

**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**

**August 7, 2019**

**Presiding:** Kathy Goldenberg, President

**Secretary:** Kevin Dehmer, Acting Commissioner

**Present Constituting a Quorum**

Mrs. Kathy Goldenberg  
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill  
Mr. Arcelio Aponte  
Mr. Jack Fornaro  
Mrs. Elaine Bobrove  
Dr. Ernest Lepore  
Mrs. Mary Beth Berry  
Dr. Nedd J. Johnson  
Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia-Cioffi (via teleconference)

**Absent**

Dr. Joseph Ricca  
Dr. Ronald Butcher  
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Gazi  
Mrs. Fatimah Burnam-Watkins

**Convening**

State Board of Education President Kathy Goldenberg 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 August 7, 2019, 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 August 7, 2019.

## **Reconvening**

President Kathy Goldenberg 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 July 3, 2019. State Board member Arcelio Aponte abstained.

## **President's Reports**

## **Announcements**

## **Resolution to Honor Arcelio Aponte**

The State Board members approved a resolution, thanking and honoring Mr. Arcelio Aponte for his tenure as the State Board of Education President. On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board unanimously approved the following resolution read by State Board member Dr. Nedd J. Johnson:

### **Resolution to Honor Arcelio Aponte For Service as State Board of Education President**

**Whereas**, on June 30, 2017, Mr. Arcelio Aponte assumed the role as President Pro Tem of the New Jersey State Board of Education during the time of an unexpected transition; and

**Whereas**, on July 5, 2017, Mr. Aponte was nominated and unanimously elected by his colleagues to serve as President of the New Jersey State Board of Education for his fifth term; and

**Whereas**, Mr. Aponte utilized his experience and energy early on in his term to familiarize new State Board members with their role and to increase their shared understanding of education policy; and

**Whereas**, under Mr. Aponte's leadership, the State-Operated School Districts of Jersey City, Newark and Paterson all began the transition to return to full local control; and

**Whereas**, throughout his recent tenure as State Board President, Mr. Aponte supported high-quality teacher education initiatives such as the adoption of the edTPA and the teacher leader endorsement to the instructional certificate; and

**Whereas**, on July 3, 2019, Mr. Aponte concluded his sixth term as President due to increasing demands on his professional career; now therefore be it

**Resolved**, the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Acting Commissioner of Education applaud Mr. Arcelio Aponte for his intelligent and broad-minded leadership style that ably guided the State Board to enact education policy that effectuated meaningful change and supported successful practices in New Jersey's public education system; and be it further

**Resolved**, the New Jersey State Board of Education expresses sincere gratitude for his dedication and service to the State Board and continued work on behalf of all of the students of New Jersey.

### **Public Testimony**

Public testimony was not held because the person who registered to testify decided to submit testimony as written comment.

President Goldenberg stated that public testimony would be held on September 4, 2019. She also stated the September 4, 2019, public testimony session is an open topic session, meaning that registered members of the public may speak on any educational topic of their choice. She further stated that registration for the September 4, 2019, public testimony session will open Thursday, August 15, 2019, and close at noon on Thursday, August 29, 2019.

President Goldenberg stated that anyone interested in speaking at and/or also attending the public testimony session must register so the State Board staff can make proper arrangements for space. She further stated that members of the public should contact the State Board office at 609-376-9071 or check the following website <https://www.nj.gov/education/sboe/meetings/testimony/index.shtml> for updates.

### **Permanent Student Representative**

President Goldenberg welcomed Sahil Ganatra, the 2019-2020 permanent student representative to the State Board of Education. Sahil is a rising senior from South Brunswick High School in Middlesex County. Sahil spoke about the 2019-2020 State charity that was selected by the New Jersey Association of Student Councils (NJASC). This year, the NJASC executive board chose to support the Emmanuel Cancer Foundation, which is a charity that serves families with children who have been diagnosed with pediatric cancer.

## **State Board Committee Reports**

President Goldenberg stated she wants to examine the possibility of creating two new State Board committees -- Early Childhood and Social and Emotional Learning. She also asked State Board members to notify her and Diane Shoener of any ideas they have for committees and to identify two or three committees on which they would like to serve. President Goldenberg further stated her preference for holding committee meetings on Wednesday mornings once a month or every other month, as needed. President Goldenberg also presented the possibility of converting the committees that do not meet as often into ad hoc committees.

Vice President Mulvihill stated his support to revamp the State Board committees. He also urged State Board members to consider creating committee meeting agendas for the State Board to keep open communication on what each committee is discussing.

## **Commissioner's Reports**

### **Overview of Statewide Equity Conference**

Tonya Breland, Director of the Office of Professional Learning, presented an overview of the Department's Statewide conference titled "Equity for All," which took place on July 31, 2019, at The College of New Jersey. Ms. Breland stated that equity was chosen as the topic for this year's conference as part of the Department's vision to increase equity for all students through access, opportunity, and inclusion. Dr. Tyrone Howard, professor in UCLA's Graduate School of Education and Information Studies and Associate Dean for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, provided the keynote speech.

Ms. Breland stated the conference was a great success with more than 900 attendees from around the State, more than 200 Department staff attendees, and more than 150 New Jersey educators and students presenting. She also stated there were more than 50 equity sessions offered during the conference: classroom sessions, panel discussions, EdCamps and Masterminds, TED Talks, equity-based professional learning community (PLC) sessions, and a closing TED Ed Masterclass. Additionally, former Commissioner Kimberley Harrington-Markus introduced the 11 new Lighthouse school districts during the conference: Little Falls, Long Branch, Ocean City, Paul Robeson Charter School, Perth Amboy, Red Bank Borough, Somerville, TEAM Academy, Washington Borough, Waterford Township, and West Deptford Township.

### **Items for Consideration:**

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

#### **\*A. Appointments**

- There were no appointments

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

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

Bergen County Special Services	Bergen
Cresskill	Bergen
Englewood	Bergen
Englewood Cliffs	Bergen
Fair Lawn	Bergen
Glen Rock	Bergen
Harrington Park	Bergen
Hillsdale	Bergen
Maywood	Bergen
New Milford	Bergen
Northern Highlands Regional High School	Bergen
Northvale	Bergen
Old Tappan	Bergen
Park Ridge	Bergen
Ramsey	Bergen
Ridgewood	Bergen
River Edge	Bergen
River Vale	Bergen
Rutherford	Bergen
South Hackensack	Bergen
Tenafly	Bergen
Westwood Regional	Bergen
Wood-Ridge	Bergen
Gloucester County Special Services	Gloucester
Gloucester County Vocational	Gloucester
National Park	Gloucester
Pitman	Gloucester
Washington Township	Gloucester
Wenonah	Gloucester
West Deptford	Gloucester
Hamilton Township	Mercer
Carteret	Middlesex
East Brunswick	Middlesex
Metuchen	Middlesex
Milltown	Middlesex
Monroe Township	Middlesex
Perth Amboy	Middlesex
Sayreville	Middlesex
South Amboy	Middlesex

South Brunswick	Middlesex
South River	Middlesex
Spotswood	Middlesex
Belmar	Monmouth
Marlboro Township	Monmouth
Chester Township	Morris
West Milford Township	Passaic
Mannington Township	Salem
Quinton Township	Salem
Montague	Sussex
Sandyston-Walpack	Sussex

End of table.

**Work Session**

There was no work session.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

**Public Testimony**

There was no public testimony.

**Adjournment**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its August 7, 2019, public meeting at 10:56 a.m.

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Dr. Lamont O. Repollet, Commissioner  
Secretary, N.J. State Board of Education