

**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**

February 5, 2020

Presiding: Andrew Mulvihill, Vice President

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

Present Constituting A Quorum

Mrs. Mary Beth Berry
Mrs. Elaine Bobrove
Dr. Ronald Butcher
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Gazi
Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia-Cioffi
Dr. Nedd J. Johnson (via teleconference)
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill
Dr. Joseph Ricca

Absent

Mr. Arcelio Aponte
Mrs. Fatimah Burnam-Watkins
Mrs. Kathy Goldenberg
Dr. Ernest Lepore

Convening

State Board of Education Vice President Andrew Mulvihill convened the public meeting at 9:20 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 February 5, 2020, was called to order.

Adjourn to Executive Session

Vice President Mulvihill 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 February 5, 2020.

Reconvening

Vice President Andrew Mulvihill 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 January 8, 2020.

President's Reports

Announcements

Public Testimony

Vice President Mulvihill stated that public testimony would be held today at 2 pm. He stated that the topic for today's public testimony session is the swimming and water safety endorsement and the Resolution to Revise the Qualifying Score for the Adult Education Equivalency Assessments. He further stated that State Board members Ronald Butcher, Nedd Johnson, Mary Beth Berry and Sylvia Sylvia would hear public testimony today.

Vice President Mulvihill stated that public testimony will be held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020. The topic for the March 4 public testimony session is the amendments to the Educational Facilities regulations pertaining to safe drinking water and the revisions to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. He further stated that registration for the March 4, 2020 public testimony session will open Thursday, January 16, 2020, and close at noon on Thursday, January 30, 2020.

Vice President Mulvihill stated that the first of the three regional hearings to testify before the members of the State Board of Education on the revised New Jersey Student Learning Standards will also take place on Monday, February 24, 2020 from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm at the Warren County Technical School in the Theater, 1500 Route 57, Washington, NJ 07882. He also stated that State Board members Jack Fornaro and I (Andrew Mulvihill) will hear testimony on this date.

Vice President Mulvihill 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. Members of the public should contact the State Board office at 609-376-9071 or check the [website](#) for updates.

Permanent Student Representative

Vice President Mulvihill welcomed Sahil Ganatra, the 2019-2020 permanent student representative to the State Board of Education. Sahil is a senior from South Brunswick High School in Middlesex County. Sahil spoke to the State Board about the highlights from the New Jersey Association of Student Council’s Winter Conference he attended last month at the College of New Jersey.

Sahil stated that during the Conference the 2020 state officers were officially elected. He also stated that the 2020-2021 Permanent Student Representative will be Sabrina Capoli, a junior from Seneca High School. Sahil also stated that the Student Summit was also held during the Conference where members of the Department of Education were able to speak to students from throughout the state about the work currently underway in the areas of social and emotional learning and student voice and advocacy.

Honoring Career and Technical Education Month

Vice President Mulvihill introduced the following resolution in honor of Career and Technical Education month in New Jersey. State Board member Mary Beth Berry read the resolution.

Resolution for National Career and Technical Education Month

Whereas, the Association for Career and Technical Education has designated February 2020 as Career and Technical Education Month nationally; and

Whereas, more than 184,669 students in secondary and postsecondary institutions across New Jersey benefit from career and technical education; and

Whereas, career and technical education programs deliver real-world skills and hands-on experience for students, an opportunity to earn college credit, industry certifications and work-based learning while in high school, and a chance to explore career options; and

Whereas, career and technical education prepares New Jerseyans for the jobs that exist today, and equips them with the skills employers will need in the future; and

Whereas, the New Jersey Department of Education has continued to implement a variety of career and technical education initiatives including the Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program, the Building Capacity for Career Pathways initiative and the County Vocational School District Partnership initiative to provide students with the opportunity to earn recognized postsecondary credentials and gain industry experience in a variety of career pathways; and

Whereas, the New Jersey Department of Education's Expanding Pre-Apprenticeship in a New Direction (ExPAND) grant will equip high school students with the technical skills needed for entry into a registered apprenticeship; and

Whereas, seven state career and technical student organizations currently serve approximately 47,200 students in New Jersey through membership in Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA); National FFA Association; Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA); DECA, an Association of Marketing Students; Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA); Technology Student Association (TSA); and SkillsUSA; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education hereby recognize February 2020 as Career and Technical Education Month in New Jersey and the potential of career and technical education to fully prepare our students for postsecondary success.

