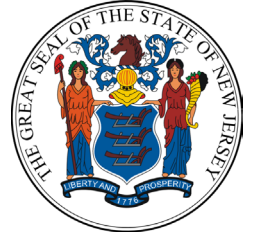


**State of New Jersey
Commission on Holocaust Education**

P.O. Box 500
Trenton, NJ 08625
(609) 376-3968

holocaust@doe.nj.gov
<http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/>



New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education
4th Quarter Commission Meeting
New Jersey Department of Education
Friday, June 13, 2025
11:00 am
MINUTES

Presiding: Maud Dahme, Chair

Executive Director: Doug Cervi

Secretary/Treasurer: Brianna Doherty

DAG: Kevin Milton

Present Constituting a Quorum

Tamara Beatty
Nicholas Capuano
Allison Connolly
Maud Dahme
Abe Focman
Phil Kirschner
Igor Kotler
Michelle Myers
Irvin Moreno Rodriguez
Judy Olesh
Marvin Raab
Rabbi Avi Richler
Ilyse Shainbrown
Frank Stebbins
Stana Stein
Yitz Stern
Colleen Tambuscio
Gene Woods

Staff (not constituting a quorum)

Jessica McAuliffe
Sara Fernandez

Absent

Elyse Wolff

Convening

The New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education Chair, Maud Dahme convened the public meeting at 11:00 a.m. and, seeing there was a quorum, the meeting of June 13, 2025, was called to order.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the NJ Commission on Holocaust Education approved the minutes of the public meetings conducted on December 13, 2024, and March 7, 2025.

Chair Report

- Summer seminar to Germany, Prague, Poland and the Netherlands is moving forward. Orientation has been scheduled.
- 80th anniversary of liberation – Maud trip to the Netherlands
 - Participated in 80th anniversary events
 - Recognition by the Canadian Ambassador
 - Surprise visit from her daughters, Brianna Doherty, Irvin Moreno-Rodrigues, Dr. Michael Hayse, and other friends
 - Awarded *Knights in the Order of Orange Nassau*
- Noted that this is Doug Cervi's final meeting as Executive Director of the Commission. Thanked him for his years of dedication and hard work to the Commission.

Vice Chair Report

- Positive response to the live virtual guided tours. Have hosted 26-28 tours, reaching roughly 7000 students.

Executive Director Report

- Reviewed accomplishments from the past five years
 - Completed K-12 Holocaust/Genocide Curriculum
 - Expanded use of Speaker's Bureau
 - National recognition as a leading State in Holocaust education.
 - Partnerships with universities offering dual high school credit
 - Film *How Saba Kept Singing* nominated for an Emmy
 - Curriculum and resources expanded
- New initiatives
 - Hate Ends Now Cattle Car Exhibit
 - Virtual Guided Tours
 - Outreach to additional states
- Expressed appreciation to staff, especially Brianna Doherty, for ongoing support.
- Award Presentation
 - Sister Rose Thering Award presented to Heather Mecka
 - Recognition of her leadership in interfaith dialogue, curriculum development, and promotion of Holocaust and Genocide Education
 - Heather expressed gratitude, highlighted her commitment to continuing education, and shared experiences as an educator.

Standing Committee Reports

- **Budget and Fundraising Committee**
 - For Q4 (April, May, June) of the event sponsorship grant opportunity for the Holocaust Resource Centers, \$30,000 was budgeted. The Commission received 7 grant requests and approved 6 of those requests totaling \$14,820.00
 - 2 for CHHANGE

- Annual Colloquium
 - Yom HaShoah Program
- 1 from Ramapo for their spring educator workshop
- 1 from Raab/Goodwin for performances of *Through the Eyes of a Friend* and *Dear Esther*
- 2 from Stockton for the Anne Frank Tree Sapling Planting and a performance of *Conversations with Anne*
- All FY25 funds utilized; awaiting FY26 budget confirmation
- **Legislative Committee**
 - Exploring requirements for pre-service and continuing education in Holocaust/Genocide Studies
 - Contact with the President's Council remains inconsistent; we will continue to reach out
 - Noted Irvin Moreno Rodriguez has been appointed to the AHO Advisory Committee
- **Education Committee**
 - High School curriculum is under standard review. Will be live on June 30, 2025
 - Native American curriculum revision planning is underway
 - Multiple PD Workshops held
 - Milburn
 - Bergen County
 - Statewide Admin. Workshop
 - Highlighted Holocaust Survivors of South Jersey Project
 - Long Branch Public Library will be hosting the Americans and the Holocaust Exhibit
- **Communication and Outreach Committee**
 - Kristallnacht remembrance program planning is underway. Alex Kor will be coming to NJ from November 9-12 to do programs with the Commission and multiple centers.

New Business

Commission Reorganization

- The members selected Maud Dahme as Chair and Marvin Raab as Vice Chair for the 2025-2026 business year.

2025-2026 Meetings Dates

Please add the dates below to your calendar

August 25, 2025 Center Director Meeting

September 19, 2025 Q1 Commission Meeting

December 12, 2025 Q2 Commission Meeting

March 13, 2026 Q3 Commission Meeting

June 26, 2026 Q4 Commission Meeting

Adjournment

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the NJ Commission on Holocaust Education adjourned its June 13, 2025, public meeting at 1:30 pm.