

New Jersey State Board of Education
Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education
October 6, 2021

Presiding: Kathy Goldenberg, President

Secretary: Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner

Present Constituting a Quorum

Mr. Andrew Mulvihill

Mrs. Mary Beth Gazi

Mrs. Elaine Bobrove

Dr. Joseph Ricca

Mrs. Mary Beth Berry

Dr. Nedd Johnson

Mrs. Fatimah Burnam-Watkins

Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia

Absent

Mr. Arcelio Aponte

Dr. Ronald Butcher

Dr. Ernie Lepore

Mr. Jack Fornaro

Convening

State Board of Education President Kathy Goldenberg convened the public meeting at 9:09 a.m. 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 (Department), 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 October 6, 2021, called to order.

Adjourn to Executive Session

President Goldenberg 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 Education will now adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues. The State Board immediately adjourned to executive session on October 6, 2021.

Reconvening

President Kathy Goldenberg reconvened the open meeting at 10:11 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 Meeting

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board members approved the minutes of the public meeting conducted on September 8, 2021. There were no abstentions.

President's Reports

President Goldenberg welcomed the viewing audience to the virtual State Board of Education meeting.

Public Testimony

President Goldenberg stated that there are no topics for written testimony this month. She also stated that in November they will accept written testimony on the amendments to Bilingual Education.

Report of the Permanent Student Representative

President Goldenberg introduced and welcomed the State Board of Education's the new permanent student representative, Miss Maura Baker, a junior at West Orange High School in Essex County. Ms. Baker provided remarks to raise awareness that October is Dyslexia Awareness Month.

State Board Committee Reports

CTE/Coding Committee

Mrs. Mary Beth Berry, chair, CTE/Coding committee, stated that the CTE/Coding committee met with Department staff on September 27, 2021. She stated that the committee received updates regarding Perkins grant opportunities and discussed work-based learning initiatives. She further stated that they discussed the most recent round of Perkins grant applications as well as the upcoming comprehensive local needs assessments. Mrs. Berry further stated that they discussed the

Middle Grades Career Awareness and Exploration grant program, which provided funds to 16 school districts in an effort to cultivate the development of innovative career awareness and exploration programs focused on engaging career-focused instruction and unique experiences for students in grades five through eight. Mrs. Berry stated the committee and staff further discussed the Department's efforts to increase the capacity of CTE work-based learning coordinators and to expand pre-apprenticeship opportunities for students.

Charter Committee

Mr. Andrew Mulvihill, chair, Charter committee, stated that the Charter committee met with Department staff on September 27, 2021. Mr. Mulvihill stated that they discussed issues regarding Chapter 11 and are trying to work through some technical issues.

Policy Committee

Mrs. Elaine Bobrove, chair, Policy committee, stated that the Policy committee met with Department staff on September 29, 2021. She stated the committee received details about the proposed amendments to Chapter 15, Bilingual Education, which will be discussed later on the agenda. She further stated that Department staff also presented an overview of Chapter 25, which are the rules for Qualified Zone Academy Bonds. Mrs. Bobrove stated that this federal program has yet to be reauthorized and that they discussed options for the chapter in anticipation of its scheduled expiration in April 2022.

Resolution in Honor of National Principals Month in the State of New Jersey

President Goldenberg requested the State Board consider the following ceremonial resolution recognizing October as National Principals Month in New Jersey.

President Goldenberg introduced and welcomed Ms. Karen Bingert, Executive Director of the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association (NJPSA), and Dr. Michael Vinella, President of the Board of Directors of NJPSA and Principal of East Brunswick High School, to receive the following resolution in honor of National Principals Month in the State of New Jersey.

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board unanimously approved the following resolution read by State Board member Dr. Nedd Johnson.

Resolution in Recognition of National Principals Month

Whereas, through visionary leadership and tireless pursuit of success for each student, New Jersey's principals guide and support their schools each and every day in ways large and small, and have proven to be the key to the thorough and dynamic education that helps ensure a strong and prosperous society; and

Whereas, New Jersey's principals establish the academic tone, missions, and visions for their schools, collaborate with teachers to implement and maintain rigorous curricula, and set ambitious performance goals; and

Whereas, as schools faced new challenges as the result of COVID-19, New Jersey’s principals played an immeasurable role in the transition to and from virtual instruction and in safeguarding students, teachers, and other staff while on school grounds; and

Whereas, the American Federation of School Administrators (AFSA), the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) dedicate each October as National Principals Month to pay tribute to the nation’s principals for their tireless dedication to the students, faculty, and staff of the schools over which they preside; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, it is altogether proper and fitting for the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Acting Commissioner of Education to acknowledge the State’s principals for their service and commitment to New Jersey’s 1.4 million students; and be it further

Resolved that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Acting Commissioner of Education hereby recognize October 2021 as National Principals Month and urge all New Jersey students, parents, teachers, school district leaders, and policymakers to join them in expressing appreciation for the outstanding work of the thousands of elementary, middle, and high school principals throughout the State.

Commissioner’s Reports

Honoring New Jersey Department of Education Retiring Employees

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan acknowledged three employees who made the momentous decision to retire.

- Susan Pancoast, Office of Professional Learning, Division of Field Support and Services, July 1978 – September 2021, 43 years of service.
- Denise Williams, Office of Special Education, Division of Educational Services, February 1998 – October 2021, 23 years of service.
- Margery Wood, Office of Recruitment, Preparation and Certification, Division of Field Support Services, October 2004 – October 2021, 17 years of service.

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan thanked them for their dedication, commitment and contributions over the years and wished them the best of health and happiness in retirement.

Presentation of the 2021-2022 New Jersey State Teacher of the Year

Dr. Lisa Gleason, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Academics and Performance, introduced Ms. Theresa Maughan, a high school social studies teacher in the East Orange School District, as the 2021-2022 New Jersey State Teacher of the Year.

Representatives from the following organizations celebrated Ms. Maughan with a presentation of these items for a one year term: New Jersey Education Association - a car equipped with EZ Pass, complimentary access to all NJEA major workshops and training opportunities, \$500 clothing

allowance, and media training and communications support; and Educational Testing Service – finance a half-year sabbatical and a laptop or computer.

Items for Consideration:

**Items scheduled for a vote are marked with an asterisk.*

***A. Appointments**

- There were no appointments.

***B. Certification of School Districts**

- There were no districts for certification.

C. Bilingual Education

- Discussed the amendments to N.J.A.C. 6A:15, Bilingual Education, pertaining to Federal requirements under ESSA, pursuant to The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (P.L. 115-141).

New Business

There is no new business.

Public Testimony

There were no topics for written testimony.

Adjournment

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its October 6, 2021, public meeting at 11:19 a.m.

Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner
Acting Secretary, N.J. State Board of Education