



State Board for Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology
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BOARD MEETING NOTES

Date: Thursday, November 8, 2024
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: New York City, Albany, Rochester Offices and via WebEx

In Attendance:

Heather Pyke, Speech-Language Pathologist, Chair
Ianthe Dunn-Murad, Audiologist
Joe Pellegrino, Audiologist
Denise Cruz, Speech-Language Pathologist
Melissa Fenice, Speech-Language Pathologist
Nathalia Fonseca, Speech-Language Pathologist

Kellie Murphy, Executive Secretary
Christina Amato, Education Program Assistant

Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 10:00am.

The meeting minutes from March 22, 2024, were voted and approved.

Pyke is now the Board Chair as Dunn-Murad has finished her one-year term. The Board motioned and approved the appointment of Joseph Pellegrino as the Vice-Chair.

Murphy provided board office updates which included updates on license statistics, inquiries regarding higher education institutions, and frequently asked questions which come into the office mostly regarding Billing and Teacher Credentials.

The Board discussed the current Speech-Language Pathology experience requirement. Murphy shared a few issues with the experience requirement and some applicants will complete an experience, but it will not count because of the number of hours completed per week or because of how long they were with a placement. Old policies were discussed as well and determined applicants can use more than two employers and more than 35 hours per week can be counted but the applicant still needs to demonstrate 36 weeks of experience. Murphy will gather information on hours typically completed by applicants and report back at the next meeting.

The Board discussed the Hearing Aid Dispenser Practical Exam and how the delay in taking the exam negatively impacts new Audiology graduates. It was shared that Audiology programs have 3 amplification courses that are included within clinical rotations and the practical exam is already embedded within the AuD degree. Further, students typically borrow materials from the professional programs in order to complete the DOS practical examination. Murphy will reach out to Department of State with concerns and see if a solution can be found.

Murphy discussed the idea of setting up committees within the Board; however, the board felt more members were needed to adequately do so. We will continue in our recruitment until we meet the statutory minimum and more broad representation, specifically in the rural and the healthcare sectors.

During open discussion Fonseca and Cruz discussed the difficulty of obtaining or maintaining the TSSLD credential with the bilingual extension. Murphy will reach out to the Office of Teaching to obtain clarification on requirements.

As a final action the Board determined the meeting dates and times for the 2025 calendar year: February 7th 10-12 (Remote sites), March 20th (NYSSLHA Convention), September 19th 10-12 (Albany), and December 5th 10-12 (Remote sites).

The meeting adjourned at 12:00pm and will reconvene on May 2, 2024.