

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
17373 PERKINS ROAD
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70810**

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 14, 2023 BOARD MEETING

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by T. Kindall, President, and Presiding Officer, on Thursday, December 14, 2023, at the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810.

Roll Call: The following Board members were in attendance:
Tavell Kindall, PhD, DNP, APRN, FNP, President and Presiding Officer
Tracey Moffatt, MHA, BSN, RN, Vice President
Michelle Collins, Ph.D., CNM, RNC-EFM, FACNM, FAAN, FNAP
Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN-BC, CNE
Teresita McNabb, RN, MHA
Frederick Pinkney, EdD
Mimi Primeaux, MS, BSN, CRNA
Denise Bottcher
Deborah Spann, MSN, RN-BC, CEN, FAEN
Wendi Palermo, PhD, RN

The following Board member was not in attendance:
Jennifer Manning, DNS, APRN, CNS, CNE, Alternate Officer

The following staff members were in attendance:
Karen C. Lyon, PhD, MBA, APRN-CNS^{BC}, NEA^{BC}, Executive Director/CEO
Monique Calmes, DNP, APRN, FNP^C, Chief Credentialing Officer
Isonel Brown, MS, MBA, Chief Administrative Officer
Lauren Papillion, JD, Chief Compliance Officer
Urhonda Beckwith, MSN, APRN, FNP-^{BC}, RNP Director
Geneva Carter, MSN, APRN, RNCO-Team Leader
LaQueda Ricks, Human Resources Manager
William Wilson, Legal Counsel
Jeff Cody, Legal Counsel
Tarneisha Scott, BA, CAA, Executive Assistant to CEO
Suzanne C. Armand, CCR, CVR, Court Reporter

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion: by D. Spann, seconded, to adopt the Agenda as presented.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Motion: by T. McNabb, seconded, to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2023 Board meeting.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

1. Consent Agenda Motions

1. LSBN Staff Program Status Reports
 1. NCLEX Report
 2. Accreditation Reports
2. Approved Program Reports
 1. Southern University Baton Rouge - CCNE
 2. Nicholls State University - CCNE
 3. Intercollegiate Consortium for a Master of Science in Nursing - CCNE
 4. University of Louisiana at Lafayette - CCNE
 5. Southeastern Louisiana University - CCNE
3. Continuing Education Reapproval
 1. Glenwood Regional Medical Center
4. Education Announcements

Motion: by F. Pinkney, seconded, to accept the Consent Agenda Motions.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bossier Parish Community College – LPN to RN Apprenticeship Program

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon

Ms. Cathy Maddry, Program Director, Bossier Parish Community College, and Ms. Traci Latiolais, Administrator LPN-RN Nursing Program, Willis-Knighton Health System, were present to provide information and to answer questions from the Board.

Motion: by D. Spann, seconded, that the Board would approve Bossier Parish Community College’s LPN to RN Apprenticeship Program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

2. Division Reports

Agenda Item 2.1

Division of Nursing Practice

Agenda Item 2.1.1

Chief Credentialing Officer

Agenda Item 2.1.3
Licensure and Practice

Ms. Calmes presented a report on Licensure and Practice. The department continues to prioritize timely and efficient licensing to contribute to their workforce.

Currently, they have renewed 17,473 licensees from a total of 42,357 due to renew this season.

Recently, they have also approved a new CES (Credentials Evaluation Service) provider Spantran. They exceeded or met all NCSBN's (National Council State Boards of Nursing) criteria for providing a service to help assist with removing all the barriers to licensure credentialing.

This past year, they have collectively provided 9 presentations to schools and organizations.

Dr. Calmes attended the mid-year and annual meetings of NCSBN.

Staff attended the APRN roundtable virtually.

They are looking forward to the new year and have already begun discussing ideas for process changes as they strive to be as efficient as possible.

Agenda Item 2.1.2
Education and Examination

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1
Probationary Status Reports

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.1
Baton Rouge General Medical Center – Diploma

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended Acceptance.

Their current NCLEX pass rate is 93.75%.

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, that the Board accept Baton Rouge General Medical Center's School of Nursing report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the diploma program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.2
Chamberlain University - BSN

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended Acceptance.

Their current NCLEX pass rate is 87.72%.

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board accept Chamberlain University's report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays, one abstention, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.3

Louisiana Christian University – BSN

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended Acceptance.

They are at a pass rate of 56%. This is for a program that has been terminated.

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board accept Louisiana Christian University's report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.4

Louisiana Delta Community College - ASN

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended Acceptance.

