



For Immediate Release

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State Board of Education Selects Leadership for 2026-2027

Trenton, NJ – The New Jersey State Board of Education (State Board) selected its leadership for the coming school year at its July 1 meeting. Kathy Goldenberg will continue to serve as president and Mary Bennett was named vice president.

“Members of the State Board of Education volunteer their time and talent to build a stronger educational foundation for every community in New Jersey,” **said Education Commissioner Dr. Lily Laux.** “I am incredibly grateful for their collective leadership, and I look forward to working alongside our newly selected executive team to champion student success across the state.”

Ms. Goldenberg was a board of education member for 10 years in Moorestown, Burlington County, having served as both president and vice president. She was appointed to the State Board in 2017, serving as the State Board’s vice president in 2018-2019 and as president since 2019.

“It is a privilege to have been selected by my fellow Board members to again serve as President. I look forward to continuing to work alongside our Commissioner of Education, Dr. Lily Laux, whose commitment to educational excellence will strengthen our work on behalf of students, educators, and communities across New Jersey,” **said Ms. Goldenberg.** “I warmly congratulate Ms. Mary Bennett on her election as Vice President and welcome the leadership and vision she brings to this role. I also extend my sincere gratitude to Dr. Nedd Johnson for his dedicated service as Vice President these past two years. Serving our students, citizens, and stakeholders is what drives this Board, and I am confident New Jersey will continue to lead the nation in public education.”

Ms. Bennett, of Irvington, Essex County, is a retired educator and currently serves as an Adjunct University Instructor and Education Mentor at Montclair State University. Ms. Bennett was first appointed to the State Board in 2024.

“It truly is an honor to be selected as Vice President of the State Board,” **said Ms. Bennett.** “I look forward to working with President Goldenberg, all of my State Board colleagues and Commissioner Laux as we continue to address issues of critical importance to the 1.4 million students in more than 600 school districts throughout New Jersey. All of our discussions, deliberations, questions, and decisions are focused on improving the student experience and helping students to achieve their highest potential.”

The State Board is a 13-member body that adopts the Department of Education’s administrative code, or the regulations that implement state education law. Such rules cover the supervision and governance of approximately 2,500 public schools in the state. In addition, the State Board advises on educational policies proposed by the Commissioner and confirms Department of Education staff appointments made by the Commissioner.

Additional information about the State Board’s roles, responsibilities, and membership is available on the State Board’s [webpage](#).



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