

**New Jersey State Board of Education  
Minutes of the Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education  
In the Conference Room on the First Floor  
100 River View Executive Plaza  
Trenton, NJ**

**September 7, 2016**

**Presiding:** Mark W. Biedron, President

**Secretary:** David C. Hespe, Commissioner

**PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM**

Mr. Arcelio Aponte  
Dr. Ronald Butcher  
Mr. Joseph Fisicaro  
Mr. Jack Fornaro  
Ms. Edithe Fulton  
Dr. Ernest Lepore  
Mr. Peter Simon

**ABSENT**

Mr. Andrew Mulvihill

**CONVENING**

State Board of Education President Mark Biedron convened the public meeting 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, 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 September 7, 2016, was called to order.

**ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

President Biedron 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 September 7, 2016.

**RECONVENING**

President Biedron reconvened the open meeting at 10:15 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 MEETINGS**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board members approved the minutes of the public meeting conducted on August 3, 2016. State Board members Ernest Lepore and Ronald Butcher abstained.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **Public Testimony**

President Biedron stated public testimony would be held at 2 pm following the September 7, 2016 meeting. He also stated that the topic scheduled for public testimony is Open Topic. He further stated that this is an Open Topic Public Testimony Session meaning that members of the public may register to present testimony before the State Board on any educational topic of their choice.

President Biedron stated public testimony would be held at 2 pm following the October 5, 2016, State Board meeting. He also stated that the topics for the October public testimony session are the amendments to the Fiscal Accountability, Efficiency and Budgeting Procedures (subchapter 16-22) regulations, Educator Effectiveness and Professional Development regulations and the Programs to Support Student Development regulations and the ESEA Unsafe School Choice Option Policy. He further stated that registration for the October 5, 2016 public testimony session would open on Thursday, September 15, 2016 and close on Thursday, September 29, 2016.

President Biedron stated that anyone interested in speaking at or also attending the public testimony session must register so the State Board staff can make proper arrangements for space. He also stated that members of the public should contact the State Board office at 609-984-6024 or check the following website <http://education.state.nj.us/sboe/reg.php> for updates.

### **Permanent Student Representative**

President Biedron welcomed Ava Rybicki the 2016-2017 permanent student representative to the State Board of Education. Ava Rybicki is a junior from Williamstown High School in Gloucester County. President Biedron also introduced Ava's mother, Mrs. Erin Rybicki. Ava spoke to the State Board about student stress.

### **Resolution to Honor of Commissioner David C. Hespe**

On behalf of the State Board, President Biedron presented Commissioner David C. Hespe with a resolution honoring him for his service to the Department of Education. Commissioner Hespe is resigning after serving as Commissioner of Education since March 2014.

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board approved the following resolution read by State Board President Mark W. Biedron:

## **RESOLUTION TO HONOR COMMISSIONER DAVID C. HESPE**

**WHEREAS**, David C. Hesper has served with integrity and distinction as the New Jersey Commissioner of Education from March 2014 to the present and as Assistant Commissioner and Chief of Staff from August 2011 until September 2012 and is being honored for his distinguished tenure of service; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Hesper spearheaded reforms that focused on the transformation of New Jersey's academic standards, the implementation of a new statewide assessment system, growth in school choice options and increased flexibility for high-performing school districts; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes and appreciates Commissioner Hesper's sincere, straightforward manner and affable style that enhanced his ability to develop strong, meaningful partnerships with higher education institutions and school and business communities that benefit all New Jersey's students; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Hesper began his career in education serving under Governor Christine Todd Whitman as Commissioner of Education from April 1999 to February 2001 and Assistant Commissioner from May 1997 through March 1998; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey State Board of Education acknowledges Commissioner Hesper's lifelong commitment as an educator and public servant who provided strong leadership that set forth policies that ensure New Jersey's students graduate high school ready for the challenges of college and career; and

**WHEREAS**, David C. Hesper is resigning as the New Jersey Commissioner of Education, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that it is both fitting and proper that the New Jersey State Board of Education express its sincere gratitude to David C. Hesper for his leadership as Commissioner exemplified by the collegial manner in which he worked with the members of the State Board and all stakeholders to provide a challenging and nurturing learning environment for all school children, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the New Jersey State Board of Education hereby honors David C. Hesper for his esteemed record of service to the state and extends best wishes for success and happiness in his future endeavors.

### **Resolution in Recognition of National Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Membership Month**

On behalf of the State Board, President Biedron presented Rose Acerra, President, N.J. PTA and Cathy Lindenbaum, President-elect, N.J. PTA with a resolution recognizing October as National PTA Membership Month in New Jersey.

