

**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**

January 4, 2017

Presiding: Mark W. Biedron, President

Secretary: Kimberley Harrington, Acting Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

Mr. Arcelio Aponte
Mr. Joseph Fiscaro
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Ms. Edithe Fulton
Dr. Ernest Lepore

ABSENT

Dr. Ronald Butcher
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill

CONVENING

State Board of Education President Mark Biedron convened the public meeting at 9:00 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, 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 January 4, 2017, 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 of Education will now adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues. The State Board immediately adjourned to executive session on January 4, 2017.

RECONVENING

President Biedron reconvened the open meeting at 10:00 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 December 7, 2016.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Public Testimony

President Biedron stated public testimony would be held today at 2 pm. He also stated that the topics for today's public testimony session are the amendments to the Charter Schools, Interdistrict Public School Choice, Student Residency, Fiscal Accountability, Efficiency and Budgeting Procedures (subchapters 16-22) and Fiscal Accountability, Efficiency and Budgeting Procedures (subchapter 18). He further stated that today's public testimony was an Open Topic Public Testimony session meaning that registered members of the public could speak on any educational topic of their choice.

President Biedron stated that public testimony would be held on February 1, 2017 following the monthly public meeting of the state board. He also stated that the topic for the February board meeting is the Resolution for the Written Proficiency Test for Bilingual Teachers. He further stated that registration for the February 1, 2017 public testimony session would open on Thursday, January 12, 2017 and close on Thursday, January 26, 2017.

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 senior from Williamstown High School in Gloucester County. President Biedron also introduced Ava's principal, Dr. Jill DelConte. Ava spoke to the State Board about the charity that the New Jersey Association of Student Council chose, Bianca's Kids.

Resolution in Honor of New Jersey School Board Recognition Month

President Biedron introduced the School Board Recognition resolution. State Board member Edythe Fulton read the resolution. Donald Webster, President of the New Jersey School Boards Association and Larry Feinsod, Executive Director of the New Jersey School Boards Association accepted the resolution and thanked the State Board for the recognition.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

State Operated School District Annual Report- Paterson Public Schools

Dr. Donnie Evans, Superintendent of the State Operated School District of the City of Paterson Public Schools provided his annual report to the State Board of Education. His report focused on three main topics: Student Achievement, Operations and Facilities.

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Plan Presentation

Peter Shulman, Deputy Commissioner and Diana Pasculli, facilitator of stakeholder outreach provided an update on the Department's work regarding the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

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

***A. Appointment(s)**

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

Appointments

- John Worthington, Director, Office of Special Education Programs
- David Greer, Director, Office of Academics
- Lorelei Drew-Nevola, Director, Office of Tiered Supports and Specialized Services

***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.

Certified School District	County
Mercer County Vocational Technical School	Mercer

***C. Educator Effectiveness**

- Adopted the amendments pertaining to educator evaluation proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:9C, Professional Development, and N.J.A.C 6A:10, Educator Effectiveness, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1, 18A:4-15, 18A:6-34 and 38, 18A:26-2.7 and 10, and P.L. 2012, c. 11., and N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15.

D. Charter Schools

- Discussed the amendments to the regulations pertaining to charter schools, proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:11, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-18.

E. Fiscal Accountability, Efficiency and Budgeting Procedures

- Discussed the amendments to the regulations pertaining to Tuition for Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-18, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-12 and N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15.

F. Resolution to Establish a New Passing Score for the Written Proficiency Test for Bilingual Teachers

- The State Board discussed the following resolution establishing a new passing score for the Written Proficiency Tests for Teacher of Bilingual/Bicultural Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-5.14 and N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-11.5(a)2i1

RESOLUTION

ADOPTING A NEW QUALIFYING SCORE FOR THE WRITTEN PROFICIENCY TEST IN THE TARGET OR THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE FOR TEACHERS OF BILINGUAL AND BICULTURAL EDUCATION

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education has required that teacher certification candidates pass subject matter tests in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-8.2(a)4, effective December 7, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education has required a written proficiency test (WPT) in the target language and in the English language for the endorsement for Teacher of Bilingual and Bicultural Education in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-5.14 and N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-11.5(a)2i1; and

WHEREAS, for this purpose the department uses the Written Proficiency Tests (WPT) offered by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL); and

WHEREAS, the department has determined through its research and discussions with the field that there is a need to address teacher shortages in this subject area while maintaining academic rigor; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education approves the recommendation that candidates for Teacher of Bilingual and Bicultural Education meet either qualifying scores on the WPT of “Advanced Low” for the English language and of “Intermediate High” for the target language, or that candidates meet qualifying scores on the WPT of “Intermediate High” for the English language and of “Advanced Low” for the target language; and

WHEREAS, the department will monitor the impact of these qualifying scores on the passing rates for this subject area and will report any problems with the same to the State Board of Education; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education hereby supports the department’s proposal to set the WPT for the target language for Teacher of Bilingual and Bicultural Education at “Intermediate High.”

WORK SESSION

There was no work session.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its January 4, 2017, public meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Kimberley Harrington, Acting Commissioner
Acting Secretary, N.J. State Board of Education