

**New Jersey State Board of Education**  
**Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education**  
**June 3, 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  
Dr. Nedd J. Johnson  
Dr. Ernest Lepore  
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill  
Dr. Joseph Ricca  
Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia-Cioffi

**Absent**

**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 June 3, 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 June 3, 2020.

### **Reconvening**

President Kathy Goldenberg 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**

### **In response to the killing of George Floyd**

#### *Remarks by President Goldenberg*

I would like to take a point of personal honor to address the events that have taken place recently throughout our nation.

Like many of you, I have been profoundly affected by the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and the demonstrations that have taken place all across New Jersey, the United States, and the world. The peaceful protesters demanding an honest examination of racism in America, as well as widespread reforms, gives me hope that we are in the midst of a profound change, while the acts of violence and vandalism that followed in many places leave me with a heavy heart.

As I process all that has happened in the last 10 days -- in the midst of a global pandemic nonetheless -- one question emerges: What effect is all of this having on our students?

If this is a lot to deal with for adults, the emotional toll on young children and teenagers undoubtedly will be profound. And, unfortunately, many New Jersey students of color are far too familiar with the effects of systemic racism.

Although New Jersey's school buildings are closed right now due to COVID-19 and summer break will soon begin, students will carry the events of spring 2020 with them when they finally return to school.

Teachers, counselors, principals, superintendents, and district board of education members will all play a role in helping students to process everything that has happened in the past three months. Whether it is helping students adjust to changes in school buildings and class schedules due to COVID-19, or turning students' questions about the past week's events into teachable moments, I have no doubt that New Jersey's educators, school officials, and board members will continue to support students and communities in every way possible.

I also believe it is imperative, at a time such as this, that our main constituency -- which is New Jersey's 1.4 million public school students -- knows that we see them, hear them, and care about them. Each and every one of them.

So, I offer the Department any assistance necessary as we continue to identify the supports that school districts will need as they address the mental and physical health needs of their students.

Dr. Repollet, ensuring equity in New Jersey's education system has been one of your main objectives as Commissioner. I applaud your steadfast focus on that goal and remain committed to providing all students with the educational opportunities and access to reach their dreams and full potential.

Our students deserve nothing less.

*Remarks by Arcelio Aponte*

As a member of the black and brown community, I am horrified by the needless death of George Floyd and countless others. Even more distressing, these incidences have occurred while the black and brown community have been hit the hardest with COVID, unemployment, disproportionate arrests for not social distancing, brutalized while in police custody, and they don't have adequate technology needed. These are the gross inequities we have to address because the knee of injustice is choking the life out of black and brown communities across NJ and the country. We need to be engaged on a national level. I would also like to applaud the community, including my own children, who were in Asbury Park supporting the protest there.

What we do in the future should impact upon the quality of education we deliver to the State of New Jersey.

*Remarks by Fatimah Burnam-Watkins*

I echo what Arcelio just said. We are in the midst of crisis of a pandemic and civil unrest and what I have heard described as complete pandemonium. This is weighing heavily on my heart and mind. What we need is leadership now. I am a black mom married to a black man and have triplets. My son said to me the other day that he wants to keep fighting so that he will have a confirmation that he can live, and it is just not right. Now more than ever we need to think about what we are doing as educators and leaders. I am heartened by the student led protests, and I feel we need to support our kids and help them figure out what they could do and how they could make this happen. We are at a cornerstone of change that we need to see in this country.

