

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
AND AUDIOLOGY
Professional Licensing Board
237 Coliseum Drive
Macon, GA 31217
March 12, 2012
10:00 a.m.**

The Board Meeting for the Georgia State Board of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology was held on Monday, March 12, 2012, at the Professional Licensing Boards, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

| The following Board members were present: | Others Present: |
|---|---|
| Lori Smith, AUD, President Amy Gatch, SLP, Vice President Robin Bohannon, AuD Melanie Blackwood, SLP Andrea Boswell, SLP Holly Kaplan, PhD | Janet Wray, Sr. Attorney General Anita Martin, Executive Director Eric Lacefield, Assistant Division Director Carol White, Board Support |

Open Session

Dr. Lori Smith established that a quorum was present and the meeting that was scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. was called to order at 10:08a.m.

Review of February 6, 2012 Conference Call Board meeting minutes.

Ms. Blackwood moved to approve the minutes as amended. Dr. Bohannon seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ratify list of licenses

Dr. Kaplan moved to approve the list. Dr. Bohannon seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Discussion of Therapy Source regarding Web Based Therapy Services.

The Board discussed this issue and states that any Speech Language Pathologist and Audiologist that provides care to the citizens of Georgia must be licensed in Georgia per Board Rules found in Chapter 609-13. Dr. Kaplan will conduct a literature search to see if there is information available concerning the effectiveness of telepractice.

Consideration to post Board Rule 609-4-.05 – Assessment Practices.Amended.

Mr. Bohannon made a motioned to post. Ms. Boswell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

609-4-.05 Assessment Practices. Amended.

(1) Licensees shall make every effort to select and use assessment instruments, techniques or procedures that are valid, reliable and appropriate for the individual client.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
AND AUDIOLOGY
Professional Licensing Board
237 Coliseum Drive
Macon, GA 31217
March 12, 2012
10:00 a.m.**

(2) Licensees shall provide the client with an orientation to the purpose of assessment or to the proposed use of assessment results prior to administration of assessment instruments, techniques or procedures.

(3) Licensees shall administer assessment instruments, including technology based assessment instruments, which are within the licensee's competence for scoring and interpretation.

(a) Speech-Language Pathologist.

1. A Speech-Language Pathologist who is not licensed in Audiology may perform nondiagnostic hearing screenings for the purposes of either performing a speech and language evaluation or for the initial identification of individuals with other communication disorders. A non-diagnostic hearing screening shall be defined as a pure tone air conduction procedure which is conducted in a manner such that the results can only be reported on a pass/fail basis. A report of the screening results may include ear specific information regarding frequencies tested and intensity criteria (screening levels).

2. Other audiological screenings may be performed only when monitored by a licensed Audiologist. These audiological screenings must be conducted in a manner such that the results can only be reported on a pass/fail basis. The licensed audiologist is ultimately liable for the quality of such services and any complaints against the speech-language pathologist regarding these services shall be viewed by the Board as a complaint against the licensed audiologist.

(b) Audiologist.

1. An audiologist who is not licensed as a speech-language pathologist may perform a non-diagnostic speech and language screening for the purposes of performing either an audiological evaluation or for the initial identification of individuals with other communicative disorders. A non-diagnostic speech and language screening is a procedure conducted in a manner such that the results can only be reported on a pass/fail basis.

2. Other speech and language screenings may be performed only when monitored by a licensed speech-language pathologist. These speech and language screenings must be conducted in a manner such that the results can only be reported on a pass/fail basis. The licensed speech-language pathologist is ultimately liable for the quality of such services and any complaints against the audiologist regarding these services shall be viewed by the Board as a complaint against the licensed speech-language pathologist.

3. Licensees shall perform a visual inspection of the ear and ear canal prior to any audiological testing.

(4) Licensees shall record results accurately and in language which is clear and understandable.

(5) Licensees shall make available to the client, upon request, copies of any assessment results in the possession of the licensee which have been prepared for and paid for by the client.

(6) Licensees shall use only reliable assessment data to select or recommend specific products to be dispensed or services to be rendered.

