the Lake Placid Sinfonietta.

Julie Gorlewski

Membership Category: Higher Education
Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Teacher Education
University of Buffalo
Buffalo, New York

Julie Gorlewski is a professor in the Department of Learning and Instruction, and the senior associate dean for teacher education and academic affairs in the Graduate School of Education at the University at Buffalo, State University of New York. In this role, she oversees elementary and secondary teacher certification programs as well as a range of master's and doctoral programs, coordinates accreditation initiatives, conducts research, and fosters collaborative partnerships with schools in order to enhance school experiences for P-12 learners. Her graduate studies were completed at

the University at Buffalo, State University of New York, where she earned a Ph.D. in Social Foundations of Education and an Ed.M. in Elementary Education. She completed her B.S. in Secondary English Education at Buffalo State College. Dr. Gorlewski is a scholar educator with New York State Permanent Certification in Secondary English Education and Elementary/Early Childhood Education.

Her teaching experiences span Pre-K through graduate school and include interdisciplinary initiatives such as literacy, instructional technology, and STEM education. In higher education, she has served as an assistant professor and program director, as well as an edTPA liaison. In P-12 schools, she taught secondary English for more than a decade at a school where she established the English as a Second Language program, served as chair of P-12 English language arts, was Coordinator of Instructional Technology, and served as founding director of a high school learning center. Over the course of her career, Dr. Gorlewski has cultivated a wealth of knowledge about teacher education and development and has led numerous research initiatives related to teacher development, curriculum and assessment, and student learning.

As an educational researcher and teacher educator, Dr. Gorlewski is committed to connecting theory and practice to prepare teachers to engage in critical pedagogies that are culturally sustaining. She has published 11 books related to instructional practice, teacher education, and educational policy; two of these texts were selected for Critics Choice Awards by the American Educational Studies Association. She has authored over 20 peer-reviewed manuscripts and 14 book chapters and delivered over 35 invited talks and made over 45 peer-reviewed presentations at national and international conferences. From 2013-2018, Dr. Gorlewski served as editor of English Journal, the flagship publication of the National Council of Teachers of English. She has also served as co-director of the Equity and Social Justice Conference Series (2007-2016) as well as the regional Conference on College Composition & Communication, held in Richmond, VA in 2017.

Numerous groups and organizations have cited Dr. Gorlewski for her contributions to education. She was selected as a fellow for the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Social Context in Education group, and from 2016-19 served as a section co-chair of AERA's Curriculum Studies Division. She received the People Make a Difference Award from the Cheektowaga Action Partnership, the Provost Award from the State University of New York at New Paltz, the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Graduate School of Education at the University at Buffalo, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the English Education Department at Buffalo State College.

Glenn Jeffers
Membership Category: Public
New York State United Teachers
Albany, New York

Glenn Jeffers currently works for New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) as an Assistant in the Research & Educational Services (R&ES) department. He works on a wide range of federal and state educational policy issues with expertise in NYS

certification requirements, teacher preparation, and professional learning for P-12 educators.

In his position at NYSUT, Mr. Jeffers regularly provides input to the New York State Education Department's (NYSED) Office of Higher Education on certification policies and practices, as well as serving as a point of contact at NYSUT for both the statewide network of teacher centers and the NYS Teacher of the Year program. He is a parent representative on the policy board of the Greater Capital Region Teacher Center and a board member for the State University of Albany at Albany's Academy for the Advancement of Teaching, Leadership, and Schools.

Prior to joining NYSUT, Mr. Jeffers worked at NYSED in the Office of College and University Evaluation as a member of the Teacher Education team. He gained extensive experience in NYSED's approval processes for teacher and leader preparation programs, as well as serving on accreditation teams for numerous national accreditors: Regents Accreditation of Teacher Education (RATE), Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC), and National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

Mr. Jeffers began his career at the College of Saint Rose working as an Assistant Registrar and subsequently in various administrative positions for the college's Education Department. He was also an adjunct for the Educational Psychology and Political Science departments.

Patrick Wong

Membership Category: Teacher

International High School at LaGuardia Community College

New York, New York

Mr. Wong received his B.S. and M.A.T. in Mathematics from Stony Brook University and is dually certified in Mathematics and Special Education. He has been a mathematics teacher at the International High School at LaGuardia Community College for the past thirteen years. He was the Course Coordinator Assistant who supervised teaching assistants and helped improve the quality of the remedial program in the Math Department.

Prior to becoming a high school teacher, Mr. Wong had taught introductory-level math courses at Stony Brook University, including Elements of Problem Solving and Calculus courses to high school students and incoming freshmen. He also worked closely with the Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program.

