

## **MINUTES – Special Meeting**

**Monday, December 29, 2025**

Teams Meeting

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 9:30am by Board Chair Cory Steiner. Present by video conference were Jenny Bladow, Siri Coleman, Evan Kritzberger, Sarah Lerud, Patti Stedman, Cory Steiner, and Dena Venneman. Dustin Hager, Angela Nagel, Sheila Schlafmann, and Superintendent Levi Bachmeier were absent.

Also present were ESPB Executive Director Rebecca Pitkin, Assistant Director Mari Riehl, and Amy Bigelow from ESPB, and Mark Openshaw from Office of Attorney General, and Arlene Wolf from DPI.

**Nelson, Malaun** – Before discussion began Evan Kritzberger disclosed that he works for Grand Forks Public Schools and they have worked in schools where Evan has also worked. Evan does not know this person and has been on break since the events transpired. Patti Stedman made a motion to allow Evan to participate in this case. Motion seconded by Siri Coleman. Board members who voted yes were Jenny Bladow, Siri Coleman, Sarah Lerud, Patti Stedman, Cory Steiner, and Dena Venneman. None opposed. Motion carried.

The individual has been charged with offenses that, if convicted, would require revocation of their license under NDCC 15.1-13-26. At this time the board can offer a settlement agreement to suspend their license under NDCC 15.1-13-25(c)(j) and Administrative Rule 67.1-03-01-02(3)(4)(7) until the outcome of the case, as has been done with similar cases in the past. If this person pleads or is found guilty to any offenses based on the underlying facts of the case, their license would be revoked under NDCC 15.1-13-26. Attorney Mark Openshaw stated that at this time it does not appear that the individual has an attorney, but he will continue to look into that.

Jenny Bladow made a motion to issue a settlement agreement to suspend Malaun Nelson's license under NDCC 15.1-13-25(c,j) and Administrative Rule 67.1-03-01-02(3)(4)(7) until the outcome of their court case. If they plead or are found guilty of any offenses based on the underlying facts of the case, their license would be come back to the board to be revoked under NDCC 15.1-13-26. If found not guilty, the case would come back to the board for further review. Seconded by Patti Stedman. Board members who voted yes were Jenny Bladow, Siri Coleman, Evan Kritzberger, Sarah Lerud, Patti Stedman, Cory Steiner, and Dena Venneman. None opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41am.

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Chair

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Secretary/Executive Director