

New Jersey State Board of Education
Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education
April 1, 2020

Presiding: Kathy Goldenberg, President

Secretary: Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner

Present Constituting a Quorum

Mr. Arcelio Aponte
Mrs. Mary Beth Berry
Mrs. Elaine Bobrove
Mrs. Fatimah Burnam-Watkins
Dr. Ronald Butcher
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Gazi
Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia-Cioffi
Dr. Nedd J. Johnson
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill
Dr. Joseph Ricca

Absent

Dr. Ernest Lepore

Convening

State Board of Education President Kathy Goldenberg convened the public meeting at 9:10 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 April 1, 2020, 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 April 1, 2020.

Reconvening

President Kathy Goldenberg reconvened the open meeting at 10:20 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 March 4, 2020. State Board members Arcelio Aponte and Joe Ricca abstained.

President's Reports

Announcements

President Goldenberg welcomed everyone to the State Board's virtual meeting and extended her best wishes on behalf of the State Board that all are safe and healthy. President Goldenberg thanked Dr. Repollet, the Department staff and especially the superintendents, school leaders and most importantly, the teachers, for all that they have done to support students and parents academic and social service needs with such a rapid response. She stated that it is inspiring to see everyone come together to work for the benefit of our students and state.

Public Testimony

President Goldenberg stated that the State Board would receive written testimony only on the Special Education Regulations and the Annual Calendar of Religious Holidays for the 2020-2021 school year. She also stated that going forward the State Board would only accept written testimony on administrative code items currently pending before the State Board.

Resolution in Honor of School Library Month in New Jersey

President Goldenberg introduced a resolution in honor of School Library month.

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board unanimously approved the following resolution read by State Board member Elaine Bobrove:

Resolution for School Library Month

Whereas, the month of April 2020 has been designated nationally as School Library Month by the American Association of School Librarians; and

Whereas, the New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes that information literacy skills are essential for students to become independent, informed citizens; and

Whereas, school libraries contribute to developing a culture of innovation and creativity for students by delivering personalized learning experiences for students through its use of collaborative work spaces and an environment that allows for reading and learning, investigation and research, and the lifelong pursuit of knowledge; and

Whereas, school libraries provide materials that reflect diversity of ideas and beliefs of religious, social, political, historical and ethnic groups and their contributions to the American and world heritage and culture; and

Whereas, school libraries contribute to students' well-being and their social and emotional learning needs providing equitable access to resources and instruction; and

Whereas, the full potential of school libraries is dependent upon trained professional school library media specialists whose varied skills assist teachers and students in effectively using the wide range of information resources; and

Whereas, it is both fitting and proper that special recognition be given to school library programs and the role of certified school library media specialists in education throughout the State of New Jersey; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education recognize April 2020 as School Library Month in New Jersey.

Resolution in Honor of Better Hearing and Speech Month in New Jersey

President Goldenberg introduced a resolution in honor of Better Hearing and Speech Month.

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board unanimously approved the following resolution read by State Board member Mary Beth Berry:

Resolution for Better Hearing and Speech Month

Whereas, the month of May 2020 is being celebrated nationally as Better Hearing and Speech Month; and

Whereas, the New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes that many students have communications disorders and acknowledges the significance that the ability to

communicate plays in building personal and societal relationships as students grow and mature; and

Whereas, Better Hearing and Speech Month is a time to raise awareness about communication disorders and to encourage children and families to receive appropriate screenings and evaluations; and

Whereas, Better Hearing and Speech Month is also a time to acknowledge the hard work of audiologists, speech-language pathologists, and speech, language, and hearing scientists and the contributions they make that remarkably affect the lives of students in New Jersey; and

Whereas, these professionals are invested in serving the needs of students with speech, language, and hearing disorders to foster success in all aspects of their lives by prioritizing effective communication for the highest quality of life; and

Whereas, the New Jersey Speech-Language-Hearing Association supports students and professionals by its professional development offerings, advocacy efforts, and public awareness campaigns designed to ensure that high-quality care is provided; and

Whereas, it is both fitting and proper that special recognition be given to acknowledge May 2020 as Better Hearing and Speech Month along with commending the New Jersey Speech-Language-Hearing Association for its role in providing outstanding service to professionals throughout the State of New Jersey; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education recognize May 2020 as Better Hearing and Speech Month in New Jersey.

State Board Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

Commissioner's Reports

Commissioner Repollet extended his gratitude to the many school district administrators, teachers, school nurses and staff who have demonstrated unprecedented acts of kindness, grit, innovation and humanity during the past several weeks by providing grab and go lunches and technology to students and families; reading to preschoolers through on-line platforms; volunteering to work in hospitals and countless other ways to offer support in the community.

Items for Consideration:

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

***A. Appointments**

- There were no appointments.

***B. Resolution to Adopt the State Plan for Career and Technical Education (Perkins V)**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board unanimously approved the following resolution adopting the Career and Technical Education Plan pursuant P.L. 109-270:

Resolution to Adopt The New Jersey Perkins V State Plan

Whereas, the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) requires eligible agencies to adopt a State Plan for Career and Technical Education; and

Whereas, the New Jersey Department of Education (Department) submitted a one-year Transition Plan for federal fiscal year 2019, which was the first fiscal year following the enactment of Perkins V; and

Whereas, Perkins V also requires the Department to submit by April 15, 2020, a State Plan adopted by the New Jersey State Board of Education in order to receive an estimated at \$25.5 million in federal funding for federal fiscal year 2020; and

Whereas, the Department conducted extensive stakeholder engagement and worked with multiple State agencies to develop a State Plan that will lay the foundation for the next generation of career education and talent development at the secondary and postsecondary levels in New Jersey public institutions; and

Whereas, the State Plan will govern policy direction, guide new initiatives, and drive investment strategies for both federal programs and State projects, and also will serve as the cornerstone for programmatic investments and capacity-building efforts that will enhance service delivery at State and local levels; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the New Jersey State Board of Education hereby adopts the New Jersey State Plan for Career and Technical Education to serve as the blueprint for implementing career and technical education in New Jersey through June 30, 2023.

***C. Special Education**

Approved for publication in the *NJ Register* the readoption with amendments pertaining to the rules concerning the services, programs, and instruction, including educational and related services, provided to students with disabilities pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15, 18A:7B-1 et seq., 18A:7C-1 et seq., 18A:7F-1 et seq., 18A:39-1.1, 18A:40-4, 18A:46-1 et seq., and 18A:46A-1 et seq.; and U.S. P.L. 93-112, § 504; 94-142; 99-457; 101-476; 105-17; and 108-446.

***D. Special Education**

Approved the temporary rule modification of rules governing the provision of special education and related services to students with disabilities at N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.9, pursuant to N.J.S.A. App.A:9-45 & App. A:9-47; and Executive Order No. 103 (Murphy), issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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 April 1, 2020, public meeting at 11:20 a.m.

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