

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING**
250 Washington Street, Room 3C
Boston, MA 02108

And Via Zoom Webinar

Wednesday, January 10, 2024 9:00 am | 1 Hour 30 Minutes | (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Event address for attendees:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86177720709>

Join by Phone:

+1-602-333-0032 US Toll

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Access code: 247716

Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Board Members Present In Room 3C

None

Board Members Not Present

A. Sprague, BS, RN

L. Wu, MBA, RN

Board Members Present Via Audio Or Video

L. Kelly, DNP, RN, CNP, Chairperson

A. Alley, MSN, RN, Vice Chairperson

K.A. Barnes, JD, RPh

K. Crowley, DNP, RN (Arrived at 9:03am)

M. Harty, LPN

A. Joseph, MD

L. Keough, PhD, RN, CNP

M. McAuliffe, DNP, RN

J. Monagle, PhD, RN

D. Nikitas, BSN, RN

V. Percy, MSN, RN

R. Reynolds, PhD, MSN, RN

Staff Present In Room 3C

P. Scott, Licensing Coordinator

L. Bermudez, Program Coordinator I

S. Gaun, Office Support Specialist I

Staff Not Present

G. Velez Rivera, MBA, SARP Monitoring Coordinator

E. Conlon, SARP Monitoring Coordinator

L. Ferguson, Paralegal

K. Jones, Probation Compliance Officer

Staff Present Via Audio Or Video

H. Cambra, JD, RN, Acting Executive Director

L. Hillson, PhD, MSN, RN, Assistant Director for Policy and Research

H. Engman, JD, Chief Board Counsel

M. Bresnahan, JD, Board Counsel
S. Waite, DNP, RN, Nursing Education Coordinator
H. Caines Robson, MSN, RN, Nursing Education
Coordinator
P. McNamee, MS, RN, Nursing Practice Coordinator
C. DeSpirito, JD, BSN, RN, Complaint Resolution
Coordinator
A. Hollowell, BSN, RN, Complaint Resolution
Coordinator
L. Almeida, RN, Nursing Investigations Supervisor
M. Waksmonski, MSN, RN, SARP Coordinator

TOPIC:

Call to Order & Determination of Quorum

DISCUSSION:

L. Kelly confirmed by roll call that a quorum of the Board members was present and announced that the meeting was being recorded.

ACTION:

At 9:00 a.m., L. Kelly, DNP, RN, CNP, Chairperson, called the January 10, 2024 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting to order.

TOPIC:

Approval of Agenda

DISCUSSION:

H. Caines Robson corrected Agenda Items VIII D. 2. And VIII D. 3. to reflect the 2023 NCLEX reports, not 2022.

ACTION:

Motion by L. Kelly, seconded by A. Alley, and voted by roll call with A. Alley, K.A. Barnes, K. Crowley, M. Harty, A. Joseph, L. Kelly, L. Keough, M. McAuliffe, J. Monagle, D. Nikitas, V. Percy, and R. Reynolds unanimously in favor to approve the Agenda as revised.
Motion carries.

TOPIC:

Approval of Board Minutes for the December 13, 2023 Meeting of the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

DISCUSSION:

None.

ACTION:

Motion by L. Kelly, seconded by A. Alley, and voted by roll call with A. Alley, A. Joseph, L. Kelly, L. Keough, M. McAuliffe, J. Monagle, D. Nikitas, V. Percy, and R. Reynolds in favor to accept the Minutes of the December 13, 2023 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting as presented.

K.A. Barnes, K. Crowley, M. Harty abstained.
Motion carries.

TOPIC: Reports, Announcements and Administrative Matters
Announcements

DISCUSSION:

H. Cambra reminded Board Members that there is an extended Executive Session on the schedule, running from 5-7pm.

H. Cambra stated that C. DeSpirito has sent out the sign-up sheets for the 2024 Complaint Committee, and encouraged Board Members to sign up when they are able.

