

**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**

August 5, 2015

Presiding: Mr. Mark Biedron, President

Secretary: David C. Hespe, Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

Mr. Arcelio Aponte
Mr. Joseph Fisicaro
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Ms. Edithe Fulton
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Mr. Peter Simon-via teleconference
Dr. Dorothy Strickland

ABSENT

Dr. Ronald Butcher
Ms. Claire Chamberlain
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 August 5, 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 August 5, 2015.

RECONVENING

President Biedron reconvened the open meeting at 10:10 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 approved the minutes of the public meeting conducted on July 8, 2015. State Board member Ernest Lepore abstained.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Public Testimony

President Biedron stated that public testimony session will be held today at 2 pm. He stated that topics for today's public testimony include the readoption with amendments to 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.

President Biedron stated that registration for the September 2, 2015 public testimony session will open on Monday, August 17, 2015 and close on Monday, August 31, 2015. He stated that the September 2, 2015 is 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 further stated that members of the public should contact the State Board office at 609-984-6024 or check the following website <http://www.state.nj.us/education/sboe/meetings/pubtest.shtml> for updates.

Permanent Student Representative

President Biedron welcomed Alexis Bailey the 2015-2016 permanent student representative to the State Board of Education. Alexis is a junior from Bayonne High School in Hudson County. President Biedron also introduced Alexis's mother, Mrs. Lesley Kaswell. Alexis's advisor will be Ms. Kerry Toomey.

Alexis provided an overview of her attendance at The New Jersey Association of Student Councils 60th Annual Leadership Training Conference at The College of New Jersey.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Newark Update

Christopher D. Cerf, Superintendent of the State Operated School District of the City Newark Public Schools provided an update to the State Board about his first few weeks in the district. He specifically focused on his efforts to engage the stakeholders and community and building partnerships. Additionally, he stated that he has been listening carefully to district personnel to learn about the current state of affairs in the district with respect to its budget, personnel, facilities, etc. He also stated that he is placing his attention on a successful opening of school in September. He further stated his commitment to authentic

engagement, openness to listen and work collaboratively, transparency and working with the Mayor and community to return local control.

Standards Review Process Update

Kimberley Harrington, Chief Academic Officer provided an update on the review of New Jersey's academic standards in language arts literacy and mathematics. She stated that the Department is conducting the review to make sure that the standards in these key content areas reflect the knowledge and skills that children should learn. She also stated that the Department has formed committees of volunteers representing a cross-section of the state's education community to discuss the standards, collect input and feedback from the public, and recommend how the current standards could be revised.

Ms. Harrington stated that the Department received 219 nominations to serve on the various committees, and 98 of them will be selected to serve. She also stated that the process will include regional listening tours to hear concerns from community members. She further stated that the dates and locations of the listening tours are expected to be announced within the coming few weeks and that more information about the review can be found online at www.state.nj.us/education/standards/.

Anti-bullying Bill of Rights Act

Susan Martz, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Learning Supports and Specialized Services, Nancy Curry, Director, Office of Student Support Services and her staff provided an overview of the reporting requirements related to the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act (ABR). The presentation provided the history of the work the Department focused on prior to the ABR and what is currently being implemented since the passage of the law. In addition, the presentation displayed the types of data collected, recommendations from the Anti-Bullying Task Force, and the ABR's connection to school climate and social-emotional learning.

Pathways to N.J. Certification

Peter Shulman, Chief Talent Officer, Division of Teacher and Leader Effectiveness and Evo Popoff, Chief Innovation Officer, Division of Charter Schools, School Choice, Technology, Turnarounds provided a presentation on the most common pathways to instructional certification.

Educator Evaluation Update

Peter Shulman stated that the Department is required to announce the weights for each component of evaluation for teachers and principals/APs/VPs by August 31 each year. He also stated that in response to significant feedback and acknowledging the transition from NJ ASK to PARCC last year, the Department reduced the weight of the Student Growth Percentile (SGP) component for all educators to 10% in 2014-15. He further stated that building on our commitment to a thoughtful, deliberate process of continuous improvement, 2015-16 weights will remain consistent with those in 2014-15. This will allow the state and local districts the ability to make more meaningful judgments about trends in the data over time.

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
Evesham Township	Burlington
Hainesport Township	Burlington
Lumberton Township	Burlington
North Hanover Township	Burlington
Shamong Township	Burlington
Tabernacle Township	Burlington
Deerfield Township	Cumberland
Nutley	Essex
Franklin Township	Gloucester
Edison Township	Middlesex
West Long Branch	Monmouth

***C. Enlargement of Purpose-Passaic County Educational Services Commission**

- Adopted the following resolution approving the Enlargement of Purpose for the Passaic Educational Services Commission, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-69.

**RESOLUTION
REQUESTING ENLARGEMENT OF PURPOSE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 18A:6-69
FOR THE PASSAIC COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-52*, the State Board of Education approved the establishment of the Passaic County Educational Services Commission in or about 1978; and

WHEREAS, the Passaic County Educational Services Commission currently provides diverse educational services to a number of school districts in Passaic County; and

WHEREAS, the educational services provided to school districts in Passaic County include, without limitation, Supplemental Educational Services, Extended School Year Program, Summer School Program, Alternative Education/Special Needs High Schools, Professional Services (Physical, Occupational, and/or Speech Therapy; Home Instruction; and Financial/Clerical Office Staffing), Substitute Registry, One-to-One Aides, Non-Public Nursing, Technology, and Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Passaic County Educational Services Commission also delivers various of the aforementioned services to a number of northern New Jersey school districts located outside of Passaic County and, more specifically, in Bergen County, Morris County, Hudson County, and Sussex County; and

WHEREAS, the Passaic County Educational Services Commission seeks to enlarge its purpose so that it may expand and enlarge its areas of service and the geographical areas served (and to be served); now therefore be it

RESOLVED that, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-69*, the State Board of Education grants approval to the Passaic County Educational Services Commission to enlarge its purpose to expand and enlarge its areas of service and geographic areas served (and to be served).

***D. Bilingual Education**

- Approved for publication in the *New Jersey Register* the readoption with amendments to the regulations pertaining to bilingual education proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:15, Bilingual Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-15 to 26.

E. Managing for Equality and Equity in Education

- Discussed the readoption with amendments to the regulations pertaining to equality in educational programs proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:7, Managing for Equality and Equity in Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-20.

WORK SESSION

There was no work session.

NEW BUSINESS

President Biedron confirmed that executives from Junior Achievement New Jersey would be coming to the September board meeting to share the initiatives and good work they are doing throughout the state.

President Biedron stated that he would like to have a discussion in the fall about sustainable schools and creating more sustainable school buildings in New Jersey.

President Biedron reminded State Board members that he disseminated articles to them for the retreat. He asked board members to begin thinking about an ideal education and what it looks like in order to prepare for the retreat.

President Biedron reminded State Board members that they have been invited to attend the School to Prison Pipeline conference on October 20 and the NJEA convention in Atlantic City this fall. He also advised that the NJEA would be providing a list of all of the Legislative Dinners that they would be inviting State Board members to attend.

Vice President Fisicaro also reminded the State Board members that they have been invited to attend the N.J. School Board's convention in Atlantic City this fall.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its August 5, 2015, public meeting at 12:47 p.m.

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