(a) Test data used for the selection of a hearing aid shall not be more than six months old. This shall not apply for the replacement of a hearing aid with a hearing aid of the same make and model unless new testing is required by the consumer's age, history or condition.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
AND AUDIOLOGY
Professional Licensing Board
237 Coliseum Drive
Macon, GA 31217
March 12, 2012
10:00 a.m.**

(b) Audiometric testing must be performed using a wide range audiometer which meets the specifications of the American National Standards Institute (s3.6-1996) for diagnostic audiometers.

(7) A hearing aid is defined as a wearable sound-amplifying device that is intended to compensate for impaired hearing. Other devices can amplify sound, but are not intended to compensate for impaired human hearing. As such, any device marketed, labeled or otherwise stated or claims to improve impaired hearing is by definition a hearing aid, whether the claim was overt or implied. Further, any device which claims to have characteristics or features that would only be necessary to improve hearing (i.e. noise reduction, multiple bands or channels, noise cancellation, feedback reduction, etc.) would be considered a hearing aid.

Authority _____

E mail correspondence from foxybrowny2K@yahoo.com re: state board rules, Medicaid rules and scope of practice of SLP Aides.

Ms. Boswell provided information from ASHA, concerning this issue. Ms. Martin will contact Mr. Jeff Dubberly, Chief of the Medicaid Division, State of Georgia, Department of Community Health to query on this matter.

Executive Director's Open Session – Ms. Anita Martin

- Ms. Martin introduced Assistant Division Director, Mr. Eric Lacefield to the Board. Mr. Lacefield will be the new Executive Director of the Speech Language Pathology and Audiology Board.
- Board Rule 609-6-.01 will be on the April 16, 2012 agenda for the board's consideration.

Executive Session

Ms. Gatch made a motion, Ms. Blackwood seconded and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A §43-1-2(k) to deliberate on applications and O.C.G.A. §43-1-19(h)(2) to review complaints. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Ms. Boswell, Dr. Kaplan, and Dr. Bohannon. The Board concluded Executive Session in order to vote on these matters and continue with the public session.

Appointments:

10:30 a.m – K.L.J. – Denied Speech Pathology Aide Application – Ms. K.J. attended the appointment with the board and the Board spoke with Ms. J's supervisor. The Board recommended to uphold the denial of the application and allow Ms. K.L.J. 14 calendar days to submit a completed and corrected application. The Board recommended contacting Ms. T.S. to

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
AND AUDIOLOGY
Professional Licensing Board
237 Coliseum Drive
Macon, GA 31217
March 12, 2012
10:00 a.m.**

see if she is supervising other SLPA's. The Board recommended sending a letter for Ms. T.S. to Cease and Desist supervision of all SLPA's until the Board is in receipt of proper documentation of training that occurs for all SLPA's and an updated job description. Such training and job description must be specific to Georgia Board Rule 690-6-.01 – Speech Language Pathology Aides and all rules found in Chapter 609-4 – Standards of Conduct.

11:00 a.m. – K.N.S. – Denied Speech Language Pathology Aide – The Board recommended denial as the information is not correct.

11:30 a.m. – K.D.D. – Denied Speech SLP Endorsement Applicant- The Board recommended approval of application.

Applications:

1. F.D.B. – Speech Reinstatement- The Board recommended to reinstate under a Public consent Order with a \$1000.00 fine and 2 additional CE hours in Ethics.

Cognizant Report – Dr. Holly Kaplan

SLPA120004 – The Board recommended closing with no violation

SLPA120007 – The Board recommended scheduling an investigative interview at the April 2012 Board meeting. Ms. Gatch and Dr. Kaplan will conduct the interview.

SLPA-110006 – The Board recommended upon receipt of the certified court documents to refer to the Attorney General's office to offer a Voluntary Surrender. If licensee does not agree to sign the Voluntary Surrender; the Board recommended filing a Notice of Hearing for Revocation.

Miscellaneous-

The Board recommended notifying MediHome Therapy that the practice of SLP-Aides must be under proper supervision at all times.

Open Session

Ms. Gatch made a motion to approve the recommendations in executive session. Ms. Blackwood seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The next Board meeting will be April 16 , 2012.

Ms. Boswell made a motion to adjourn, Dr. Kaplan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
AND AUDIOLOGY
Professional Licensing Board
237 Coliseum Drive
Macon, GA 31217
March 12, 2012
10:00 a.m.**

Minutes recorded by:

Carol White, Board Secretary

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Anita O. Martin, Executive Director

