

**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 3, 2018

Presiding: Arcelio Aponte, President

Secretary: Kimberley Harrington, Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

ABSENT

Dr. Ronald Butcher
Mrs. Mary Beth Berry
Mrs. Elaine Bobrove
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Gazi
Mrs. Kathy Goldenberg
Dr. Nedd J. Johnson
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill-via teleconference
Dr. Joseph L. Ricca
Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia
Mrs. Fatimah Burnam-Watkins

CONVENING

State Board of Education President Arcelio Aponte 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 3, 2018 was called to order.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Aponte 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 January 3, 2018.

RECONVENING

State Board President Arcelio Aponte 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

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

President Aponte introduced the Honorable R. Brian McLaughlin, a judge of the New Jersey Superior Court in Mercer County. Judge McLaughlin administered the oath of office to new State Board members Elaine Bobrove of Camden County and Fatimah Burnum-Watkins of Union County.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board members approved the minutes of the public meetings conducted on December 6, 2017. State Board members Elaine Bobrove and Fatimah Burnum-Watkins abstained.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Announcements

Public Testimony

President Aponte stated public testimony would be held today at 2 pm. He also stated that today's public testimony session is an Open Public session meaning that registered members of the public may speak on any educational topic of their choice. He also stated that State Board members Jack Fornaro, Kathy Goldenberg, Nedd Johnson, Mary Beth Berry, Joseph Ricca and Sylvia Sylvia would hear public testimony. He further stated that the State Board would not be holding a public testimony session on February 7, 2018 as there are no topics scheduled.

Permanent Student Representative

President Aponte welcomed Karan Chauhan the 2017-2018 permanent student representative to the State Board of Education. Karan Chauhan is a senior from Parsippany Troy-Hills High School in Morris County. Karan spoke to the State Board about mental health disorders faced by students today.

Resolution in Honor of New Jersey School Board Recognition Month

President Aponte introduced the following resolution in honor of School Board Recognition month. State Board member Kathy Goldenberg read the resolution. Daniel Sinclair, 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.

RESOLUTION FOR SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Board of Education, which adopts the administrative code to implement state education law, has established rigorous standards through its promulgation of the

New Jersey Student Learning Standards, which set the expectations of academic achievement for nearly 1.4 million public schoolchildren; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey’s locally elected and appointed boards of education play a vital role in ensuring that their local school districts meet state standards and adhere to all code provisions, with the goal of providing an outstanding education to prepare all students for college and the workplace and to enable them to compete in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey’s 5,000 non-partisan local board of education members and charter school trustees are public servants who dedicate their time, without pay or benefit, to the oversight of school district operations, sound financial practices, comprehensive policies, curriculum, staffing, and the well-being and academic achievement of all students in the district; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of local boards of education, in conjunction with state education officials and local educators, have built a foundation of success that has led to New Jersey’s status as a leader in student achievement, as evidenced by the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores; and

WHEREAS, the National School Boards Association and the New Jersey School Boards Association have declared January 2018 to be School Board Recognition Month; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes the contributions of our state’s local boards of education to the academic success of its public school students and expresses its sincere appreciation to local board of education members for their continued focus on the achievement of children throughout New Jersey; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education encourages qualified New Jersey citizens to consider serving as members of their local school boards.

Juvenile Justice Commission Memorandum of Understanding Presentation

President Aponte introduced members of the Juvenile Justice Commission who provided a presentation about the ongoing collaboration between the Department and the Commission to break the school-to-prison pipeline in New Jersey.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS

Newark School District Update

Commissioner Harrington stated that the transition plan to begin the return of local control of the Newark school district was submitted and approved by their board on December 19, 2017 and will be effective February 1, 2018. She also stated that Christopher D. Cerf, Superintendent of the Newark Public Schools has submitted his resignation effective February 1, 2018. She further stated that Mr. Robert Gregory would serve as interim superintendent until a national was conducted and a replacement is named.

State of New Jersey’s English Language Learners (ELLs) Report

Peggy McDonald, Acting Assistant Commissioner, Division of Learning Supports and Specialized Services and her staff provided a report on the programs and services provided to New Jersey’s students as well as the array of professional learning opportunities and technical assistance sessions offered to educators and families to promote the success of the English Language Learners in the state.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

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

***A. Appointment(s)**

- There were no appointments.

***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
Paterson	Passaic

***C. Standards and Assessment**

- Approved for publication in the *New Jersey Register*, the sunset re-adoption with amendment at Chapter 8, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-10 through 14, 18A:7C-1 et seq., 18A:7E-2 through 5, 18A:35-4.2 and 4.7, 18A:59-5 and 18A:4-15. State Board members Nedd Johnson, Mary Beth Berry, Jack Fornaro, Andy Mulvihill, Mary Beth Gazi, Ernest Lepore, Elaine Bobrove and Arcelio Aponte voted in favor of the proposal. State Board members Kathy Goldenberg, Sylvia Sylvia and Joseph Ricca voted not in favor of the proposal. State Board members Ronald Butcher and Fatimah Burum-Watkins abstained.

WORK SESSION

There was no work session.

NEW BUSINESS

State Board member Ronald Butcher requested updates on the review of Standards as it relates to Assessments.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its January 3, 2018, public meeting at 1:16 p.m.

Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner
Acting Secretary, N.J. State Board of Education