H. Cambra reminded the Board Members that NCSBN is scheduled to present at the next Board Meeting and has provided requests about the Next-Gen NCLEX for NCSBN discussion. H. Cambra asked Board Members to send any other topics for NCSBN to discuss, to follow-up within the next two (2) weeks.

A. Joseph informed the Board that he cannot stay for the extended Executive Session from 5-7pm.

ACTION:

So noted.

TOPIC: SARP
Activity Report

DISCUSSION:

M. Waksmonski was available for questions.

L. Kelly asked M. Waksmonski for an update on the URAMP transition. M. Waksmonski stated the transition is moving forward and is scheduled to take effect in late spring or summer of 2024.

M. Waksmonski added that policies are still being formulated policies and procedures, and the next Advisory Committee meeting is coming up in the following weeks.

ACTION:

So noted.

TOPIC: Probation
Staff Action Report – None

DISCUSSION:

None.

ACTION:

None.

TOPIC: Probation

Request for Termination of Probation/Stayed Probation – None

DISCUSSION:

None.

ACTION:

None.

TOPIC: Probation

Request for Notice of Violation and Further Discipline – None

DISCUSSION:

None.

ACTION:

None.

TOPIC: Practice Coordinator Staff Report

DISCUSSION:

P. McNamee was available for questions.

ACTION:

So noted.

TOPIC: Education

Nursing Education Staff Report

DISCUSSION:

H. Caines Robson was available for questions.

ACTION:

So noted.

TOPIC: Education

244 CMR 6.05(3) Annual Reports

Cape Cod Community College Associate Degree Program – Represented by Director of Nursing
Education A. Kilcoyne via Zoom Audio and Video

DISCUSSION:

S. Waite summarized her previously distributed memorandum and attached exhibits to the Board.

A. Kilcoyne stated that the school has identified that the retention rate is close to 80% for 2023 and is back on track with the students. K. Crowley asked if the 79.5% retention rate is final for 2023, and A. Kilcoyne confirmed it was. K. Crowley asked what the 2023 NCLEX pass rate was, and A. Kilcoyne stated it was approximately 90% for first time test takers.

ACTION:

Motion by K. Crowley, seconded by R. Reynolds, and voted by roll call with A. Alley, K.A. Barnes, K. Crowley, M. Harty, A. Joseph, L. Kelly, L. Keough, M. McAuliffe, J. Monagle, D. Nikitas, V. Percy, and R. Reynolds unanimously in favor to:

1. Accept the Program's 244 CMR 6.07(3) Program Change report for decrease in completion rate and that the program has provided a sufficient plan to address.
2. Determine Compliance with 244 CMR6.05(3)(c).
3. Continue Full Approval Status at this time.

Motion carries.

TOPIC: Education

244 CMR 6.05(3) Annual Reports

Mt. Wachusett Community College PN Program – Represented by Program Administrator K. Shea via Zoom Audio and Video

DISCUSSION:

S. Waite summarized her previously distributed memorandum and attached exhibits to the Board.

K. Crowley asked if there is a current completion rate and NCLEX pass rate for 2023. K. Shea stated that there is a 70% completion rate and a 95% NCLEX pass rate for first-time test-takers.

K. Crowley asked K. Shea to speak on how the school is addressing the mental health needs of students. K. Shea stated that the COVID pandemic is impacting students greatly in a multitude of areas, and the school has increased the mental health resources on campus and outsourced to a 24/7 vendor so students in need can access resources at any time.

A. Joseph asked K. Shea if the school has identified the nature of the students' mental health issues and how the issues are interplaying with the students to cause barriers in academic success. K. Shea stated that post-COVID, more students are experiencing increased anxiety, increased depression, along with long-covid symptoms, taking care of family members, and an overall feeling of being overwhelmed. K. Shea stated that the services provided are not overly funded by the state, and upcoming budget cuts will affect the ancillary services. K. Shea added that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic will be felt for at least the next few years.

