

## NEW YORK STATE BOARD FOR DENTISTRY

Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.  
New York State Education Department  
Catalog Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Rotunda  
89 Washington Avenue  
Albany, NY 12234

ATTENDANCE: Suzanne Cassata, Chairperson; Paul Chu, Vice-Chairperson, Martin Boorin, Lorraine Carhart, Karl Dixon, Charles Grannum, Maureen Hankin, Aristotle Lyssikatos, Kerry McEntee, Michael McGarvey, Roya Mohajer, Evelyn Salgado, Stanley Smith, and Julie Varney

SED STAFF: Steven Calderon, Azriel Paris, Lisa “Penni” Newman, Faylee Frazier

ABSENT: Katie Tonkin, Eleanor Coney

EXTENDED MEMBERS: Ronald Maitland, Ronnie Myers

GUESTS: Michael Herrmann (NYSDA), Beth Krueger (NYDHA), Donna Hickey (NYDHA), Jacqueline Donnelly (NYSDA) and Lance Plunkett (NYSDA)

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board went into Executive Session at 9:15 a.m.  
Discipline Cases were discussed.  
Board came out of Executive Session at 10:33 a.m.

### WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting was called to order at 10: 45 AM. Welcome and introductions were made.

### CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT:

Dr. Cassata began by stating that she has continued to send out AADB updates to Board members. She discussed her continued work with the Office of Professional Discipline (OPD) on disciplinary cases and her work on the Board’s licensure committee. Dr. Cassata discussed her attendance at the CODA site visit for the Touro College of Dental Medicine’s orthodontic and dentofacial orthopedic residency program.

### VICE CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT:

Dr. Chu began his report by stating that he has been preparing for the upcoming CODA site visit at St. Barnabas Hospital for their pediatric dental residency program. He discussed that he has continued to work with OPD on disciplinary case reviews. Dr. Chu ended his report by discussing some of his work with the Board’s anesthesia and special needs committees.

## **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Dr. Calderon began his report by stating that he will soon be approaching the one year mark as executive secretary for the State Board for Dentistry. He thanked the Board members for their continued dedication and professionalism in their service to the Board and the citizens of New York.

He continued his report by stating that the proposed amendment to Commissioner of Education Regulation §61.9 pertaining to registered dental hygienist- collaborative practice (RDH- CP) certification was under review with OP leadership. Dr. Calderon also stated the proposed amendments to §61.2 pertaining to dental licensing examination requirements is also under review with OP leadership.

He stated the Board Office will be meeting with DPLS and leadership to update and modernize the Form 5R used by residency directors to submit a roster of their residents along with any required application fees. Updates will be given to the board when Dr. Calderon has information to share.

Dr. Calderon then discussed that he was asked by the Bronx District Attorney's Office to give Grand jury testimony about the licensure process in New York State for both US and foreign trained dental graduates.

Dr. Calderon concluded his report by stating that he reached out to Dr. Edward Farkus, Dean of Yeshiva University's College of Dental Medicine. The college has agreed to host the next Dental Board meeting.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM January 16, 2026:**

A motion was made for approval of the January 16, 2026, draft board meeting minutes (Dixon /Smith). Minutes were approved unanimously.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Webpage** – Dr. McEntee, Chair; reported that the committee would like to review OP's website for opportunities to make it more user friendly.

**Legislative** –Dr. Lyssyikatos Chair; reported that Assembly Bill A10958 would waive residency requirement for a dental graduate who practices in a rural underserved area of New York State under a licensed dentist for 12 consecutive months. There were concerns regarding the lack of detail and standards presented in the bill. Questions were raised as to how the Commissioner of Health would determine a graduate's competency under this pathway was equivalent to that of a graduate who completed an accredited residency program. Concerns were also raised that this bill may potentially allow new graduates to perform dental procedures without any supervising dentist being physically available. Additional concerns were discussed including lack of protections for the graduate, lack of specifications as to what locations a graduate may practice in, and incentives for a licensed dentist to become a supervisor for a graduate.

**Scope of Practice** – Ms. Carhart, Chair; reported that the question had been raised if it was in a registered dental hygienist’s scope of practice to perform desiccation therapy. It was determined that this service is within scope for a registered dental hygienist perform.

**Corporate Practice** –Dr. Grannum, Chair; reported that the committee had no updates at this time.

**Anesthesia** – Dr. Chu, Chair; thanked anesthesia committee members for their continued work. He stated that the committee is currently discussing how to address the issue of licensees who let the registration for their anesthesia certification lapse.

**Practical Review of Dental Regulations** – Dr. Mohajer, Chair; reported that as of February 16, 2026 new HIPPA rules were enacted to address protections for records pertaining to substance abuse disorders. She also stated that the RDH-CP law adds voluntary foster care agency health facilities licensed under Article 29-I of the New York State Public Health Law as sites where dental hygiene collaborative practice with a dentist can occur.

**Licensure** – Dr. McGarvey, Chair; reported that committee is still working on suggestions for amendments to Commissioner of Education Regulation §61.2.

**Dental Assistant Laws, Rules & Regulations Committee** – Ms. Varney, Chair; discussed the current pathways available to become licensed as a registered dental assistant in New York State. She stated that the committee had discussed reducing number of additional hours for the alternative pathway to licensure from 1,000 hours to 200 hours. Dr. Calderon has worked with Ms. Varney to present the proposed change to OP leadership. The purpose of this change is to increase the number of registered dental assistants in New York State.

**Tele-Dentistry** – Dr. Salgado, Chair; discussed the American Dental Association’s policy on teledentistry. She discussed how teledentistry expands a patient’s access to dental care. Dr. Salgado concluded her report by discussing the use of AI in teledentistry.

**Special Needs** – Dr. Chu; Chair; reported that the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) had their last dental taskforce meeting on 2/25/26. He stated OPWDD’s website provides assistance with access to dental care for individuals with special needs. He concluded his report by discussing the ten million dollars grant to expand access to dental care for children that was recently announced by Governor Hochul.

**AADB** – Dr. Cassata.; Chair; reported that she had contacted Ms. Kimber Cobb from the AADB to discuss the lapse of AADB newsletters. The AADB is currently upgrading to a new format that focuses on regulatory issues in professions. She discussed that the Interstate Dental and Dental Hygiene Licensure Compact had been enacted in Louisiana. She completed her report by stating that she will be attending the annual AADB meeting in Maryland from October 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**American Board of Dental Examiners** – Ms. Hankin, Chair; reported that ADEX has appointed Ms. Carhart as a representative to their Council on Examinations. She stated that they are conducting a five-year survey of the ADEX Dental Hygiene Examination. The survey was created to ascertain whether the ADEX examination continues to accurately measure the knowledge and clinical skills required for safe and competent entry-level dental hygiene practice. She continued her report by stating that the collaboration between the ADA and ADEX to incorporate ADA’s DLOSCE examination into the ADEX examination should be completed by October 2026. Ms. Hankin concluded her report by giving updates on AADB and CSG dental compacts.

**Wellness** – Dr. Cassata, Chair; explained the purpose of the voluntary fund. She informed Board Members of expenditures and the current fund balance.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

AAPD Practice Guidelines- There were no updates at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Update for Collaborative Practice/RDH-CP- Dr. Calderon discussed that amended regulation was next in line to be discussed with OP’s legal counsel. Dr. Calderon will reach out to the licensure committee to discuss any comments he receives from legal counsel. OP leadership has expressed that they would like to start an early roll out for the application process to apply for RDH-CP certification. The early application process would not grant early certification. A sample collaborative practice agreement and application forms have been created and have been sent to OP leadership for review.

Ms. Hankin stated that the NYDHA is waiting for approval on the amended regulation before they finalize and begin offering the eight-hour continuing education course required for certification. Ms. Hankin also discussed the presentations that have been given by the NYDHA in an effort to educate registered dental hygienists in New York State about RDH-CP certification.

**FUTURE MEETING DATE:** Friday, September 18, 2026, in NYC.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion for adjournment 12:08 (Grannum / Carhart).