




TO: The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents
FROM: David H. Hamilton 
SUBJECT: Appointment to the Position of Executive Secretary to the State Boards for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, Occupational Therapy, Acupuncture, and Dietetics and Nutrition

DATE: September 9, 2024

AUTHORIZATION(S):

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Will the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Kellie Murphy to the position of Executive Secretary to the State Boards for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, Occupational Therapy, Acupuncture, and Dietetics and Nutrition?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

This appointment will come before the full Board for action at its September 2024 meeting.

Procedural History

Education Law section 6508(7) requires the Board of Regents to appoint an Executive Secretary to each state board on recommendation of the Commissioner. Education Law sections 8205, 7903, 8213, and 8003 require the Board of Regents to appoint an executive secretary to the boards for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, Occupational Therapy, Acupuncture, and Dietetics and Nutrition. The State Boards advise and assist the Regents and the Department on matters of professional licensing and professional practice.

Background Information

The New York State Education Department oversees the licensing and practice of approximately 22,880 Speech-Language Pathologists, 1,654 Audiologists, 17,685 Occupational Therapists, 4,599 Occupational Therapist Assistants, and 5,084 Acupuncturists. The primary oversight of those functions falls under the direction of the Executive Secretary to those Boards, a position that is required by statute.

Ms. Murphy, currently a Supervisor of Higher Education Programs, has seventeen years of exemplary service and leadership within the Office of the Professions. In her current role within OP, Ms. Murphy represents the Department and conducts outreach to create linkages between the licensed professions and P-16 communities, and to engage and inform students about careers in the licensed professions. Ms. Murphy also plays a key role researching new and emerging policy areas affecting professional licensing and practice. Since October 2023, she has served as the Acting Executive Secretary to the State Board for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. Prior to her current position, Ms. Murphy reviewed and recommended registration of licensure qualifying programs in multiple professions including, but not limited to, Occupational Therapy, and Dietetics and Nutrition. Ms. Murphy earned a Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science with a minor in Communications from the College of Saint Rose, and a Master of Science in Information Science: Library Studies from the State University of New York, University at Albany. Ms. Murphy's education and experience will enable her to effectively serve in the role of Executive Secretary.

Related Regents Items

Not Applicable.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Kellie Murphy to the position of Executive Secretary to the State Boards for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, Occupational Therapy, Acupuncture, and Dietetics and Nutrition.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents approves the recommendation, the appointment will be effective September 10, 2024.