Their pass rate is 84.06%.

Motion: by J. Couvillon, seconded, that the Board accept Louisiana Delta Community College's report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Associate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.5

Louisiana State University at Alexandria - ASN

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended Acceptance.

They have a 94.74% pass rate.

Motion: by T. McNabb, seconded, that the Board accept Louisiana State University at Alexandria's report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Associate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.6

Southern University at Baton Rouge - BSN

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended Acceptance.

Their pass rate is 89.25%.

Motion: by F. Pinkney, seconded, that the Board accept Southern University at Baton Rouge's report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.7

Southern University at Shreveport – ASN

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended Acceptance.

Their total pass rate is 82.35%.

Motion: by F. Pinkney, seconded, that the Board accept Southern University at Shreveport's report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Associate of Science in Nursing education degree program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.1.8

William Carey University at Baton Rouge General – BSN

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended Acceptance.

Their pass rate is 87.5%.

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board accept William Carey University at Baton Rouge's report and action plan regarding the probationary status of the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing education degree program

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Dr. Lyon reported that Herzing University of New Orleans, Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing program did drop to 79.31%. It does not appear that they have anyone left to test and the program does appear that it will go on probation.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2

New Louisiana Program

Agenda Item 2.1.2.2.1
Tulane University – Step II

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended approval.

Dr. Brenda Douglas, Dean of Nursing, Dr. Mary Mayville, Director of Curriculum and Academic Affairs, Ms. Kady Lamb, Assistant Provost Finance and Operations, at Tulane University, and Ms. Layne Mistretta, Corporate Senior Director Clinical Education and Professional Development at LCMC (Louisiana Children’s Medical Center) were present to provide information and to answer questions from the Board.

Motion: by J. Couvillon, second, that the Board approve Step II from Tulane University to establish a baccalaureate of science in nursing education degree program and grant initial approval.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3
Out of State Clinical Approval

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.1
Georgetown University - APRN

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended re-approval

Motion: by T. McNabb, seconded, the Board re-approve the request of Georgetown University to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 14, 2026 for the following roles/populations:

Master of Science (M.S.) degree in nursing in four specialty concentration areas:

- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
- Nurse Midwifery/Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (NM/WHNP)
- Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)
- Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AG-ACNP)

Post-baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree in four specialty concentration areas:

- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
- Nurse Midwifery/Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (NM/WHNP)
- Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)
- Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AG-ACNP)

Post-Graduate Certificate (PGC) in four specialty concentration areas:

- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)

Nurse Midwifery (NM)

Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)

Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AG-ACNP)

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.2

Texas Christian University – APRN

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended re-approval.

Motion: by M. Primeaux, seconded, that the Board re-approve the request of Texas Christian University to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 14, 2026 for the following roles/populations:

Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice: DNAP degree

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.3

Texas Wesleyan University - APRN

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended re-approval.

Motion: By T. McNabb, seconded, that the Board re-approve the request of Texas Wesleyan University to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 14, 2026 for the following roles/populations:

Nurse Anesthesia: Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice, DNAP

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.3.4

Herzing University – RN

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended approval.

Dr. Stephanie Black, Associate Dean Online Prelicensure Program, Herzing University, was present (virtually) to provide information and to answer questions from the Board.

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board approve the request of Herzing University to offer undergraduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 13, 2026.

Further, that the Board approve the addition of the Master of Science in Nursing – Direct Entry program to the currently approved role/population at Herzing University.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.4
Major Substantive Change

Agenda Item 2.1.2.4.1
Simmons University

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended approval.

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board approve the addition of the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program to the currently approved role/population at Simmons University.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Agenda Item 2.1.2.5
Louisiana Christian University's Teach Out Program

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon. Recommended approval.

Dr. Tomekia Lockett, Dean School of Nursing, Louisiana Christian University, was present to provide information and to answer questions from the Board.

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, that the Board approve an extension of Louisiana Christian University's teach out program for the students remaining in the old BSN program.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

(Break)

(Dr. Kindall called the Board meeting back to order.)

Agenda Item 2.1.2.6
80% NCLEX-RN First Time Pass Rate

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon.

Dr. Lyon reported she is proposing a revision to LAC 46.XLVII.3535.B that will address the concerns of the Board and thoughts that were shared by different faculty.

The rule currently reads:

“The undergraduate nursing education degree program shall have a pass rate of 80 percent or greater achieved by the candidates taking the licensure examination for the first time in any one January to December calendar year, or the program shall be placed on probation.”