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board approved the following resolution read by State Board member Edith Fulton:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF OCTOBER 2016 AS NATIONAL PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA) MEMBERSHIP MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is an association acting for the benefit of children’s education and well-being by focusing attention on issues affecting youth and public education; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey PTA also promotes family engagement in schools and communities, and advocates for public education; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than 115 years, New Jersey PTA has served the needs of children, teachers, parents, and schools through active volunteerism; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey PTA provides a network of local, state and national voices speaking together on behalf of all children; and

**WHEREAS**, among the millions of members of National PTA, the New Jersey PTA ranks with more than 120,000 members in 650 Local PTAs; and

**WHEREAS**, the strength of the PTA lies in its Membership—the volunteers who tirelessly devote themselves to making this a better world for children and youth; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education recognize October 2016 as National PTA Membership Month and encourages everyone to join the PTA and become an advocate for children.

**COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS**

**NJ Tiered System of Supports Presentation**

Susan Martz, Assistant Commissioner/Chief Learning Supports and Specialized Services Officer, Division of Learning Supports and Specialized Services, Margaret McDonald, Deputy Chief Learning Supports and Specialized Services Officer, David Cittadino, Superintendent Old Bridge Public Schools and Caitlin Colandrea, Supervisor of Intervention Services, Old Bridge Public Schools provided an overview of New Jersey’s Tiered System of Supports.

New Jersey Tiered System of Supports (NJTSS) is a multi-tiered framework for delivering instruction, academic and behavioral supports and interventions, and enrichment in a coordinated manner.

NJTSS includes the three-tiered approach to instruction, assessment and intervention found in many models of response to intervention, along with three foundational components: effective district and school leadership, positive school culture and climate, and family and community engagement. Together, these components create an efficient and effective mechanism for schools to improve achievement for all students. NJTSS builds on effective practices and initiatives already in place in schools, and maximizes the efficient use of resources to improve support for all classroom teachers and target interventions to students based on their needs.

Recently, the NJDOE, in partnership with Rutgers University, was awarded a \$6,146,922 grant from the Office of Special Education Programs, United States Department of Education, to provide intensive coaching in 60 districts to implement NJTSS for early reading.

The New Jersey Department of Education staff will be working closely with faculty from Rutgers University, co-developers of the grant, to coach educators from three groups of 20 districts each over a five-year period. The New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association (NJPSA) will work with

principals on leadership support for NJTSS and the State Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN) will engage educators and families in a process to enhance family involvement. The Dumont School District, which is currently implementing a tiered system of support, will also work with the project and provide the practitioner view point as NJTSS is rolled out.

New Jersey’s grant will commence on October 1, 2016. Information regarding the process for applying to participate in grant activities will be disseminated later this fall.

**National Superintendent of the Year for the National Association of School Superintendents-Dr. Timothy Purnell, Superintendent of the Somerville School District**

Dr. Timothy Purnell, Superintendent of the Somerville School District provided an overview of the work currently underway in his school district. His presentation highlighted, among other things, strong parent-community connections, a student centered culture, shared leadership, recognition programs and best practices.

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

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

**\*A. Appointment(s)**

- Approved the following appointments and title change(s) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-32-35 and N.J.A.C. 6A:2-1.1 et seq.:

**Appointments**

- Joshua Koen, Chief Innovation Officer
- Anthony Fitzpatrick, Director, Office of School Innovation
- Amanda Schultz, Director, Office of Budget
- Joseph Vitelli, Director, Office of Administration

**Title Change**

- Karin Garver, Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Division of Teaching and Learning

**\*B. Certification of School Districts**

- Certified for a period of three years, the following school district(s) recommended by the Commissioner, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-14a and b.

<b>Certified School District</b>	<b>County</b>
Bordentown	Burlington
Collingswood	Camden
Haddon Twp	Camden
Glassboro	Gloucester
Metuchen	Middlesex
Milltown	Middlesex
Sayreville	Middlesex
Monmouth Beach	Monmouth
Mine Hill	Morris
Montville	Morris
Hawthorne	Passaic

**\*C. State Board of Examiners**

- On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board approved the following resolution approving the reappointments to the State Board of Examiners in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-34 and 35.