ACTION:

Motion by L. Kelly, seconded by K. Crowley, and voted by roll call with A. Alley, K.A. Barnes, K. Crowley, M. Harty, A. Joseph, L. Kelly, L. Keough, M. McAuliffe, J. Monagle, D. Nikitas, V. Percy, and R. Reynolds unanimously in favor to:

1. Accept the Program's 244 CMR 6.07(3) Program Change report for decrease in completion rate and that the program has provided a sufficient plan to address.
2. Determine Compliance with 244 CMR6.05(3)(c).
3. Continue Full Approval Status at this time.

Motion carries.

TOPIC: Education

244 CMR 6.08 Noncompliance with Standards

Laboure College Associate Degree Nursing Program – Represented by Program Administrator P. Santana, Assistant Chair A. Sinewick, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs M. Altobello, President L. Hsu, Director of IT W. Peterson, and Dean of Nursing E. Costello, present via Zoom Audio and Video

DISCUSSION:

S. Waite summarized her previously distributed memorandum and attached exhibits to the Board.

P. Santana stated the LPN students are within the pool of 313 admitted students, and the one (1) student that they asked permission to have admitted was exceptional, and the student notified the program requesting to advance so she can graduate in 2024, as she has obtained a job in the ICU and provided documentation. P. Santana stated the school felt it had a duty to admit the student, and they reached out to Board Staff, but since the deadline of classes starting was approaching, P. Santana made the decision to admit the student to prevent them from falling behind. M. Altobello added that the student is aware of her case being heard at today's meeting.

L. Kelly asked S. Waite if the clarification sought was if the previous Board vote referred to halting all entries into the program, and S. Waite confirmed as the October vote focused on the first professional course admissions.

L. Kelly voiced concerns regarding the changing student numbers from Laboure. L. Kelly stated that perhaps all points of entry must be stated and expressed disappointment at Laboure for putting the student in question in such a position. K. Crowley stated that Laboure requested exceptions for at least three (3) different students.

K. Crowley voiced concerns regarding admissions, clinical placement and session issues, and have not reached the first reporting cycle to assess changes since the Board voted to stay the withdrawal. K. Crowley further voiced concerns regarding the changing numbers of students provided by Laboure and admitting a student to a course that the Board voted to place a hold on. L. Kelly asked S. Waite if there has been a site survey, and S. Waite stated there has not, with the last one being completed in September 2023. S. Waite stated that there are still nine (9) open faculty positions, and R. Reynolds voiced concerns regarding the open positions and many requests for exceptions. E. Costello stated that the overall student enrollment has dropped, and the faculty to student ration is 1:15, which is below the average ratio. E. Costello stated they have prioritized hiring for specialty areas. K. Crowley explained that the faculty to student ratio is below the average due to the Board's recommendation to halt admissions.

L. Kelly stated the October Board Meeting encompassed a lot of discussion into the concerns and was clear on the recommendation to halt all admissions. L. Kelly added that the stay of the withdrawal was to give Laboure a chance to look at their program and implement changes to address these problems. L. Kelly voiced concerns regarding Laboure returning to the Board with the current issues. K. Crowley stated the October vote did not address restrictions on alternate points of entry, and the Board must discuss. L. Kelly asked Laboure for transparency regarding alternate points of entry, and M. Altobello stated that in every annual report they have informed the Board of alternate points of entry depending on student circumstances, and the students that were requesting the exceptions were admitted before the Board voted to halt admissions. M. Altobello informed the Board that the Fall cohort has a completion rate of 98%, and the summer graduates have a 96% NCLEX pass rate. L. Hsu added that it was an oversight on the alternate points of entry, and wanted to make sure that the Board was aware of the LPN students waiting to progress. L. Hsu added that the possibility of the student not being allowed to progress

was understood, and the school has been transparent with the student. K. Crowley asked Laboure to explain the eight (8) LPN students and the three (3) LPN students who were to enter NUR1025 for Summer of 2024, and if they in a position to enter the class in Spring of 2024. P. Santana stated they were not due to their current progression in their Health Sciences courses. P. Santana added that their students' board score pass rates have trended upwards to 81% for the academic year, and 93% for quarter four (4).