Dr. Lyon is proposing and asking the Board to approve to strike the language “or the program will be placed on probation,” and then adding 1 and 2 as follows:

Number 1, “That an undergraduate nursing education degree program that does not meet the 80% first time pass rate in any January to December calendar year will receive a letter of warning from the LSBN Board.”

Number 2, “After two consecutive years of not meeting the 80% NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate standard or two years out of the last 3 years of not meeting the 80% NCLEX-RN first time pass rate standard, the undergraduate nursing education degree program will be placed on probation (See §3509.C.1 and 2).”

This will give everyone two years to receive just a letter of concern if they do not reach the 80% first time pass rate. And after that second year, or any two of the last three years of not meeting the standard, they would be put on probation.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed revision.

Motion: by F. Pinkney, seconded, that the Board approve revision of LAC 46.XLVII.3535.B to allow for letters of concern to be issued to schools that don’t achieve the 80% NCLEX-RN first time pass rate before being placed on probation.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

Dr. Lyon stated she will begin the rule making process.

Agenda Item 2.2 **Compliance Division**

Agenda Item 2.2.1 **Chief Compliance Officer**

Ms. Papillion gave a report on Priority 1 cases.

At the start of December 2023, the Compliance Department had 25 open Priority 1 cases.

Ms. McNabb requested clarification of a Priority 1 case. Ms. Papillion stated that that is their highest priority category of cases posing high risk of substantial harm to the public or patients.

Five Priority 1 cases were out of compliance, which gives a 20% out-of-compliance rate.

Discussion ensued regarding how Priority 1 cases are worked.

Ms. Papillion thanked her team leaders and compliance investigators and officers who recruit and train new staff members and who also retain the valuable staff they have.

Dr. Lyon reported that there are challenges that staff have in getting all the needed information to act against a license, particularly if the license is going to be summarily suspended.

Ms. Papillion was available for questions.

Agenda Item 2.2.2
RNP/Monitoring

A report was presented by Ms. Beckwith on the activities of the RNP/Monitoring Department.

Staff continues to increase awareness of RNP Monitoring. Year to date, they have provided 19 RNP presentations.

On September 18, Uprising Addiction Treatment Center, Shreveport, Louisiana came to LSBN and presented to the staff. An application was submitted to become Board recognized and was denied as they did not meet the criteria.

On September 20, Ms. Butler, RNP Program Manager, did an RNP presentation at Our Lady of the Lake School of Nursing.

On September 26, Ms. Papillion and Ms. Beckwith traveled to UF Health, Gainesville, Florida. UF Health is currently a Board recognized treatment center and requested to provide additional services. On September 27, a site visit was conducted there, and UF Health was approved to provide IOP, outpatient evaluations, and PHP.

On October 16, a virtual RNP presentation was made at Northwestern State University in Shreveport.

On October 25 and 26, Ms. Beckwith virtually attended the Louisiana Action Coalition 2023 Culture of Health Summit.

On November 13, Ms. Papillion, Ms. Rice, and Ms. Beckwith had a meeting at LSBN with Casey Loper, Program Manager, Mississippi Nurse Voluntary Program, to discuss LSBN monitoring and RNP processes to help grow their program.

Ms. K. Pohlman, RNP Program Manager, has retired after 13 years of service. Ms. Papillion and Ms. Beckwith have started interviewing for a new RNP Program Manager.

As of November 30, RNP Monitoring had a total of 437 participants: RNP was a total of 260 and Monitoring was 177. Of the 260 RNP, there were 124 confidential and 136 disciplinary.

Ms. Beckwith was available for questions.

Agenda Item 2.2.3
Compliance

A report of the activity of the Compliance Department was presented by Ms. Carter.

They have made visits to various facilities throughout Louisiana: These visits enhance LSBN's visibility and continue to build rapport with key stakeholders in the community.

Their goal is to educate the public as much as possible about investigations, activities, and LSBN's processes.

They have taken advantage of many training opportunities for professional development to continue to gain knowledge to serve and protect the citizens of Louisiana.

Ms. Beckwith, Dr. Calmes and Ms. Carter received a fellow award for completion of the mentorship program for LAC Nurse Leadership Institute on September 16, 2023.

They currently have sixty-one 2021 cases, one hundred 2022 cases, and two hundred ninety-four 2023 cases.

Ms. Carter thanked her department for all the challenging work they have done this past year.

Ms. Carter was available for questions.

