

New Jersey State Board of Education
Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education
October 12, 2022

Presiding: Kathy Goldenberg, President

Secretary: Dr. Angelica Allen-McMillan, Acting Commissioner

Present Constituting a Quorum

Mr. Andrew Mulvihill

Mrs. Elaine Bobrove

Mrs. Mary Beth Berry

Mr. Jack Fornaro

Dr. Joseph Ricca

Dr. Nedd Johnson

Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia

Absent

Dr. Ronald Butcher

Mrs. Fatimah Burnam-Watkins

Dr. Ernest Lepore

Mr. Arcelio Aponte

Ms. Mary Beth Gazi

Convening

State Board of Education President Kathy Goldenberg convened the public meeting at 9:14 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 ensure 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 12, 2022, was 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 12, 2022.

Reconvening

President Kathy Goldenberg reconvened the open meeting at 10:12 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

President Goldenberg welcomed the public and thanked everyone for joining the State Board for another virtual meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sylvia Sylvia.

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 14, 2022.

President's Reports

Public Testimony

President Goldenberg stated that the State Board will not receive public testimony as there are no topics scheduled. For the month of November, there are no topics scheduled for public testimony.

Report of the Permanent Student Representative

President Goldenberg introduced the State Board of Education's permanent student representative, Miss Lauren Knopp. Miss Knopp is a senior at Ocean High School in Cape May county. She asked Miss Knopp to present her report for the month of October.

Miss Knopp stated that since October is mental health awareness month, she would like to share a few statistics on student mental health and how school districts assist students who are struggling. She stated that many students have difficulty accessing mental health supports and that throughout the country and in New Jersey, school districts have begun to supply either a school psychologist or mental health counselor in the district. Miss Knopp stated that when students have access to workshops or seminars that can teach them how to maintain a healthy work-life balance as well as opportunities to participate in yoga, cooking classes, or a directory of school clubs, it

provides a way to decompress. She stated that for the remainder of this month, her wish is that some awareness can be spread about the challenges students face when it comes to mental health.

Ms. Knopp further stated that she would also like to provide an update on her last report about the Cyberstart America program, and that she was happy to announce she passed her GFACT certification exam and is excited to continue pursuing further endeavors in computer science as well as advocating for others in her community to do the same.

State Board Committee Reports

Assessment Committee

Mr. Arcelio Aponte, chair of the Assessment committee, was not present. President Goldenberg (ex-officio) stated that the committee met with Department staff on September 22, 2022 to discuss the 2021-2022 ACCESS for ELLs and DLM results. She stated they discussed the potential release of additional data as well as the proposed plan for the public release of all Assessment results. She further stated the committee will receive more Assessment data results, most likely NJSLA and further discuss the plan for the review of the final Assessment results at our next committee meeting later this month.

Policy Committee

Ms. Elaine Bobrove, chair of the Policy committee, stated that the committee met with Department staff on September 28, 2022, to discuss changes to the rules in Chapter 9B related to the addition of the middle school endorsement for STEM/Humanities that encompasses mathematics, science, ELA and Social Studies. She stated they also discussed other amendments to proposed language discussed at second discussion and as these items are on today's agenda, she will forgo any further description of the committee discussion.

Policy Committee

Ms. Elaine Bobrove, chair of the Policy committee, stated that the committee met with Department staff on October 3, 2022, to discuss the readoption with amendments of Chapter 15, Bilingual Education, which will be presented to the full State Board and the public in the near future. She further stated they discussed possible adjustments to the certification regulations in Chapters 9, 9A, 9B and 9C that have been requested by committee members.

Policy Committee

Ms. Elaine Bobrove, chair of the Policy committee, stated that the committee met with Department staff on October 7, 2022, to continue discussion about Chapters 9, 9A, 9B and 9C. She further stated additional changes to the proposed reoptions will be presented later today.

Resolution in Recognition of National Principals Month in New Jersey

President Goldenberg requested that the State Board adopt a resolution recognizing October as National Principals Month in the state of New Jersey.

The State Board unanimously adopted the following ceremonial resolution read by Mary Beth Berry recognizing October as National Principals Month in New Jersey.

Resolution in Recognition of National Principals Month in New Jersey

Whereas, through visionary leadership and the 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 and its ongoing impacts, New Jersey’s principals played an immeasurable role in the academic and social-emotional recovery of all students in safeguarding students, teachers, and other staff while on school grounds, and in reinvigorating and reconnecting the school community as school resumed in person; 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 2022 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.

President Goldenberg introduced Ms. Karen Bingert, Executive Director of New Jersey Principal and Supervisors Association, to accept the resolution.

Commissioner’s Reports

Presentation of the 2022-2023 New Jersey State Teacher of the Year

Dr. Jordan Schiff, Acting Assistant Commissioner, Division of Teaching and Learning Services, introduced Ms. Christine Girtain, a high school science teacher and Science Research Director at High School North and High School South in the Toms River School District, as the 2022-2023 New Jersey State Teacher of the Year.

