

**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**

May 6, 2015

Presiding: Mr. Mark Biedron, President

Secretary: David C. Hespe, Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

Mr. Arcelio Aponte
Mr. Joseph Fisticaro
Ms. Edithe Fulton
Mr. Peter Simon
Dr. Dorothy Strickland

ABSENT

Dr. Ronald Butcher
Ms. Claire Chamberlain
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill

CONVENING

State Board of Education President Mark 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 May 6, 2015, was called to order.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Biedron then read the resolution pertaining to the executive session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the Open Public Meetings Act.

WHEREAS, in order to protect the personal privacy and to avoid situations wherein the public interest might be disserved, the Open Public Meetings Act permits public bodies to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which certain matters are discussed, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that consistent with the provision of *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)*, the State Board of Education will now adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues. The State Board immediately adjourned to executive session on May 6, 2015.

RECONVENING

President Biedron reconvened the open meeting at 10:00 a.m. with the reading of the resolution pertaining to the resumption of the public session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the Open Public Meetings Act.

WHEREAS, consistent with the provision of *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)*, the State Board will now adjourn from executive session to resume the open session of this meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board members unanimously approved the minutes of the public meeting conducted on April 1, 2015. State Board member Arcelio Aponte abstained.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Public Testimony

President Biedron stated that public testimony session will be held today at 3 pm. He stated that topics for today's public testimony include the health services amendments to chapter 16, Programs to Support Student Development and the Enlargement of Purpose for Passaic Educational Services Commission and the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission.

President Biedron stated that registration for the June 3, 2015 public testimony session will open on Friday, May 15, 2015 and close on Friday, May 29, 2015. He stated that the topics for the June 3 public testimony include amendments to chapter 23A, Fiscal Accountability, Efficiency and Budgeting Procedures. President Biedron further stated that the June 3 public testimony session is also an Open Topic testimony session and members of the public may present testimony before the state board on any educational topic of their choice.

He also stated that anyone interested in speaking at or also attending the public testimony session must register so that the State Board staff can make proper arrangements for space. 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 welcomed Russell Bauer, the student representative for the 2014-2015 school year, and his advisor, Ms. Laura Hoy. Russell first introduced Alexis Bailey, a junior from Bayonne High School as the 2015-2016 student representative to the board. Russell also spoke to the board about the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Program within the Lenape Regional High School District.

Selection of the State Board Nominating Committee

President Biedron announced the selection of the State Board Nominating Committee that will nominate the 2015-2016 State Board of Education president and vice president. Peter Simon will serve as chairperson, and Ernest Lepore and Dorothy Strickland will serve as members. The nominating committee will give its report at the June State Board monthly meeting and the State Board will vote on officers at the July State Board monthly meeting.

Resolution to Establish the State Board Calendar of Meeting Dates for 2015-2016

President Biedron presented the draft monthly public meeting dates calendar for the 2015-2016 school year. The State Board plans to adopt a resolution at its June 3, 2015 monthly public business meeting regarding the annual calendar of the 2015-2016 meeting dates of the State Board of Education pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 6A:1-2.2*, *N.J.S.A. 18A:4-7* and *10:4-6 et seq.*

Resolution to Recognize May 2015 at Physical Education and Sport Month

President Biedron presented a resolution to recognize May 2015 as Physical Education and Sport month. On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board approved the following resolution read by State Board Vice president Joseph Fisicaro:

Resolution to Recognize May 2015 as Physical Education and Sport Month

WHEREAS, childhood obesity has reached epidemic proportions in the United States; and New Jersey has the highest obesity rate in the nation among low-income children; and

WHEREAS, today's childhood obesity rates are putting our children on course to be the first generation in this country to live shorter and less healthy lives than their parents; and

WHEREAS, a decline in physical activity has contributed to the unprecedented epidemic of childhood obesity; and regular physical activity is necessary to support normal and healthy growth in children; and

WHEREAS, children spend many of their waking hours at school and therefore need to be active during the school day to meet the recommendations of the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans recommend that children engage in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on most, and preferably all, days of the week; and

WHEREAS, teaching children about physical education and sports not only ensures that they are physically active during the school day, but also educates them on how to be physically active and its importance; and

WHEREAS, research shows that fit and active children are more likely to thrive academically and participation in sports and physical activity improves self-esteem and body image in children and adults; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes the month of May as National Physical Education and Sport Month and urges all school districts in the State of New Jersey to renew their commitment to quality health and physical education programs and physical activity to improve the health and well-being of this state's children.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

National Teacher Appreciation Week

Commissioner Hespe and the State Board recognized Ismat Shari, a mathematics teacher at Hamilton High School West in the Hamilton Township School District in honor of National Teacher Appreciation Week.

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

Commissioner Hespe stated that the department, posted on its website, a draft of additional recommended rule changes and clarifications to the regulatory documents initially prepared for the State Board for First Discussion. He stated that he intends to bring the final Proposal to the State Board at the June 3, 2015 meeting. He further stated that a special public testimony session will be held on May 20, 2015 at 1 pm

in the First Floor Conference room at the Department of Education for the State Board to receive public comment on the draft recommendations.

Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC)

Bari Erlichson, Chief Performance Officer gave a brief update on the status of the implementation of the second round of PARCC assessments.

Presentation by Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission

Mark Finkelstein, Superintendent of the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission provided a presentation to the State Board regarding the Commission's request to enlarge their purpose. The presentation included information about the Commission's mission statement/objective; an explanation of the services the Commission provides and the services it seeks to provide if the request is granted. The presentation also included an explanation of the locations/counties that the Commission provides services and how the Commission seeks to change this going forward. The presentation also included details about the Commission's annual budget and an explanation of how it receives funding and how funds are spent.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

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

***A. Appointment(s)**

- 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
Nutley	Essex
Pittman	Gloucester
Colts Neck	Monmouth
Tinton Falls	Monmouth
Montville	Morris
Central Regional	Ocean
Little Falls	Passaic
Belvidere	Warren

C. Resolution to Adopt a New Praxis II Test and Qualifying Score for Teachers of Early Childhood

- Discussed the resolution to adopt a new test and qualifying score for the Praxis II test required for initial New Jersey teacher and educational services licensure pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-8.1(a)6 and N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-10.1(a)6.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A NEW PRAXIS II TEST AND QUALIFYING SCORE FOR TEACHERS OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education has required that teacher certification candidates pass tests in specified disciplines in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:9-8.1, effective January 5, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education has required such a test for the endorsement for Teacher of Early Childhood in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:9-8.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:9-10.1; and

WHEREAS, the Educational Testing Service (ETS) has recently established a new test for this subject to replace the current Praxis II Subject Assessment test that is in use by the department; and

WHEREAS, the department has participated in a national standard-setting study for the proposed Early Childhood test to determine the validity of and the theoretically appropriate qualifying score for that test; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education approves the department's selection of the proposed Praxis II test and initial qualifying score for that endorsement; and

WHEREAS, the department will monitor the impact of this test and qualifying score on the passing rates for this subject area and will report any problems with the same to the State Board of Education; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education hereby supports the department's selection of the proposed Praxis II Subject Assessment test for Teacher of Early Childhood; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education hereby acknowledges and accepts the department's establishment of the following qualifying score effective September 1, 2015:

<u>Praxis II Test</u>	<u>Qualifying Score</u>
Early Childhood	156 on a 100 – 200 scale

WORK SESSION

There was no work session.

NEW BUSINESS

President Biedron stated that opportunities to provide testimony to the members of the state board will be available in the evening in the coming months. He stated that detailed information on those opportunities will become available soon.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its May 6, 2015, public meeting at 11:55 a.m.

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