P. Santana asked the Board to consider not penalizing LPN to RN students in the admissions halt, which can impact their studies and may lead to them not finishing the program. P. Santana emphasized the importance of progressing students forward to be able to enter the workforce, especially after the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. P. Santana stated the school has evaluated the program and improve. H. Cambra asked Laboure if the LPN to RN students could be included in the 64 students the Board voted to allow to progress in the program, and P. Santana stated no because the Board recommendation only included NUR1015 admissions. L. Hsu added that the LPN to RN track is different, and would either be placed in NUR1025 or NUR1035, and were not eligible to be included in the 64-student admission cap. K. Crowley stated that there were several factors that led the school to be placed on warning status and the stay was to give Laboure the opportunity to address the issues, and to allow students to enter their first professional course.

S. Waite asked for clarification regarding the 64-enrollment number for NUR1015, and the alternate pathways through NUR1025 and NUR1035. S. Waite asked if the NUR1015 students will move to the NUR1025 course and asked for clarification on if the 64-student enrollment number is including all enrollment pools, and L. Kelly stated yes. K. Crowley voiced concerns regarding flaws in the exceptions made for certain students. J. Monagle stated that there will be attrition in the courses.

K. Crowley voiced concerns regarding precedent if the Board allows exceptions to be made.

ACTION:

Motion by L. Kelly, seconded by J. Monagle, and voted by roll call with A. Alley, K.A. Barnes, L. Kelly, L. Keough, J. Monagle, D. Nikitas in favor to:

1. Clarify the October Board Directive for Admission and Enrollment of students to Laboure College ADN Nursing Education Program, the 64-student enrollment number is including all enrollment pools and includes all points of entry to the Professional Courses, until Laboure can meet the recommendations put forth in October 2023.
2. Allow the student to enter the program.

K. Crowley, M. Harty, M. McAuliffe, V. Percy, R. Reynolds voted in opposition.

A. Joseph recused.

Motion carries.

TOPIC: Education

2023 NCLEX Performance Statistical Reports

Explanation of NCLEX DATA Reports

DISCUSSION:

H. Caines Robson was available for questions.

ACTION:

So noted.

TOPIC: Education

2023 NCLEX Performance Statistical Reports

2023 Q4 NCLEX Summary of MA Graduates Regardless of State of Licensure

DISCUSSION:

H. Caines Robson was available for questions.

ACTION:

So noted.

TOPIC: Education

2023 NCLEX Performance Statistical Reports

2023 Q4 MA Licensure Candidates Regardless of State of Education

DISCUSSION:

H. Caines Robson was available for questions.

ACTION:

So noted.

TOPIC: Education

NCLEX Performance By Board Approved Programs

NCLEX PN Performance

DISCUSSION:

H. Caines Robson was available for questions.

ACTION:

So noted.

TOPIC: Education

NCLEX Performance By Board Approved Programs

NCLEX RN Performance

DISCUSSION:

H. Caines Robson was available for questions.

ACTION:

So noted.

TOPIC: Requests for License Reinstatement – None**DISCUSSION:**

None.

ACTION:

None.

TOPIC: Strategic Development, Planning and Evaluation

Presentation / Report

Proposed revisions to Advisory Ruling 13-01: Cosmetic and Dermatologic Procedures

DISCUSSION:

P. McNamee summarized her previously distributed memorandum and attached exhibits to the Board.

ACTION:

Motion by L. Kelly, seconded by A. Alley, and voted by roll call with A. Alley, K.A. Barnes, K. Crowley, M. Harty, A. Joseph, L. Kelly, L. Keough, M. McAuliffe, J. Monagle, D. Nikitas, V. Percy, and R. Reynolds unanimously in favor to accept the revisions to the Advisory Ruling 13-01: Cosmetic and Dermatologic Procedures.

