



Posting Date: March 8, 2016

DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION  
**BOARD OF NURSING REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION**  
3 Capitol Hill, Conference Room 401, Providence, RI 02908

February 8, 2016 @ 8:52 a.m.

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Lynn Blanchette  
Jessica Brier  
Wendy Chicoine  
Kathleen Heren  
Karen Matook  
Joanne Matthew  
Roberta Powell  
Maria Ross  
Betty Sadaniantz  
Delores Walters

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

Diane Blier  
Maria Ducharme  
Maria Pezzillo

**STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Kimberly McNulty, Chief Implementation Aide  
Margaret Clifton, Director of Nursing  
Colleen McCarthy, Senior Legal Counsel

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Debra Campo, St. Joseph School of Nursing

1) **Establishment of a quorum**

*A meeting of the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was held on Monday, February 8, 2016 at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 401, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. A quorum was established and the Open Session meeting was called to order at 8:52 am.*

2) **Presentation of the January 11, 2016 Open Session Meeting Minutes**

*On a motion made by Kathleen Heren and seconded by Wendy Chicoine it was voted to accept the minutes of January 11, 2016. All were in favor, motion carried.*

### 3) NURSING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a) NLC Training: February 25 & 26, 2016 ~ 12-4:30 & 8:30-12:00: update  
*Director Clifton asked all Board members to advise her if they plan to attend.*
- b) Journal of Nursing Regulations distribution  
*Distributed.*
- c) NCLEX results distributed  
*The Board discussed the CCRI results being reported individually for each campus and its concerns for its results. Director Clifton advised the Board that the CCRI nursing program is the same for each campus and taught by the same professors. However, some campuses may only have one or two students in the nursing program graduating out of sequence thereby making a larger impact on the global number for that campus. Director Clifton informed the Board that the CCRI campuses will be combined once again which will provide a better overview of its nursing program.*
- d) Spring Member Board Review of NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN: Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> – Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> items through simulated computerized adaptive exams will take place. Participation?  
*Board member Lynn Blanchette will attend and will apprise the Board on any changes.*

### 4) PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- a. St. Joseph's School of Nursing: Curriculum changes presented by Deb Campo  
*Deb Campo attended the meeting to answer any questions the Board may have after reviewing the proposed curriculum changes presented at its January meeting. The Board discussed their concern for the clinical hours being reduced. Ms. Campo explained this is an ACEN requirement in order to be accredited but it was a concern for the school as well.*

*A motion was made by Lynn Blanchette and seconded by Kathleen Heren to approve the curriculum changes. Betty Sadaniantz recused herself from the vote due to her employment at St. Joseph's. All were in favor and the curriculum changes were approved.*

#### b. NURSING QUESTIONS:

- i. Laser for urologic procedures:  
*The Board was asked if it was necessary for a hospital to have a Laser Safety Program administered by an appointed laser safety officer. The requestor is also looking for clarification as to whether or not the RN being asked to operate the laser obtain a specific laser safety training or if an in-house training on how to operate the laser is adequate. The Board discussed possible scenarios in which an RN would be required to operate a laser. The Board concluded that the RN must have the proper training specific to operating the laser otherwise it is out of the scope of RN practice. Director Clifton will respond to the requestor.*
- ii. Propofol and Memorial Hospital (Letter from Attorney Chris Callaci):  
*The United Nurses & Allied Professional Attorney, Chris Callaci, submitted a letter to Director Clifton on behalf of the RNs who work at Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island. Attorney Callaci is questioning whether or not a registered staff nurse can administer*

*Propofol sedation under the supervision of an Anesthesiologist or by a member of the Anesthesia Department in the Pain Center.*

*The Board previously discussed this matter at its December 9, 2013 meeting and ruled as follows:*

*“Discussion of nurse administration of Propofol: Anne Tierney, Nurse Anesthetist discussed concerns of the RI Association of Nurse Anesthetists. Product insert states that only people trained in anesthesia should be administering IV Propofol since there is no reversal agent. It should only be administered by someone who can manage an airway per the drug manufacturer. **This is not within the scope of practice of a registered nurse. It should be given by a registered nurse anesthetist.**” (emphasis added)*

*The Board stands behind its 2013 decision that it is out of the scope of practice for a registered nurse to administer Propofol as an anesthetic agent.*

iii. Can nurses (RN & LPN) perform conservative sharps debridement at the bedside in a nursing home setting?

*The Board discussed this issue and the decision of the Board of Nursing is:*

*“Sharps surgical debridement is not within the scope of practice of LPNs or RNs in any patient care setting. Only RNs who are certified as wound care/ostomy nurses are allowed to perform surgical sharps debridement.”*

iv. Can LPNs accept Doctor’s telephone order in a Home Care setting?

*The Board discussed different situations in which an LPN would need to accept a Doctor’s telephone order. The Board determined that an LPN should only accept and execute the Doctor’s order if it is within the scope of practice of the LPN license and training.*

5) Reports from the work groups of the Board of Nursing

a) Task Force on Education: Lead: Maria Pezzillo:

*No business to discuss*

b) Task Force for Website improvement: Lead: Joanne Matthew:

*The task force will meet to view the website and begin discussions on information to add and/or delete.*

6) New Business and Public Comment

*No comments or discussions were offered*

7) Motion to adjourn to Closed Session

*Motion was made by Betty Sadaniantz and seconded by Maria Ross to adjourn to Closed Session at 10:04 am. Motion carried. President Brier read the following:*

*Pursuant to Sections § 42-46-4 and § 42-46-5(a)(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws, for the purpose of discussing job performance, character, physical or mental health of applicants for licensure. Said*

individuals have been notified in advance by writing that they may request that the discussion be held at an open meeting.

Pursuant to Sections § 42-46-4 and § 42-46-5(a)(4) of the Rhode Island General Laws, for investigatory proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct.

8) Return to Open Session

*Motion was made at 1:15 p.m. by Karen Matook and seconded by Delores Walters to re-open the Open Session and to seal the Minutes of the Closed Session pursuant to Sections 42-46-4, 42-46-5 and 42-46-7 of the Rhode Island General Laws. Motion carried.*

9) Final Actions on all votes taken in Closed Session

*The Board proposed action on six (6) cases.*

10) Adjournment

*The next Board of Nursing Registration and Nursing Education meeting will be held Monday, March 7, 2016 at 8:45 am at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 401, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. The Board adjourned at 1:24 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

*Kimberly McNulty*

Case Manager

Board of Nursing