Commissioner's Reports

Comprehensive Accountability Office Report-Jersey City

Chris Huber, Special Assistant to the Commissioner along with Dr. Elnardo Webster, Highly Skilled Professional from the Jersey City Public School District provided an update on the Jersey City Public School District's progress in the transition to local control. Chris Huber stated the District's Transition Plan for the Return of Local Control became effective on October 25, 2018. He also stated the projected end date of the Transition plan is October 25, 2020.

They reported that the Department partnered with the Bloustein Local Government Research Center of Rutgers University to form a Comprehensive Accountability Office or CAO responsible for collecting and publishing data that corresponds to the Scorecard and demonstrates whether the District is making substantial and sustainable progress on the accountability metrics. The CAO found that although the District may be implementing the activities on the scorecard, there are not systems in place that institutionalize the action/practices or that result in documentation to demonstrate compliance.

The information provided by the Highly Skilled Professionals (HSP's) provides anecdotal information and/or addresses sections of the Transition Plan that are not on the Scorecard. The information provided by the HSP's demonstrates that the District is adjusting internal controls to successfully implement the Transition Plan.

State Operated School District of Jersey City Annual Report

Commissioner Repollet welcomed Franklin Walker, Superintendent of Jersey City School District to the State Board meeting.

Mr. Walker presented a report to the State Board members outlining the vision, initiatives and supports in place in the Jersey City School District. The presentation included the Jersey City vision, student demographics, and the 2019 district graduation rate. Mr. Walker also presented the plans to support students at risk, plans to restore local control as well as progress in the transition plan in the following areas: instruction and programs, personnel, fiscal management, operations, and management.

Items for Consideration:

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

*A. Commissioner

- On a motion duly moved and seconded, the State Board unanimously adopted the proposed organizational structure for the State Department of Education at N.J.A.C. 6A:2-1.1 et seq., pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-3(1).

*B. Appointments

- Approved the following appointment(s) pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:2:
 - Katherine Gallagher, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Division of Field Services
 - Daryl Minus-Vincent, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Division of Field Services
 - Maris Henson, Director, Office of District Intervention and Support
 - Kimberley Friddell, Director, Office of Preschool Education
 - Vanessa Lawson, Director, Office of Civic and Social Engagement
 - Jennifer Killough-Herrera, Director, Office of Controversies and Disputes

*C. Certification of School Districts

- The State Board certified for a period of three years the following school districts recommended by the Commissioner, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-14a and b. State Board member Mary Beth Gazi abstained.

Certified School District	County
Galloway Twp	Atlantic
Mullica Twp	Atlantic
Palmyra	Burlington
Bound Brook	Somerset
Andover Regional	Sussex
Rahway	Union

***D. Resolution to Accept Donated Funds**

- Adopted the resolution approving the acceptance of up to \$55,000 in donated funds.

***E. Educator Effectiveness**

- Approved for publication in the *NJ Register* the readoption with amendments of N.J.A.C 6A:10, Educator Effectiveness, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15, 18A:6-34 and 38, and 18A:26-2.7 and 10, and P.L. 2012, c. 11.

F. Resolution to Adopt the New Jersey Student Learning Standards

- Discussed the readoption of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards as revised including the science and visual and performing arts, social studies and comprehensive health and physical education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-2.1(a).

G. Resolution to Adopt Revised Qualifying Scores for State-Issued High School Diplomas

- Discussed the resolution pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:20-1.4(a) recommending the revised qualifying scores for their respective tests for the granting of state-issued high school diplomas.

Work Session

There was no work session.

New Business

State Board member Joseph Ricca stated that this is National Counseling Week and recognized the hard work of counselors and social workers and all of those that work on behalf of our students everyday across the state. State Board member Mary Beth Berry stated that this is such an important topic and so many things are going on in our own communities that we always need to be aware of the health and well-being of our young people.

State Board member Joseph Ricca also stated that today is National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

Commissioner Repollet thanked State Board member Mary Beth Berry for bringing her concerns about student's mental health to the forefront.

Adjournment

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its November 6, 2019, public meeting at 1:28 p.m.

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