

Board of Registration for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
Meeting Held by Video Conference and Phone
DATE: October 6, 2025 TIME: 9:30 a.m.

General Session Minutes

A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (“the Board”) was held via WebEx.

Board Members Present by video or phone:

Nicole Laffan, Board Chair
Kristin Bresnahan, Board Secretary
Sarah Young-Hong

Staff Present by video or phone:

Thomas F. Burke, Executive Director
Sheila York, Board Counsel
Samuel Leadholm, Board Counsel
Monique Brown, Board Staff
Margaret McKenna, Board Staff
Katherine Wu, Board Intern

Board Members Not Present by video or phone:

Gabrielle Simone

Administrative Tasks

- Board chair called the meeting to order at 9:43 a.m.
- Roll Call vote for attendance

Dr. Laffan established a quorum via calling attendance: Dr. Bresnahan, Ms. Young-Hong, Dr. Laffan. All members present participated remotely via Cisco Webex.

Board Business

- Review general session agenda: October 6, 2025

Dr. Laffan moved to accept the general session agenda as written. Dr. Bresnahan seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes.”; Dr. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Dr. Simone – “Not Present”.

- Review general session minutes: August 4, 2025

Dr. Laffan moved to accept the August 4, 2025 general session minutes as written. Ms. Young-Hong seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes.”; Dr. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Dr. Simone – “Not Present”.

- Executive Director Report
 - ASHA Medicare Update
The executive director reported that CMS will defer to state licensure rules regarding provision of care to Medicare beneficiaries. The CMS decision clarifies that provisionally licensed speech-language pathologists may provide clinical services under supervision to Medicare beneficiaries.

- Meeting dates 2026
 - The board reviewed the proposed 2026 board meeting dates and made no changes. No vote was taken.
- Board Elections
 - Board Chair

Dr. Bresnahan moved to elect Dr. Laffan as Board chair. Ms. Young-Hong seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes.”; Dr. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Dr. Simone – “Not Present”.
 - Board Secretary

Ms. Young-Hong moved to elect Dr. Bresnahan as Board secretary. Dr. Laffan seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes.”; Dr. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Dr. Simone – “Not Present”.
- Board Counsel Report – update on staffing

Board Counsel, Sheila York, introduced Samuel Leadholm, who will serve as incoming board counsel for future meetings. The Board welcomed Mr. Leadholm and thanked Ms. York for her many years of work as board counsel.

Discussion

- Speech-language pathology and audiology assistant certificate programs
 - A. Logue application

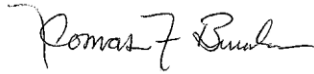
The Board reviewed an application for audiology assistant and discussed the applicant’s coursework and certification program. The Board agreed that the program meets ASHA standards and therefore provides a pathway to licensure. Board members noted that regulations should be revised to align with ASHA standards.

Following discussion, Dr. Laffan moved to accept A. Logue’s application for licensure. Dr. Bresnahan seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes.”; Dr. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Dr. Simone – “Not Present”.

Motion to enter executive session

At 10:10 a.m., Ms. Young-Hong moved to enter into Executive Session pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(1) to discuss the character rather than professional competence of an applicant and G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(7) to maintain confidentiality of highly personal data to comply with G.L. c. 4, s. 7 para. 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, s. 1B and not return to general session. Dr. Laffan seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Laffan – “Yes”; Ms. Young-Hong – “Yes.”; Dr. Bresnahan – “Yes”; Dr. Simone – “Not Present”.

Respectfully Submitted,



Thomas F. Burke
Executive Director

Documents used in the general session meeting:

- Speech Board General Session Agenda for October 6, 2025
- Speech Board Meeting General Session Minutes for August 4, 2025
- Correspondence from the director of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) regarding revised guidance from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
- A. Logue Certificate and Application