

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
STATE BOARD FOR NURSING
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday January 12, 2022
10:30 am- 1200 pm
WEBEX

Members present Kenya Beard, RN Chair; Anne Conrad, RN Vice Chair, Jennifer Pettis, RN; Heidi Mix, RN; Samantha De Los Santos, public member; Wayne Chan, RN; Edonn Ball, RN; Diane Ceravolo, RN; Edmund J.Y. Pajarillo, RN; Gwendolyn Lewis, RN; Maria Vezina, RN; Jamesetta Newland, RN; Sherley John, RN; Frances Iacobellis, RN; Ralph Derrico, RN

Members excused Valerie Aarne, RN; David Hedman, RN;

Extended members present Victoria Record, RN; Robert Gordon, public member

Auxiliary members present Laurie Carbo-Porter, RN; Wendy Robinson, RN

Board Office Staff present Suzanne Sullivan, RN, Executive Secretary; Ann Bentzen, RN, Associate in Nursing Education; Eileen Avery, RN, Assistant in Nursing Education; Keith Westerling, Administrative Assistant Trainee 1

Guest Observers Jeanine Santelli, RN, ANA-NY Executive Director; Amy Kellogg HSE for ANA-NY and NYS Association of Nurse Anesthetists; Deborah Stamps, RN

Call to Order and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 AM. The minutes of the May 2021 and October 2021 BON meetings were unanimously approved without changes.

News and Reports/Announcements

Ms. Sullivan welcomed Renee Gecsed, RN; Jean Marie Havener, RN and Casey Schenk, RN (Associates in Nursing Education) to the meeting.

Ms. Sullivan described recently enacted New York State laws that impact nurses and other health professionals. She described a law that requires nurses other health professionals to provide NYSED with practice information when they renew their registrations to practice nursing. She explained that the practice information would be used for nursing workforce studies and policy development. Ms. Sullivan described two laws that would make services provided by clinical social workers and licensed mental health practitioners eligible for Medicaid reimbursement, thereby increasing access to mental health care. She described a law that expands the types of vaccines pharmacists may administer pursuant to an order from a physician or nurse practitioner. She noted that new law will facilitate certification of midwifery birthing centers. She described a law that allows school nurses to train staff to provide emergency medications in school, such as glucagon and epinephrine.

Ms. Sullivan updated BON members on several New York bills. She described a bill that would create a clinical preceptor personal income tax credit for preceptors in family medicine, internal medicine, pediatric, emergency medicine or psychiatry. She also described a bill that would create the certified registered nurse anesthetist profession and a bill that would require cultural awareness training for health professionals including nurses.

Ms. Sullivan updated BON members on the status of Governor Hochul's Emergency Executive Orders that relate to health care worker shortage. She noted that current information regarding the Executive Orders is available on NYSED's website. Ms. Sullivan also stated that Governor Hochul has declared racism a public health emergency and that several laws were recently enacted to address this, including a law that requires (in some cases) hospitals, nursing homes and clinics to perform a health equity assessment of their service areas.

Presentation on Nursing Education in New York by Renee Geccedi, RN; Jean Marie Havener, RN and Casey Schenk, RN (Associates in Nursing Education, Professional Education Program Review Unit, NYSED)

Ms. Geccedi, Ms. Havener, and Ms. Schenk provided an overview of the functions of the Professional Education Program Review (PEPR) unit. They noted that they are currently developing a report for the United States Department of Education relating to the Board of Regents accreditation of nursing programs. They described recent changes to the Regent's authority to accredit RN and PN education programs. The Regents will no longer accredit RN or PN programs that are already accredited by another accrediting organization recognized by the United States Department of Education.

They noted that some nursing programs continue to have difficulty securing clinical rotations (especially in obstetrics and pediatrics, psychiatry), due to the COVID 19 pandemic. They noted that they continue to review proposals from nursing education programs to reduce clinical education hours or provide alternative clinical education in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

BON Education Committee Report

Ms. Sullivan described the BON Education Committee's discussion of the proposal to improve regulation of clinical education offered by practical nurse education (PNE) programs. The discussion focused on clinical education quality issues, including, but not limited to, clinical faculty to student ratios, and whether there should be faculty to student ratios for Skills/Simulation Laboratory Education.

Discussion of draft document entitled "Recommendations Regarding Clinical Education in Practical Nursing Education (PNE) Programs"

Ms. Sullivan stated that the purpose of the discussion is to obtain feedback from individual BON members on the draft document entitled "Recommendations Regarding Clinical Education in Practical Nursing Education (PNE) Programs". Ms. Sullivan briefly described challenges faced by PNE programs in procuring clinical education opportunities for students in health facilities. In response to this, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) proposed three recommendations to improve NYSED regulation of PNE program clinical education:

- (1) NYSED should more clearly describe acceptable clinical education methods.
- (2) NYSED should describe the quality and quantity of clinical education that should be provided by PNE programs.
- (3) NYSED should describe how it will address requests to reduce clinical education hours in PNE programs.

BON Members engaged in a discussion of acceptable clinical education methods for PNE programs. BON Members generally agreed that clinical education should require students to practice nursing skills and nursing judgement under nursing supervision. During the discussion of Faculty Supervised Patient Care Education (FSPCE), some BON Members suggested that NYSED's proposed clinical faculty to student ratio of 1:10 should be reduced to 1:8 or 1:6. They also suggested that the ratio would need to be even lower when necessary to ensure patient, student, staff, and faculty safety.

Some BON Members recommended that NYSED consider imposing a faculty to student ratio (such as 1:12) on Skills/Simulation Laboratory Education. Some BON members suggested that a faculty to student ratio would help to ensure that students are actively engaged in practicing skills and nursing judgement under adequate supervision. Some BON Members indicated that in over-crowded skills/simulation lab classes, students spend too much time “waiting their turn” to practice skills. BON Members recommended that NYSED conduct more research into skills/simulation education standards and other state’s requirements for skills/simulation education.

BON Members generally supported Preceptor supervised patient care education for PNE students who had successfully completed FSPCE. Some BON Members believed that this could increase patient care learning opportunities for PN students. BON Members suggested that NYSED impose a preceptor to student ratio of 1:1 or 1:2 and require that the PNE program have a written agreement in place with the host facility that offers the preceptor education.

BON Members engaged in a discussion of the quality and quantity of clinical education that should be provided by PNE programs. Many BON Members indicated that NYSED’s proposal regarding a minimum of 300 hours of FSPCE is an acceptable minimum standard. Other BON Members noted that this is a good starting point for PNE programs. BON Members expressed support for expanding the types of quality patient care education that PNE programs may offer (additional clinical settings and additional patient populations). Many BON Members agreed that NYSED should obtain feedback on the proposal from organizations with expertise in PNE.

The meeting adjourned at 12:21 PM.