

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
State Board for Respiratory Therapy
Thursday, October 12, 2023
80 Wolf Road, Albany, NY
Remote public sites: Hauppauge, Syracuse

Present: Rebecca Albright (Albany)
Kathleen Beney (Syracuse)
Cassandra Germinal (Hauppauge)
Thomas Harvie (Albany)
Thomas K. McManus (Albany)
Peter J. Papadakos (nonpublic location)
Russell Rozensky (nonpublic location)

Staff:	Stephanie Maes	Deputy Commissioner's office
	Diane Martin	Board Staff
	Kellie Murphy	Deputy Commissioner's office
	Paul Thompson	Board Executive Secretary

Meeting Convened

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. Board members and staff introduced themselves. Mr. Thompson noted that comments and discussion are restricted to State board members and Department staff.

Meeting Minutes

- October 13, 2022 (Motion: Thomas McManus; second: Russell Rozensky)
- April 13, 2023 (Motion: Thomas Harvie; second: Russell Rozensky)

The Board voted unanimously in each instance to approve the draft minutes as submitted.

Paths to the Professions

- Kellie Murphy and Stephanie Maes described outreach to engage students, educators, and other stakeholders in learning more about careers in the licensed professions. The “Careers” section of the Office of the Professions website includes profiles of each profession, tools to help students identify career interests, and features on how the professions serve the public. Ms. Murphy also highlighted the Department’s social media outlets.
- Board members suggested resources and identified profile refinements to better reflect the practice of the profession. Ms. Murphy mentioned the possibility of developing partnerships with educators at all levels to develop video content and community outreach (e.g., depicting a “day in the life” of students in preparation programs). Members may reach out to Mr. Thompson or Ms. Murphy with suggestions for improving content and outreach.

Executive Secretary's Report

- Public member Lisa McGinn resigned from the Board as she is preparing to move out of state. Suggestions for potential public (consumer) members are welcome.

- Mr. Thompson thanked board member Kevin Brinson for his service, as Mr. Brinson recently completed his second term. Interested board members who complete their terms may be appointed as extended members to serve on licensure/disciplinary panels.
- The legislative season was relatively quiet, likely due the extended work devoted to the delayed State budget.

Additional Discussion Items

- Board Chair Beney noted that there seems to be variations in how institutions define the respiratory therapist's role in handling blood products. Mr. Thompson noted Department of Health regulations relating to the handling of blood products.
- Board member discussion about the role of EMS personnel in adjusting mechanical ventilators suggests that there are varying levels of skill among EMS teams. Public Health Law defines protocols under which EMS staff work under the direction of a physician.
- Board members noted continuing challenges in producing a sufficient number of polysomnographic technicians; the concern is that some employers may be responding by engaging unlicensed practitioners.
- Mr. Thompson noted the online location for Board meeting information (<https://www.op.nysed.gov/meeting-agendas/state-board-meetings-for-respiratory-therapy>)

Election of Vice Chair

- Mr. Thompson thanked Board members Albright and Harvie for volunteering to stand as candidates for Board Vice Chair. Chair Beney and Mr. Thompson asked Board members to submit their votes via email. Following the meeting, Chair Beney and Mr. Thompson counted the votes and announced that board member Harvie had received the majority of votes and would therefore serve as Vice Chair.

Adjournment

- The Board concluded its meeting at approximately 12:55 p.m. (Motion: Kathleen Beney; second: Thomas McManus; unanimous approval)