Representatives from the following organizations celebrated Ms. Girtain 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.

In Case You Missed It

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan shared updates on recent initiatives to display continued efforts to support New Jersey’s educators and students, including accompanying Governor Murphy to West Long Branch to tour their new preschool program and to support the announcement of The Strategic Plan for a Preschool Expansion in partnership with the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) at the Rutgers Graduate School of Education. She further stated that the members of her cabinet accompanied her to the 2022 Commissioner Regional Convocations at Kean University, Monmouth University and Stockton University in partnership with the New Jersey Association of School Administrators. Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated that one of the priorities this school year is supporting districts in implementing the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) incorporating climate change education. She further stated she had the opportunity to participate on a panel at the Computer Science Education Convention (CSEdCon), and announced that all New Jersey K-8 schools will be implementing computer science curriculum and instruction aligned with the New Student Learning Standards in computer science this fall through dedicated funding in the state budget.

Items for Consideration

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

***A. Appointments**

- Approved the following appointment(s) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-32-35 and N.J.A.C. 6A:2-1.1 et seq.:
 - Ms. Paula Bloom, Executive Director, Division of Field Support and Services

***B. Certification of School Districts**

- Certified for a period of three years, those school districts recommended by the Commissioner, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-14.a and b. State Board member Sylvia recused from the Ocean Township.

Districts	County
Cresskill	Bergen
Ridgefield Park	Bergen
Berlin Twp.	Camden
Haddon Heights	Camden
Merchantville	Camden
Voorhees Twp.	Camden
West Cape May	Cape May

Caldwell-West	Essex
Fairfield	Essex
Glen Ridge	Essex
Millburn Twp.	Essex
West Essex Regional	Essex
Gloucester County Special Services	Gloucester
Gloucester County Vo-Tech	Gloucester
Pitman Borough	Gloucester
South Harrison Twp.	Gloucester
Washington Twp.	Gloucester
Woodbury Heights	Gloucester
Spotswood	Middlesex
Woodbridge Twp.	Middlesex
Belmar Elementary	Monmouth
Colts Neck Twp.	Monmouth
Highlands Borough	Monmouth
Twp. of Ocean	Monmouth
Red Bank Regional	Monmouth
Rumson Borough	Monmouth
Spring Lake Borough	Monmouth
Upper Freehold Regional	Monmouth
Island Heights	Ocean
Jackson Twp.	Ocean
Long Beach Island Consolidated	Ocean
Ocean County Vo-Tech.	Ocean
Point Pleasant Borough	Ocean
Stafford Twp.	Ocean
Tuckerton Borough	Ocean
Quinton Twp.	Salem
Salem County Special Services.	Salem
Somerset County Vo-Tech	Somerset
Fredon Twp.	Sussex
Hardyston Twp.	Sussex
Sandyston-Walpack Consolidated	Sussex
Sparta Twp.	Sussex
Stillwater Twp.	Sussex
Sussex-Wantage Regional	Sussex
Vernon Twp.	Sussex
Clark Twp.	Union
Union County Vo-Tech	Union
Twp. of Union	Union

***C. Standards and Assessments – Bridge Year**

- Adopted the new rules at N.J.A.C. 6A:8, Standards and Assessments, that set forth the requirements for the Bridge Year Pilot Program, pursuant to P.L. 2020, c. 41.

D. Chapter 9, Professional Standards

- Discussed the readoption with amendments to the rules pertaining to educator preparation, certification, and professional development at N.J.A.C. 6A:9, Professional Standards, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15, 18A:6-34, 18A:6-38, 18A:26-2.7; and P.L. 2013, c.68.

E. Chapter 9A, New Jersey Educator Preparation Programs

- Discussed the readoption with amendments to the rules pertaining to educator preparation, certification, and professional development at N.J.A.C. 6A:9, Professional Standards, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15, 18A:6-34, 18A:6-38, 18A:26-2.7; and P.L. 2013, c.68.

F. Chapter 9B, Board of Examiners and Certification

- Discussed the readoption with amendments to the rules pertaining to educator certification at N.J.A.C. 6A:9B, State Board of Examiners and Certification, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15, 18A:6-34 and 38, and 18A:26-1, 2.7, and 10; and P.L. 2012, c. 11.

G. Chapter 9C, Professional Development

- Discussed the readoption with amendments to the rules pertaining to professional development at N.J.A.C. 6A:9C, Professional Development, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15, 18A:6- 128, 18A:26-2.7 and 10, and P.L. 2012, c. 11.

Re-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 re-adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues. The State Board immediately re-adjourned to executive session on October 12, 2022.

Reconvening

President Kathy Goldenberg reconvened the open meeting at 1:30 p.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.

New Business

There was no new business.

Public Testimony

There were no educational topics scheduled for the month of October. For the month of November, there are no educational topics scheduled.

Adjournment

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its October 12, 2022, public meeting at 1:32 p.m.

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