Motion carries.

TOPIC: Strategic Development, Planning and Evaluation

Presentation / Report

Proposed revisions to SARP Policy 19-01: Staff Action Authority to Resolve Selected SARP Matters

DISCUSSION:

M. Waksmonski summarized his previously distributed memorandum and attached exhibits to the Board.

H. Engman added that the policy revision is aimed at improving efficiency during the Board meetings.

ACTION:

Motion by L. Kelly, seconded by A. Alley, and voted by roll call with A. Alley, K.A. Barnes, K. Crowley, M. Harty, A. Joseph, L. Kelly, L. Keough, M. McAuliffe, J. Monagle, D. Nikitas, V. Percy, and R. Reynolds unanimously in favor to accept the proposed revisions to SARP Policy 19-01: Staff Action Authority to Resolve Selected SARP Matters.

Motion carries.

TOPIC: Strategic Development, Planning and Evaluation

Presentation / Report

Alzheimer's Training Letter

DISCUSSION:

H. Cambra stated that a letter was sent to Licensees who did not attest to completing an Alzheimer's/Demetia Training course that is now required upon license renewal. H. Cambra clarified that it is a one (1) time requirement, and any course that was completed during a nursing program, or any curricula built into employment orientation or continued training satisfies the requirement. H. Cambra added that it is a requirement for all licensed nurses in Massachusetts.

P. McNamee added that the recipients of the letter are those who attested they had not completed the requirement, and there is no immediate action that needs to be taken. P. McNamee clarified that upon the next license renewal, the Licensee must attest to completing the requirement.

ACTION:

So noted.

TOPIC: Strategic Development, Planning and Evaluation

Topics for Next Agenda

DISCUSSION:

None.

ACTION:

So noted.

TOPIC:

G.L. c. 112, s. 65C Session

DISCUSSION:

None.

ACTION:

Motion by L. Kelly, seconded by A. Alley, and voted by roll call with A. Alley, K.A. Barnes, K. Crowley, M. Harty, A. Joseph, L. Kelly, L. Keough, M. McAuliffe, J. Monagle, D. Nikitas, V. Percy, and R. Reynolds unanimously in favor to convene the G.L. c. 112, s. 65C Session at 10:53 a.m.

Motion carries.

G.L. c. 112, s. 65C Session 10:53 a.m. to 11:49 a.m.

TOPIC:

Adjudicatory Session

DISCUSSION:

None.

ACTION:

Motion by L. Kelly, seconded by A. Alley, and voted by roll call with A. Alley, K.A. Barnes, M. Harty, A. Joseph, L. Kelly, L. Keough, M. McAuliffe, J. Monagle, D. Nikitas, V. Percy, and R. Reynolds unanimously in favor to convene the Adjudicatory Session at 11:52 a.m. to deliberate on proposed final decisions and orders, and rulings on pending adjudicatory matters.

Motion carries.

Adjudicatory Session 11:52 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

TOPIC:

G.L. c.30A, §21 Executive Session

DISCUSSION:

None.

ACTION:

Motion by L. Kelly, seconded by A. Alley, and voted by roll call with A. Alley, K. Crowley, A. Joseph, L. Kelly, M. McAuliffe, J. Monagle, D. Nikitas, V. Percy, and R. Reynolds in favor to convene the Executive Session at 12:32 p.m. as per Purpose One of G.L. c.30A, §21 (a)(1).

L. Keough not present.

Motion carries.

G.L. c. 30A, § 21 Executive Session 12:32 p.m. to 3:59 p.m.

TOPIC:

Adjournment

DISCUSSION:

None.

