

**New Jersey State Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting
In the Conference Room on the First Floor
100 River View Executive Plaza
Trenton, NJ**

February 4, 2015

Presiding: Mr. Mark W. Biedron, President

Secretary: David C. Hespe, Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

Mr. Arcelio Aponte
Dr. Ronald Butcher
Ms. Claire Chamberlain
Mr. Joseph Fisicaro
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Ms. Edithe Fulton
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Mr. Peter Simon
Dr. Dorothy Strickland

ABSENT

Mr. Andrew Mulvihill

CONVENING

State Board of Education President Mark W. Biedron convened the public meeting with the reading of the statement pertaining to the public session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

The Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the State Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Department of Education, Secretary of State's Office and notice also having been given to the State House Press Corps, the Governor's Office and the State Board agenda subscribers.

And seeing there was a quorum, the meeting of February 4, 2015, was called to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board members approved the minutes of the public meeting conducted on January 7, 2015. State Board member Claire Chamberlain abstained.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Public Testimony

President Biedron stated that public testimony session will not be held today at 2 pm because no topics were scheduled.

President Biedron stated that registration for the March 4, 2015 public testimony session would open Friday, February 13, 2015 and close Friday, February 27, 2015. He also stated that members of the public may present testimony on the amendments to the following regulations: Chapter 9, Professional

Standards, Chapter 9A, NJ Educator Preparation Programs, Chapter 9 B, State Board of Examiners and Certification and Chapter 9C, Professional Development for Teaching Staff Members and School Leaders. He further stated that the January 7 public testimony is an Open Topic public testimony opportunity meaning that members of the public may present testimony on any educational topic of their choice.

President Biedron stated that members of the public should contact the State Board office at 609-984-6024 or check the following website <http://education.state.nj.us/sboe/reg.php> for updates.

Permanent Student Representative

President Biedron introduced Russell Bauer, the student representative for the 2014-2015 school year, and his advisor, Ms. Erica Maira. Russell spoke to the State Board members about Seneca High School's Pathway to Engineering Project Lead the Way Program. Russell stated that this initiative is a four-year program offered to high school students who show academic achievement in math and science and are interested in an engineering career.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

State Operated School District of Jersey City Annual Report

Commissioner Hespe introduced Dr. Marcia Lyles, superintendent, Jersey City Public Schools who provided her annual report to the State Board. Dr. Lyles updated the State Board on the status of student achievement, facilities and operations of the school district. Specifically Dr. Lyles highlighted the district *Mission and Mandate* to ensure that every student, regardless of gender, ethnicity, language, culture or economic status, has equal access and equal opportunity to a rigorous, research-based, comprehensive education. Dr. Lyles stated that to fulfill its mission, the district developed a three-year strategic plan with five goals to be implemented from 2014-2017. As part of the strategic planning process the district's performance was analyzed and the findings were published in the document, *Jersey City Public Schools Needs Assessment*. Dr. Lyles stated that the needs assessment identified five critical success factors that need to be in place to ensure systematic coherence and successful implementation. The critical success factors that need to be in place to the degree needed to achieve maximum success are: 1. Clearly communicate the district's vision and priorities and build a common understanding both within the school system and among our families and the community. 2. Select and support principals to be instructional leaders and reduce the administrative burden on principals in order to increase focus on instruction. 3. Implement service-oriented, efficient and effective central office supports. 4. Develop and implement data-driven systems to inform classroom instruction and support the continuous improvement of school, SST and district department practices. 5. Increase equity and access to academic resources and student support services by strategically allocating resources and leveraging partnerships.

The five goals of the strategic plan are: 1. We will prepare our students for college and career. 2. The district will drive academic achievement using data to inform instructional practices. 3. The district will develop an effective system of support and accountability that enables the recruitment retention and development of strong educators. 4. The district will align the form and function of all systems to meet the needs of staff, schools and classrooms. 5. The district will authentically engage families and the community in supporting schools and advancing the academic achievement of all students.

Dr. Lyles stated that this plan serves as a recommitment to support children by any means necessary and prepare for success in the 21st century. Dr. Lyles highlighted some of the resulting initiatives that fall under each of the five strategic plan goals. Under Goal #1, the district is focused on ensuring that all schools effectively implement the Common Core State Standards and administer the PARCC exam, identifying and pursuing pivotal instructional innovation, providing targeted interventions that promote the academic success of all students who are struggling and closing achievement gaps between schools and within student subgroups. Under Goal #2, the district is focused on using data to drive instructional decisions in the classroom and using data from SST walk-throughs to inform support to schools. Under

Goal #3, the district is focused on ensuring that all principals have the skills and support to serve effectively as instructional leaders of their schools, enable all principals to commit a significant amount of time to instructional support and development and align educator support with the new evaluation model and differentiate supports based on evaluation data. Under Goal #4, the district is focused on implementing a strategic approach to finance and all schools in the district will meet minimum standards for facilities, technology and safety. Under Goal #5, the district is focused on engaging families and communities in meeting the district's mission and mandates, increasing opportunities for families to participate in their children's education and providing resources and information to principals, teachers, central office staff, families and the community via the district's website.

Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) reports

Bari Erlichson, Assistant Commissioner/Chief Performance Officer provided an overview of the PARCC reports that will be available to teachers and parents that will demonstrate how student learning can be supported, how parents will know how their children are doing and how educators can use data to inform curricular and instructional improvements.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

**Items scheduled for a vote are marked with an asterisk.*

***A. Appointments**

- There were no appointments.

***B. Certification of School Districts**

- Certified for a period of three years, the following school districts recommended by the Commissioner, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-14a and b.

Certified School District	County
Springfield Township	Burlington
Florham Park	Morris
Sussex-Wantage	Sussex

***C. Programs to Support Student Development**

- Approved for publication in the *NJ Register*, the amendments to Chapter 16 pertaining to health services pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-1, 4, 12, 23 through 31, 34, 41, and 44, and N.J.S.A 18A:40A-12.

**D. Professional Standards
NJ Educator Preparation Programs
State Board of Examiners and Certification
Professional Development for Teaching Staff Members and School Leaders**

- Discussed the readoption with amendments to Chapters 9, Professional Standards; 9A, NJ Educator Preparation Programs; 9B, State Board of Examiners and Certification; and 9C, Professional Development for Teaching Staff Members and School Leaders pertaining to educator preparation and licensing

WORK SESSION

There was no work session.

NEW BUSINESS

State Board President Mark Biedron stated that the State Board would hold a retreat in the coming months and that details will be forwarded to the State Board members once available.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its February 4, 2015, public meeting at 1:14 p.m.

David C. Hesse, Commissioner
Secretary, State Board of Education