

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (NYSED)
STATE BOARD FOR NURSING (BON)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday October 8, 2025
11:00 am- 12:30 pm

Members present: Edmund J.Y. Pajarillo, RN, Chair; Deborah Stamps, RN, Vice Chair; Jamesetta Newland, RN, Member at Large; Edonn Ball, RN; Sherley John, RN; Ralph Derrico, RN; Maria Vezina, RN; Heidi Mix, RN; Sally Dreslin, RN; Gwendolyn Lewis, RN

Members excused: Dustin Ross, RN; Wayne Chan, RN

State Education Department Staff present: Suzanne Sullivan, RN, Executive Secretary; Renée Gecsed, RN, Associate in Nursing Education; Eileen Avery, RN, Associate in Nursing Education; Heidi Weinman, Secretary

Guest Observers: Jeanine Santelli, RN, ANA-NY Executive Director; Amy Kellogg, Harter Secrest & Emery LLP

Call to Order and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

The BON meeting was called to order at 11 AM. The approval of the March 2025, BON meeting minutes was deferred due to lack of quorum. Mr. Pajarillo, BON Chairperson, proposed non-substantive changes to the format of the BON Agenda, which were adopted.

Committee Reports

Report of the Education and Professional Conduct Committees

Ms. Mix, Education Committee Chairperson, reported that Committee Members reviewed and discussed the draft chart entitled "State Board for Nursing Guidance – Nurse Refresher Programs." Some Members noted that the courses identified on the chart were not designed to meet the specific nursing education needs of RNs and LPNs who have committed professional misconduct by providing negligent care. Ms. Sullivan confirmed that the nurse refresher courses do not ensure that the nurse is fit to practice nursing. Committee Members considered diverse options for addressing the unique education needs of nurses who have been disciplined for providing negligent care. Committee Members generally agreed that disciplined nurses who complete a refresher course may have additional nursing education needs such as additional courses targeting the negligent care that nurses had provided. Committee Members suggested that NYSED may need to place these nurses on probation (with supervised clinical practice) upon return to work and require coursework in addition to a nurse refresher course. Ms. Sullivan noted that she would update the chart with a recommendation regarding the need for additional coursework and probation to help prepare a disciplined nurse to practice safely.

Practice Committee

Ms. Newland, Member-at-Large, described the Practice Committee's discussion of the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) enabled technologies on nursing practice. Committee Members noted that such AI enabled technologies augment human capabilities, making work more efficient and decisions more accurate. These technologies can: visualize and analyze objects; understand and generate speech;

and analyze data and make detailed observations, predictions, and decisions. They noted that AI enabled health care technologies can improve patient care, increase efficiency, and accelerate research and the development of new medical treatments and tests. Committee Members also considered some of the challenges with AI enabled technologies, such as risks to patient data privacy, occasional lack of accuracy of some AI results, and the fact that AI enabled technologies lack a “moral compass.” The discussion then focused on two important topics: a nurse’s responsibility for selecting appropriate AI enabled technologies for use in patient care, and a nurse’s ongoing responsibility for their patient care decisions. Committee Members noted that most AI enabled technologies are designed to complement clinical decision making, not substitute for it. Committee Members expressed concerns about a potential lack of nursing input when new AI enabled technologies are implemented in clinical settings.

Strategic Plan

Mr. Pajarillo opened a discussion regarding a document describing a proposed mission and strategic plan for the BON. BON Members agreed that the document’s “Mission and Vision” aligned with the New York State Board of Regents policy. BON Members discussed and provided input to further describe the “Values” section of the document. BON Members also discussed which goals the BON will most likely be able to achieve while also fulfilling and supporting the goals and directives of NYSED and the New York State Board of Regents. Discussion around disparities and bias in patient care; impact of Artificial Intelligence and telehealth on nursing practice; patient safety in professional conduct cases; encouraging professional development including certification and pathways to advancing education and nursing practice. Ms. Sullivan invited BON Members to provide additional, written input on the proposed BON Mission and Strategic Plan until October 24, 2025. She stated that she would incorporate BON Member feedback into the draft document and share it with BON Members.

News/Reports

Ms. Sullivan describes NYSED’s recent effort to implement New York’s BS in 10 Law. She noted that it is particularly important to ensure the laws do not have an adverse impact on New York State’s nursing workforce, especially in rural areas. Board Members agreed that this is an important goal. Ms. Sullivan noted that NYSED is planning to amend the regulations to liberalize and clarify the exemptions in the BS in 10 Law and provide clarity on what an acceptable bachelor’s or higher degree in nursing.

BON Chairperson and Vice Chairperson Report

Mr. Pajarillo described his experiences as a New York State representative at the NCSBN Annual meeting, including learning about NCSBN’s strategic plans, the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact. He encouraged greater participation by BON Members in NCSBN including in leadership positions. Ms. Stamps also encouraged BON Members to participate in NCSBN committees. Ms. Newland stated that she participated every other month on the education and APRN meetings. Ms. Sullivan noted that BON Members and Nursing Board Office staff participate in NCSBN meetings and initiatives.

Other Business

Ms. Sullivan announced that Mr. Derrico's second term as a Voting BON Member was ending and that he would be appointed to serve as an Extended BON Member. Ms. Sullivan expressed appreciation for Mr. Dericco's many years of exemplary service on the BON, as well as for his expertise in nursing regulation. On behalf of the BON and NYSED, she thanked him.

Ms. Sullivan noted that the dates for the January 2026, BON meeting would be determined after checking with BON Member's availability by email.

The BON Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.

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