Mr. Wong is passionate about helping students who come from diverse backgrounds. At his current school, where all students are English language learners, he has held different leadership positions such as Coordinator of Student Activities, Junior Portfolio Coordinator, and Personnel Committee Chair. As a veteran math teacher in the school, he also shares his expertise and best practices with his colleagues and new teachers. He also has provided professional development workshops to faculty members. Mr. Wong is currently a Master Teacher in the Math for America fellowship.

Coretta Wright
Membership Category: Administrator
Schools Without Walls
Rochester, New York

Coretta Wright is the Principal of School Without Walls (SWW) High School in Rochester, NY. In its 50-year existence, Coretta is only the fourth principal the school has ever had. In her 25 years of service as a teacher and administrator at both the middle and high school levels, she has served on numerous boards and committees including the Careers in Administration and Supervision Panel, which oversees mentors and professional development for new administrators. For the past three years, she has also served on the School Administrators Association of New York State (SAANYS) Governmental Relations Committee helping to influence politicians on educational matters.

Ms. Wright holds a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Hampton University. After working in the business field for a short period, she decided to return to school to become a teacher. She received her Masters in Education from SUNY Brockport in 1999 and a Masters in Educational Administration in 2002.

In the company of very few, Ms. Wright has had the unique experience of working in both traditional and non-traditional schools where beliefs about best instructional practices and student assessment vary greatly. SWW has a philosophy that de-emphasizes the use of high-stakes standardized testing. Having spent many years in traditional schools where Regents exams and other high-stakes exams are used as measurements of student learning and graduation readiness, Ms. Wright has the knowledge and perspective to be able to discuss best practices and teacher training from multiple lenses. She regularly facilitates professional development for her staff assisting them in improving their practice.

New York State Professional Standards and Practices Board for Teaching (PSPB)

2022-2023 PSPB Board Members

<p>Patricia Bonfe, Teacher H.W. Smith K-8 Syracuse, New York Term Expires: June 30, 2026</p>	<p>Kathleen Briggs, Teacher Lake Placid Elementary School Lake Placid, NY Term Expires: December 31, 2023</p>
<p>Brooke Burnett, Teacher Ithaca City School District Ithaca, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2025</p>	<p>Heather Buskirk, Public Stride, Inc. Scotia, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2024</p>
<p>Frank Chiachiere, Public Trustee, Valley Stream Board of Education Valley Stream, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2023</p>	<p>Ricardo Colon, Teacher UFT Teacher Center Instructional Coach PS/IS 30 Brooklyn, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2024</p>
<p>Amaya DiGiovanni, Teacher Education Student SUNY Geneseo Geneseo, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2023</p>	<p>Juanita Dyer, Teacher Syracuse City School District Syracuse, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2025</p>
<p>Kathleen Ferguson, co-chair, Teacher Jessie T Zoller Elementary School Schenectady, NY Term Expires: March 31, 2023</p>	<p>Virginia Goatley, co-chair, Higher Education SUNY Albany Albany, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2024</p>
<p>Julie Gorlewski, Higher Education University of Buffalo Buffalo, NY Term Expires: September 30, 2023</p>	<p>Amy Hysick, Public New York State PTA Albany, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2025</p>
<p>Glenn Jeffers, Public New York State United Teachers Albany, New York Term Expires: June 30, 2023</p>	<p>Katie Kurjakovic, Public UFT English Language Learner Specialist and Assistant to the Vice President for Education for the United Federation of Teachers New York, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2024</p>

<p>Edwin Lamboy, Higher Education The City College of New York New York, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2024</p>	<p>Katie Lobato, Teacher Plattekill Elementary School Plattekill, NY Term Expires: November 30, 2026</p>
<p>Wen Ma, Higher Education LeMoyne College Syracuse, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2025</p>	<p>Angelina Maloney, Administrator Brunswick/Brittonkill CSD Troy, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2024</p>
<p>Dwight Manning, Higher Education Teachers College, Columbia University New York, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2024</p>	<p>Joanna Masingila, Higher Education Syracuse University Syracuse, NY Term Expires: September 30, 2023</p>
<p>Derek Pope, Teacher Commack High School Commack, NY Term Expires: November 30, 2026</p>	<p>Amanda Silvestri, Teacher Karigon Elementary Clifton Park, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2025</p>
<p>Pilar Sokol, Esq., Public New York State School Boards Association Latham, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2024</p>	<p>Elizabeth Waite, Teacher Union–Endicott Central Schools Endicott, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2024</p>
<p>Cindy Walter, Administrator TST BOCES Ithaca, NY Term Expires: December 31, 2024</p>	<p>Keith Wiley, Teacher Houghton Academy, PS 69 Houghton, NY Term Expires: June 30, 2025</p>
<p>Patrick Wong, Teacher International HS at LaGuardia Community College Long Island City, NY Term Expires: December 31, 2023</p>	<p>Coretta Wright, Administrator Schools Without Walls Rochester, New York Term Expires: June 30, 2023</p>