ACTION:

Motion by L. Kelly, seconded by A. Alley, and voted by roll call with A. Alley, K.A. Barnes, K. Crowley, M. Harty, A. Joseph, L. Kelly, L. Keough, M. McAuliffe, J. Monagle, D. Nikitas, and V. Percy unanimously in favor to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Motion carries.

Minutes of the Board's January 10, 2024, Regularly Scheduled Meeting were approved by the Board on February 14, 2024.



Linda Kelly, DNP, RN, CNP

Chairperson

Board of Registration in Nursing

Agenda with exhibits list attached.

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Board of Registration in Nursing**

Notice of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Regular Session

250 Washington Street
Conference Room 3C
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

And Via Zoom Webinar

Wednesday, January 10, 2024 9:00 am | 1 Hour 30 Minutes | (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Event address for attendees:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86177720709>

Join by Phone:

+1-602-333-0032 US Toll

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Access code: 247716

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

PRELIMINARY AGENDA AS OF 12/28/23 11:40am

Estimated Time	Item #	Item	Exhibit	Presented by
9:00 a.m.	I.	CALL TO ORDER & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM	None	
	II.	APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Agenda	
	III.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES A. Draft Minutes for the December 13, 2023 Meeting of the Board of Registration in Nursing, Regular Session Via Zoom	Minutes	
	IV.	REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS A. Announcements	Oral / Memo	HC
	V.	SARP A. SARP Activity Report	Report	MW
	VI.	PROBATION A. Probation Staff Action Report – None		

	VII.	PRACTICE A. Practice Coordinator Staff Report	Report	PM
	VIII.	EDUCATION A. Nursing Education Staff Report B. 244 CMR 6.05(3) Annual Reports 1. Cape Cod Community College Associate Degree Program 2. Mt. Wachusett Community College PN Program C. 244 CMR 6.08 Noncompliance with Standards 1. Laboure College Associate Degree Nursing Program D. 2022 NCLEX Performance Statistical Reports 1. Explanation of NCLEX DATA Reports 2. 2022 Q4 NCLEX Summary of MA Graduates Regardless of State of Licensure 3. 2022 Q4 MA Licensure Candidates Regardless of State of Education E. NCLEX Performance By Board Approved Programs 1. NCLEX PN Performance 2. NCLEX RN Performance	Report Memo Memo Memo Memo Report Report Report Report	HCR SW SW SW HCR HCR HCR HCR HCR
	IX.	REQUESTS FOR LICENSE REINSTATEMENT – None		
	X.	STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND EVALUATION A. Proposed revisions to Advisory Ruling 13-01: Cosmetic and Dermatologic Procedures B. Proposed revisions to SARP Policy 19-01: Staff Action Authority to Resolve Selected SARP Matters C. Alzheimer's Training Letter D. Topics For Next Agenda	Memo/Presentation Memo/Presentation Letter/Presentation	PM MW TBD

		LUNCH BREAK	
	XI.	M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C SESSION	CLOSED SESSION
	XII.	M.G.L. c. 30A, § 18 ADJUDICATORY SESSION	CLOSED SESSION
	XIII.	<p>EXECUTIVE SESSION The Board will meet in Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, § 21(a)(1) for the purpose of discussing the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the Good Moral Character and Massachusetts Department of Children and Families Cases as required for registration for pending applicants. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of licensees relevant to their petitions for license status change. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of licensees relevant to their compliance with the term of monitored licensed practice or participation in the Board's Substance Addiction Recovery Program. Approval of prior executive session minutes in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 22(f) for sessions held during the December 13, 2023 meeting. 	CLOSED SESSION
5:00 p.m.	XIV.	ADJOURNMENT	

If you need reasonable accommodations in order to participate in the meeting, contact the DPH ADA Coordinator Erin Bartlett at erin.bartlett2@mass.gov in advance of the meeting. While the Board will do its best to accommodate you, certain accommodations may require distinctive requests or the hiring of outside contractors and may not be available if requested immediately before the meeting.