**RESOLUTION  
STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS REAPPOINTMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-38, the State Board of Examiners is responsible for issuing, revoking and suspending educational certificates under rules prescribed by the State Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-34, members of the State Board of Examiners are appointed by the Commissioner of Education with the approval of the State Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner, after consulting with members of the education community, has recommended the reappointments of three member to the Board of Examiners; and

**WHEREAS**, the persons whom the Commissioner has recommended have established a reputation for distinguished service in their profession and on the Board of Examiners; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the State Board of Education hereby approves the reappointments of the following persons, whose terms shall expire on September 14, 2018:

Dr. Jonathan Dauber  
High School Principal  
West Windsor – Plainsboro Public Schools

Dr. Timothy J. Purnell  
Superintendent  
Somerville Public Schools

Ms. Kristin Hennessy  
Teacher  
Brielle School District

**\*D. Resolution to Approve Interstate Reciprocity Compact from NASDTEC**

- On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board approved the following resolution to renew NJ membership in the 50 state reciprocity agreement in which members agree to honor other state’s certificates, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:26-11 et seq, N.J.S.A. 18A:26-21 and N.J.S.A. 18A:26-14.

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2015-2020 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE  
DIRECTORS OF TEACHER EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION (NASDTEC) INTERSTATE  
AGREEMENT FOR EDUCATOR LICENSURE**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:26-11 *et seq.* recognizes the importance of interstate agreements concerning educational programs and personnel, and N.J.S.A. 18A:26-14 authorizes the Secretary of the Board of Examiners to enter into contracts on behalf of the State with one or more other states for the acceptance of educational personnel, and N.J.S.A. 18A:26-21 requires the specific terms of the contracts to be approved by the New Jersey State Board of Education upon recommendation by the Commissioner and State Board of Examiners; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey State Board of Education has authorized prior NASDTEC interstate agreements in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:26-14 and N.J.S.A. 18A:26-21; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner and State Board of Examiners recommend that the New Jersey State Board of Education approve the 2015-2020 NASDTEC Interstate Agreement for Educator Licensure; and now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the New Jersey State Board of Education approves the 2015-2020 NASDTEC Interstate Agreement for Educator Licensure and authorizes the Secretary of the State Board of Examiners to sign the Agreement on behalf of the New Jersey Department of Education.

**\*E. Student Transportation**

- Approved for publication in the *NJ Register* the amendments to the regulations pertaining to school buses at N.J.A.C. 6A:27, Student Transportation, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:39-21 and N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15.

**F. ESEA Unsafe School Choice Option**

- Discussed the following resolution to revise the Unsafe School Choice Option (USCO) Policy, pursuant to The *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* (Act) of 1965 SEC. 8532, as reauthorized under the *Every Student Succeeds Act* of 2015.

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING REVISIONS TO THE UNSAFE SCHOOL CHOICE OPTION POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, The *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* (Act) of 1965 SEC. 8532, as reauthorized under the *Every Student Succeeds Act* of 2015, sets forth that each state receiving funds under this Act shall establish and implement a statewide policy requiring that a student attending a persistently dangerous public elementary school or secondary school, while in or on the grounds of a public elementary school or secondary school that the student attends, be allowed to attend a safe public elementary school or secondary school within the local educational agency, including a public charter school; and

**WHEREAS**, to improve student achievement, our schools must provide safe, nurturing environments where students can learn and are valued and respected; and

**WHEREAS**, the focus of the Unsafe School Choice Option provision of the Act is on working with schools proactively to identify those schools at risk of being labeled persistently dangerous and offer them technical assistance to improve school safety; and

**WHEREAS**, only minor revisions have been incorporated into the Unsafe School Choice Option policy in New Jersey since its initial approval by the State Board of Education on June 18, 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, the policy has been revised in accordance with the law to ensure that the criteria used continue to accurately reflect school safety in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner of Education recommends that the New Jersey State Board of Education approve the revised Unsafe School Choice Option policy for New Jersey; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the New Jersey State Board of Education approves the revised Unsafe School Choice Option policy; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that district boards of education shall fully comply with implementation with the 2016-2017 school year.

**G. Fiscal Accountability, Efficiency and Budgeting Procedures**

- Discussed the readoption with technical amendments of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16 through 22, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-12 and N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15.

**H. Regulatory Flexibility and Relief Package**

- Discussed the amendments to N.J.A.C. 6A:3, 6A:9, 6A:11, 6A:32, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15. The State Board members in attendance agreed to move this rulemaking to Proposal Level in October.

**WORK SESSION**

There was no work session.

**NEW BUSINESS**

State Board Vice President Joe Fiscaro stated that he recently visited both the Cumberland County Technical School and the Lindenwold School Districts.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its September 7, 2016, public meeting at 12:48 p.m.

---

Kimberley Harrington, Acting Commissioner  
Acting Secretary, State Board of Education