*Remarks by Sylvia Sylvia*

To piggyback on what Arcelio said and in particular to speak about the peaceful protest in my community on Monday. It was peaceful, respectful and meaningful, and I am so proud to be a part of the Asbury Park community, and so proud to be a part of the thousands of people who attended. I think something in advance of that would be that the Asbury Park police department issued a statement saying they stand together with the community, and they publicly denounced the officers who were involved in the murder of George Floyd. They actually used the term murder, and it shows the perspective of understanding and change that unfortunately so many

people have experienced in the past. I think that is what sets apart a lot of the communities that are understanding versus those who are not and that want to see positive change, and that we do not want to sit silent and that we do correct those who have the least subtle of racist comments and that they know they are doing, but have not been called out on. Our police force stood, they hugged, they chanted, and they sang, and as far as the unrest and the violence that has been occurring at many of these events, and at ours as well, those are happening not by members of the community. The peaceful protests are happening in an organized and wonderful fashion and then the people who are coming in after these events are over are not a part of anyone's peace movement, they are just there to cause damage. They are not there to see unity, and I really hope that nationally people can make that discernation that what happens afterward is not a part of this movement. I really hope that the populous at large will not accept and not consider that this is what is looking to be achieved. It is the actual organized movements that you will learn so much by and see so much unity between the black, brown, white and blue. I know that change is upon us and for the better, and I say that as one of the mothers of one of the members of that police force and I cannot be more proud of all of them.

*Remarks by Ron Butcher*

I wanted to chime in and say in the past 30 years this is probably one of the most unprecedented times in at least my career on the State Board of Education, and it is definitely one that calls for leadership. In that regard I just simply wanted to echo the comments and concerns you made with your opening statement, the comments and concerns expressed by Arcelio, and then the follow up by Fatimah, Sylvia as well as our student representative. I just wanted to personally take this opportunity to thank all of you for your very heartfelt and sincere comments. I think that's a key component in leadership and I hope one that we can all follow.

*Remarks by Nedd Johnson*

I just want to thank you Kathy for taking leadership and acknowledging this situation that is going on now throughout this country. As an African American male who has experienced many of these same types of challenges that many of our young people face today, I have been able to live some of those things and come out through it on the other end, but I just want to continue having this Board serve as a point of reference in leadership in difficult conversations. I think as a group we work well together, and I think we look at those issues from multiple perspectives, but we always come to some kind of resolution. I just wanted to add in that we are in this particular moment in history, and I am so proud to be a part of this organization and the work tone that the Commissioner has set over his term here. I just want to once again thank him personally and wish him the best of luck as he transitions to his next opportunity. Thank you.

### **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 May 3, 2020. State Board members Arcelio Aponte and Joseph 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.

### **Public Testimony**

President Goldenberg stated that the State Board would not receive testimony today. 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 to Honor Sahil Ganatra, 2019-2020 Outgoing Permanent Student Representative**

President Goldenberg welcomed Sahil Ganatra, 2019 -2020 permanent student representative, to the State Board of Education. Sahil is a senior from South Brunswick High School in Middlesex County. Sahil thanked the Commissioner and the Board members for their support and guidance over the year and for making his experience as the student representative a positive one. Sahil also introduced Sabrina Capoli, the 2020-2021 incoming permanent student representative to the State Board. Sabrina is a junior from Seneca High School in Burlington County.

The State Board members approved a resolution, congratulating and thanking Sahil Ganatra for his service. 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 Sahil Ganatra, 2019-2020 Student Representative**

**Whereas**, Sahil Ganatra, a student at South Brunswick High School in Middlesex County, has served with distinction as the student representative to the New Jersey State Board of Education from July 2019 to June 2020; and

**Whereas**, Sahil has ably executed his responsibilities as a representative of both the New Jersey Association of Student Councils and South Brunswick High School; and

**Whereas**, Sahil participated in State Board meetings by making presentations which were articulate, thought-provoking, and a benefit to the State Board members; and

**Whereas**, Sahil's school career demonstrates that he is an accomplished student of academics and his leadership activities and community services on the local and state level demonstrate that others have confidence in Sahil and value his contributions; and

**Whereas**, Sahil is a bright, outgoing young man who sets long range goals and pursues them with enthusiasm and commitment; now therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the members of the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education, Lamont O. Repollet, extend their sincere congratulations and appreciation to Sahil Ganatra for a job well done and be it further,