Agenda Item 2.3
Division of Administration

Agenda Item 2.3.1
Chief Administrative Officer

Summary/Background presented by Ms. Brown.

Ms. Brown appeared before the board along with Mr. Roy Hebert, the Board's contract CPA.

Ms. Brown stated she is excited about LSBN's progress with electronic records management as the work of the board is being done more electronically. Administration is working with the Secretary of State to secure approval on our 5-year application. This agency level initiative is our number one accomplishment.

The roof project has been approved, and the capital expenditure has been recognized.

Ms. Brown thanked Team Ops for a successful year they had in 2023.

They received notice on another successful property audit.

Agenda Item 2.3.1.1
FY 2025 Annual Budget

Summary/Background presented by Ms. Brown.

Ms. Brown was available for questions.

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, for approval of proposed FY2025 annual budget

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

The IT Department will be upgrading Confluence. Board members will receive an email with the new process for logging in.

Ms. Brown reminded Board members that the deadline for Sexual Harassment and Ethics training is December 31st.

Agenda Item 2.3.2
Information Technology

No Report.

Agenda Item 2.3.3
Human Resources

No Report

Agenda Item 2.3.4
Administration Services

No Report

Agenda Item 2.4
Division of Legal Affairs

Dr. Lyon reported they are in the process of looking at the Division of Legal Affairs as Ms. C. Jones has taken another position.

Agenda Item 2.4.1
Chief Legal Officer

No Report

Agenda Item 2.4.2
Hearings

Mr. Bowman is presently in Atlanta for a week-long training course for the Regulatory Agency.

Dr. Lyon presented a summary of the open disciplinary cases as of November 30, 2023 and reviewed the data with Board members.

3. Office of the Executive Director/CEO

Agenda Item 3.1
Louisiana State University at Alexandria - Paramedic-ASN program

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon.

Dr. Sarita James, Nursing Director, and Ms. Angela Bordelon, Associate Professor, LPN-ASN Program Coordinator, Louisiana State University at Alexandria, were present to provide information and to answer questions from the Board.

Discussion ensued.

Motion: by W. Palermo, seconded, to approve the Paramedic to Associate of Science in Nursing program at Louisiana State University Alexandria School of Nursing.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

(Break)

(Dr. Kindall called the Board Meeting back to order).

Agenda Item 3.2

Legal Opinion on Dr. T. Kindall's Continuation as Board President from Shows, Cali, and Walsh, LLP

Summary/Background presented by Dr. Lyon.

Dr. Lyon reported that she felt an opinion letter was warranted from Mr. John Walsh with Shows, Cali, and Walsh, LLP, as to whether Dr. Kindall was entitled to continue as Board President until his successor is named by the new governor.

Dr. Lyon received a reply from Mr. Walsh stating that it was his considered opinion that Dr. Kindall is entitled to continue as Board President until the new governor appoints his successor.

Mr. William Wilson and Mr. Jeffrey Cody, Partner attorneys with Shows, Cali, and Walsh, LLP, were present to provide information and answer questions from the Board regarding the legal opinion requested.

Discussion ensued.

Dr. Lyon presented Dr. Kindall with a plaque in appreciation for his service and contributions to the nursing profession and to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, Board President, 2020 to 2023.

4. Reports

Agenda Item 4.1

Report of the President

Report Posted.

Agenda Item 4.2

Report of the Vice President

Report Posted

Agenda Item 4.3

Report of the Executive Director

Report Posted.

Motion: by F. Pinkney, seconded, to accept the reports of the President, Vice President, and the CEO/Executive Director as submitted.

There being no nays or abstentions, the motion carried.

5. Professional Development

Nothing Presented

6. National Council State Boards of Nursing

The NCSBN Board notified Dr. Lyon that she was appointed to the Governance and Bylaws Committee and will hold a two-year appointment in which they will be assessing the Articles of Incorporation for the NCSBN.

The Board congratulated Dr. Lyon on her appointment.

7. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

8. Executive Session

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, to go into Executive Session for the purposes of hearing the Report on Litigation and Personnel Issues.

Voice Vote: D. Botcher-yes; M. Collins-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; T. Kindall-yes;
T. McNabb-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; W. Palermo-yes; F. Pinkney-yes; M. Primeaux-yes;
D. Spann-yes

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT:

After returning from Executive Session, the Board Meeting was adjourned.

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "T. Kindall", is written over a horizontal line.

**T. KINDALL, PRESIDENT, and PRESIDING OFFICER
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING**