

CALL TO ORDER 8:36 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

DATE: May 21, 2025

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Via Microsoft TEAMS

MEETING MINUTES

Name	Member	Present (Y/N)	AAG/DPH STAFF	Present (Y/N)
Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC, Chairperson	RN Member	Y	Elizabeth Bannon, AAG	Y
Cynthia L. Arpin, EdD, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y	Alina Bricklin-Goldstein, AAG	Y
Salvatore Diaz, DNP, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y	Ryan Burns, DPH	Y
Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, RN, ACNS-BC, CNE	RN Member	Y	Linda Fazzina, DPH	Y
Lisa Freeman, BA	Public Member	Y	Anthony Nanni, DPH	Y
Camille Payne, MPH, MSN, APRN, DNP	APRN Member	Y	Chris Andreson, DPH	Y
Alexcis Rivera, BSN, RN, LPN	LPN Member	Y	Dana Dalton, DPH	Y
Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez, DNP, MSN, MPH, RN	RN Member	Y	Brett Moody, DPH	Y
Dianthus Whittley, LPN	LPN Member	Y	Inna Erlikh, DPH	Y
			Susanne Cammarata, DPH	Y
			Lavita Sookram, DPH	Y
			Charai Bellini, DPH	Y
			Leslie Greer, DPH	Y
			Laura Morris, DPH	Y
			Luis Maldonado, DPH	Y
			Judith Bailey, DPH	Y
			Laurie Falaro, DPH	Y
			Christine M. Kroenberger, DPH	Y
			Sara Montauti, DPH	Y

A regular meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing was held via Microsoft Teams on May 21, 2025. The meeting was convened at 8:36 a.m. Attendance was taken by roll call.

Cynthia Arpin moved to add the Department's Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges, related to Catherine E. Seemer, RN, Petition No. 2023-1241, to the meeting agenda. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by acclimation. No objections were raised. Lisa Freeman and Mary Dietmann were not present.

MINUTES OF MAY 7, 2025, REGULAR MEETING

The draft minutes of the May 7, 2025, meeting were reviewed. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez moved to approve the minutes. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. Salvatore Diaz and Dianthus Whittley abstained. The motion was approved unanimously. Lisa Freeman and Mary Dietmann were not present for the vote.

SCHOOL BUSINESS

University of Bridgeport

- Pilot Study/Lab Report. Linda Wagner, Executive Director, represented the University of Bridgeport School of Nursing and presented the evaluation results for students who participated in the pilot program. Salvatore Diaz recused himself. No votes were taken.
- Curriculum Change. Linda Wagner, Executive Director, appeared on behalf of the University of Bridgeport, School of Nursing, and provided a summary of curriculum changes to the BSN and ABSN programs. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the curriculum changes as presented. Alexcis Rivera seconded the motion. Salvatore Diaz recused himself. The motion was approved unanimously. Lisa Freeman was not present for the vote.

Cynthia Arpin made a motion to keep the University of Bridgeport's BSN program on conditional status due to curriculum changes. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion.

After discussion Cynthia Arpin made a motion to withdraw her motion to keep the University of Bridgeport BSN program on conditional status. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion.

Cynthia Arpin made a motion to remove the University of Bridgeport's BSN program from conditional status. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion. Salvatore Diaz recused himself. The motion was approved unanimously. Lisa Freeman was not present for the vote.

Western CT State University

- Curriculum Change. Jeanette Lupinacci, Chair, Joan Palladino, Dean of Nursing, and faculty members Kimberlee-Ann Bridges and Monica Sousa, appeared on behalf of Western CT State University. Both Kimberlee-Ann Bridges and Monica Sousa provided a summary of curriculum changes. Cynthia Arpin moved to approve the curriculum changes as presented. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Lisa Freeman was not present for the vote.
- FYI – Update on the ABSN program. Kimberlee-Ann Bridges provided an update on the program and current enrollment status.

NCLEX – Test Results from 5/1/2024 – 4/30/2025

RN Programs

- **Goodwin University**

Mary Dietmann made a motion to place Goodwin University's ABSN program on conditional status with conditions. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. Salvatore Diaz recused himself. The motion was approved unanimously. Lisa Freeman was not present for the vote.

The Board imposed the following conditions on the approval: 1) unannounced site visits to observe both classroom and clinical experience; 2) meetings with faculty without administration present; and 3) meeting with students without faculty or administration present. The plan of action must include faculty turnover rates as well as any quality program indicators as indicated by NCSBN. The Board also recommended that the program status be reflected on the school's website.

- **University of Bridgeport**

Cynthia Arpin made a motion to place the University of Bridgeport's ABSN program on conditional status with conditions. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. Salvatore Diaz recused himself. The motion was approved unanimously. Lisa Freeman was not present for the vote.

The plan of action must include faculty turnover rates as well as any quality program indicators as indicated by NCSBN. The Board also recommended that the program status be reflected on the school's website.

Cynthia Arpin made a motion to keep the University of Bridgeport's BSN program on conditional status due to curriculum changes. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion.

After discussion Cynthia Arpin made a motion to withdraw her motion to keep the University of Bridgeport BSN program on conditional status. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion.

Cynthia Arpin made a motion to remove the University of Bridgeport's BSN program from conditional status. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion. Salvatore Diaz recused himself. The motion was approved unanimously. Lisa Freeman was not present for the vote.

LPN Programs

- **Porter and Chester Institute**

- Mary Dietmann made a motion to schedule Porter and Chester Institute's, Bridgeport Campus Day and Evening Group programs for a removal hearing. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. Camille Payne abstained. The motion was approved by roll call. Lisa Freeman was not present for the vote.

- Salvatore Diaz made a motion to place Porter and Chester Institute, Hamden Campus Day Group program on conditional status with conditions. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote. Lisa Freeman was not present for the vote. Conditions are to include that the plan of action must include faculty turnover rates as well as any quality program indicators as indicated by NCSBN.

The Board made a request for Porter and Chester Institute, Hamden Campus Day Group, to attend a future meeting to provide clarification on the status of the program.

- Salvatore Diaz made a motion to place Porter and Chester Institute, Waterbury Campus Day Group program on conditional status with conditions. Conditions are to include that the plan of action must include faculty turnover rates as well as any quality program indicators as indicated by NCSBN.

Salvatore Diaz made a motion to amend his previous motions for Porter and Chester Institute's Hamden and Waterbury Campus Day Group program conditions to include the recommendation that the program status be reflected on the school's website. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote. Lisa Freeman was not present for the vote.

- Stone Academy Teach-out Students. This was included as an FYI, that nine out of fourteen Stone Academy Teach-out students sat for the exam and had a 100% pass rate. No votes were taken.
- Porter and Chester Institute site visit. The Board confirmed that they would like DPH to continue with a site visit to both Bridgeport Campus Day and Evening Group programs. The Board also provided clarification on the information being requested from the site visit. No votes were taken.

CONSENT ORDERS

Alexa M. Paola, RN, Petition No. 2023-1313. Staff Attorney Anthony Nanni represented the Department. The Respondent was not present. Cynthia Arpin moved to approve the Reinstatement Consent Order. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Alexis Rivera and Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez were not present for the vote.

Chantale J. Perry, RN, Petition No. 2024-595. Staff Attorney Anthony Nanni represented the Department. The Respondent was present. Lisa Freeman moved to approve the Consent Order. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was denied through unanimous vote. Alexcis Rivera and Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez were not present for the vote.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Yesenia L. Cruz, RN, Petition No. 2024-1754. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the Memorandum of Decision. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Alexis Rivera and Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez were not present for the vote.

MOTION TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Catherine E. Seemer, RN, Petition No. 2023-1241. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina represented the Department and informed the Board that the Respondent voluntarily surrendered her license. The Respondent was not present. Mary Dietmann moved to grant the Department's Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Alexis Rivera and Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez were not present for the vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Salvatore Diaz made a motion to adjourn. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.