**Resolved**, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education wish to acknowledge Sahil Ganatra's personal and academic excellence as well as his leadership qualities, and that they wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

## **State Board Committee Reports**

### *Report of the State Board Nominating Committee*

President Goldenberg announced the members of the State Board Nominating Committee. Mary Beth Gazi will serve as Chair of the committee and State Board members Arcelio Aponte and Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia will serve on the committee. President Goldenberg stated the State Board nominating committee will present the slate of officers for the 2020-2021 school year at the June 3, 2020 meeting. She also stated that in accordance with State Board bylaws, the elections for the State Board leadership will be held after June 30.

### *Policy Committee*

Elaine Bobrove, chair, Policy Committee stated that the committee met on May 20, 2020 and May 29, 2020 to discuss many of the items on today's agenda as well as some other items that will be discussed at the next meeting. Ms. Bobrove stated that it is unusual for them to meet so many times, but that the number of things they had to go over were of immense importance, and there was a time limit in which they could deal with these issues.

Ms. Bobrove stated that primary among the things that were discussed were the approval of the learning standards which they will talk about at the meeting, and which they talked about in depth. They discussed the Standards in Science, Social Studies, Comprehensive Health, Physical Education, Visual and Performing Arts, World Languages, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Life and Careers. Ms. Bobrove stated that she must commend the Department of Education for being so responsive to all of their many questions during the policy meeting, and for helping come to the conclusion that the standards are really something that they can all agree on and felt very strongly about. In addition, Ms. Bobrove stated that they talked about the QSAC changes as a result of COVID-19, and that topic will also be discussed during the meeting and probably the one that follows it. In conclusion, Ms. Bobrove stated that there were other issues that were discussed and will not be covered this time but will be discussed at the next meeting. Ms. Bobrove took the opportunity to thank the members of the Policy Committee, and also thanked the Department of Education and Commissioner Repollet for all that they have done to try and help this come together in such a meaningful way.

### *Ad Hoc Committee*

President Goldenberg stated that the Ad Hoc committee, chaired by state board member Sylvia Sylvia met on May 12, 2020 to discuss the Annual State Board Calendar of Meeting Dates for 2020-2021 and the result is the recommendation in Item C that we will be discussing later in the agenda. President Goldenberg also stated that during Item C, Sylvia Sylvia would summarize the recommendation.

## **Petition for Rulemaking**

President Goldenberg stated that on January 29, 2020, and February 24, 2020, the State Board Office received two petition for rulemaking requests from James Shoop. She stated that the first petition requested that the State Board of Education amend N.J.A.C. 6A:27-9.3 to align the rule governing student transportation bid specifications and contracts with Title 52 of New Jersey Annotated Statutes and that the rules be amended to add language requiring the business

registration certificate be submitted to the district board of education prior to the time a contract, purchase order, or other contracting document is awarded or authorized. She also stated that the second petition requested that the State Board of Education amend N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.7 to align the section regarding insurance for vehicles used to transport students with New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (NJMVC) rules at N.J.A.C. 13:20-52.1. The petitioner requested that the State Board adopt new N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.7(g) as follows: “New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission and New Jersey Department of Education shall be named as certificate holders.” The petition states the proposed rule mirrors N.J.A.C. 13:20-52.1(h).

President Goldenberg stated that the Department had filed for an extension of time on these petitions due to the COVID emergency. In the extension of time, President Goldenberg stated that the Department said it wanted to review the requests in the context of the entire chapter and possible amendments.

President Goldenberg stated that she and the Commissioner have further considered the petitioner’s requests and recommend that they both be denied.

She stated that the first should be denied because, the current rule, N.J.A.C. 6A:27-9.3(e)3, is consistent with the statute as the current rule defines the required school transportation contract bid specifications, which are the standards articulated by a district board of education when it advertises to potential bidders. She also stated that bidders must meet all of the specifications to qualify to be awarded a contract. She further stated that N.J.A.C. 6A:27-9.3(e) specifically lists “the documents and forms prescribed by the Commissioner to be made part of the bid specifications and contract,” and includes “A business registration certificate.”

