

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
State Board for Respiratory Therapy
April 13, 2023

Public Locations: Albany (Wolf Road)

Present: Rebecca Albright
Kathleen Beney (nonpublic location)
Kevin Brinson (nonpublic location)
Thomas Harvie
Thomas K. McManus
Peter J. Papadakos (nonpublic location)

Excused: Cassandra Germinal
Russell Rozensky

Staff: Heather Klusendorf OP Technology Team
Kathleen Letzelter Board Staff
Diane Martin Board Staff
Christopher Roscoe OP Technology Team
Paul Thompson Board Executive Secretary

Meeting Convened

Paul Thompson called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. Board members and staff introduced themselves. Mr. Thompson noted that comments and discussion are restricted to State board members and Department staff.

Meeting Minutes

The Board deferred action on the minutes of the October 13, 2022, meeting until it next convenes with a quorum.

OP Modernization Project

Heather Klusendorf and Christopher Roscoe provided an overview of the OP Modernization Project. The multi-year project will replace the decades-old licensure mainframe; support updates to web-based services that will provide more information and self-service opportunities for applicants and licensees; and provide more sophisticated information tools for staff.

Executive Secretary's Report

- The Governor proposes to move the health professions now overseen by the Education Department (including the RT professions) to the Department of Health. Department leaders provided budget testimony to the Legislature.
- Members of the Board of Regents and senior leaders in the Office of the Professions (OP) will be meeting in-person with representatives of the professional associations. Discussion

topics will include the use of technology in the professions. This is the first of an expected return to periodic stakeholder meetings.

- The Board of Regents are scheduled to act this month on the proposed appointment of a public member to the Respiratory Therapy Board.
- The Executive Secretary reviewed the role of State professional board members. Topics included the State professional board's advisory role, the role of extended members, and conflicts of interest.
- Members noted that some groups continue to advocate for changes to polysomnographic technologist licensure requirements; the Department has not had any further discussions with those advocates. In addition, a proposal related to the education requirements for RT licensure continues to evolve. The Board may discuss these at a future meeting if the proposals advance and Department review is sought.
- Observer Chad Pezzano (NYS Society for Respiratory Care) noted that the Governor's Executive Order relating to the practice of certain health professions has been extended.

Next Scheduled Meeting

- June 8, 2023

Adjournment

- The Board concluded its meeting at approximately 12:40 p.m.