



NJDOE News

Contact: Richard Vespucci
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Pharmaceutical Manager Joins State Board of Education

Kathleen A. Dietz of Hillsborough, Somerset County, was sworn in today as the newest member of the State Board of Education. Dietz was appointed by Acting Governor Donald T. Francesco to replace Daniel Moroney in a term that expires in June 2004.

"I look forward to this opportunity to provide guidance and make appropriate decisions in conjunction with the Department of Education to benefit all school districts," said Dietz. "I will always keep foremost in mind that children are our most important customers and that providing them with the best education possible is our primary goal."

"We welcome Kathleen Dietz to the state board and we look forward to working with her," said State Board President Maud Dahme. "She has fresh insights about education, and her business expertise will undoubtedly contribute to our strength as a board in the weeks and months to come."

Dietz said she is eager to participate in the ongoing process to revise the Core Curriculum Content Standards that the state board first adopted in 1996. "This very important effort will have a direct impact on school districts for the next five years," she said. "I will do my best to ensure that we move forward in a way that will allow us to identify the elements of a high-quality education without unduly burdening our schools."

Dietz is the clinical sourcing contract manager for Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceuticals Research and Development in Raritan. In her position, she negotiates and reviews contracts with vendors, patients and other parties who participate in the clinical trials of pharmaceuticals produced by her company.

She graduated from Rutgers University with a degree in business management and worked in the regulatory department of Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., for two years before joining Walter J. Dietz, Inc. as financial comptroller. She held that position for 15 years. She has nearly 10 years experience working for the Johnson & Johnson family of companies.

Dietz was a member of the Hillsborough Board of Education from 1988 to 1995 and served as its president from 1991-93. She was a member of the board of the Somerset County Educational Services Commission for four years and a member of the board of the Somerset Academy, a branch of the commission that serves the needs of special needs students.

Her other education activities include serving as a committee member and program instructor of the New Jersey School Boards Association, a member of the Council of Presidents of Somerset County and a member and past president of the Hillsborough Middle School Home and School Association.

Dietz's community activities include serving as a troop leader for the Girl Scouts of America, Rolling Hills Council and serving as vice president and secretary for the Somerville History Club.

She has hosted exchange students through Rotary International and also hosted a mother and child who came to New Jersey from Nicaragua for the child's heart surgery as part of the Gift of Life program.

Her awards include being named a Paul Harris Fellow by Rotary International for community service.