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EDUCATION

40 N.J.R. 212(a)

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking

N.J.A.C. 6A:9-11.12

Eligibility and Qualifications of Persons for Appointment as Coaches for Teams Competing in Interscholastic Swimming and Diving Competitions and Events

Petitioner: Dr. John A. Ravally, on behalf of the Board of Education of the Borough of Point Pleasant Beach

Take notice that on November 23, 2007, the New Jersey State Board of Education received a petition for rulemaking from the above petitioner requesting that the State Board of Education amend the rules pertaining to the eligibility and qualifications of persons who may be considered by boards of education for appointment to coaching positions for teams competing in interscholastic swimming and diving competitions and events. The petitioner states that in 2005, the rule governing the eligibility standards for teachers of swimming and diving at N.J.A.C. 6A:9-11.12 was amended to require those seeking to teach swimming and water safety in New Jersey's public schools to hold a standard New Jersey instructional certificate. The petitioner also states that simultaneously, the rule governing the eligibility standards of persons assigned to coach swimming or diving, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9-5.18, was also amended to require a coach of swimming or diving activities to meet the requirements set forth in the amended version of N.J.A.C. 6A:9-11.12, the rule governing the eligibility standards for teachers of swimming and diving. The petitioner seeks to have the applicable rules amended so that coaches of swimming or diving teams will no longer be required to be the holders of standard instructional certificates but rather the holder of a county substitute credentials like other coaches governed by the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:9-6.5. The petitioner also seeks to amend current N.J.A.C. 6A:9-5.18 so that persons assigned to coach swimming or diving teams be required to meet the requirements set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:9-11.12(a)2 through 4 and (b). The petitioner further states that the amendments sought would not alter the standards for eligibility for teacher of swimming who would still need to obtain the swimming and water safety endorsement on a standards instructional certificate pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9-11.12.

Furthermore, the petitioner states that the application of the requirement for swimming teachers to hold a standard instructional certificate to coaches of interscholastic swimming or diving teams has made the already small pool of candidates that school boards could hire to coach such teams, almost nonexistent.

In accordance with applicable law, N.J.A.C 1:30-4.2, the Department shall subsequently mail to the petitioners, and file with the Office of Administrative Law, a notice of action on the petition.