President Goldenberg stated as a business registration certificate is a required item in the bid specifications, the regulations ensure that a bidder actually possesses a business certificate and that it is provided prior to the award of a contract pursuant to a public bidding process. She also stated that as a result, the current rule is consistent with the law, and the petitioner’s suggested change is unnecessary.

President Goldenberg further stated that petition should be denied because the Motor Vehicle Commission rule that the petitioner wants us to mirror was proposed by MVC to match our rules even though we never had the provision in our rules. She also stated that our administrative rules already require that district boards of education and any coordinated transportation services agency (CTSA) be named in terms of the insurance and they are the entities best situated to take action for a violation of the insurance requirement, including cancellation, by contractors.

## **Commissioner’s Reports**

### **Remarks by Commissioner Repollet**

This is a little tough for me. I spent the last two weeks reflecting, watching, reading on the protests around the country around the murder of George Floyd and so many other countless black Americans.

See, when the governor appointed me commissioner, I said at the podium at Asbury Park that education has saved my life. But people didn’t know that behind it, deep down there was a

double meaning. Yes, education saved my life; it took me out of poverty and allowed me to live a decent life and to be able to provide for my family. However, also it saved my life.

I'm going to recall a story, because I think it's important as I have this pulpit to be able to talk about some of the injustices we have throughout this country. So sitting there watching that young man's life being taken away from him, I reflected upon a time when I was 22 years old, driving to a stoplight. I had just gotten home from graduate school at SUNY Albany, I was excited, I'm at the red light, and police officers drove up on me, got out of the car, flashing lights. You never know how you will feel until you have a gun put to the temple of your head, asking you to put your hands out, asking you what are you doing here. 'You look like you fit the profile of people who are carjacking in the neighborhood.'

If anyone who knew me in college, I was a preppy black kid; I wore khaki pants, shaved haircut, polo shirts and Nike sneakers. So to me, whatever description they felt, it wasn't me. I didn't wear a hoodie, I didn't have a hoodie, I didn't have braids. But it let me know that at this time, my life is in the hands of total strangers. I thought about whether they would drop drugs in the car, would they say that I'm this, would they say that I'm that.

What would the narrative be when they talk about Lamont Repollet when he is dead? Would they say he was a decent student, a student athlete, a college graduate? Or would they bring up things that may have happened in my family, to talk about that. I didn't have a record, I didn't do drugs, but I knew there would be something.

A lot of things went through my head, and all I thought was, 'Think about a way, Lamont, to get out of there.' I had my hands on the wheel, yes sir, no sir. But I thought about it, I said, 'Excuse me, it can't be me, because I was in graduate school at SUNY Albany last week.' He said to me, 'Can you prove it?' In my back pocket, I had my college ID. 'Is that OK?' And I took out my college ID, and it said SUNY Albany Student. So when I say education changed my life, there's that double meaning behind that.

I said to myself, Lamont, you will probably be in that position again, but I was going to ensure that whatever the narrative is for black men in this country, that I was going to change that narrative. So God saw fit for me to be the first black principal of Carteret High School, the first black commissioner of education of the state of New Jersey, and I'll be the first black president of Kean University.

So, when given opportunities to level the playing field to being equal, it shouldn't be the color of your skin to determine your destiny, it should be the character and who you are. As educators and parents and simply as citizens, we have a moral obligation as educational leaders to break down systems and policies that reinforce institutional racism. That's why I've been adamant about equity and talking about equity in action. This was my moment and my time to honor those ancestors that came before me and I stood on their shoulders. So the department's internal equity team is working to provide resources for our districts and employees to have these important conversations with our students and ourselves.

At this time, if you'll indulge me, I would like to have a brief moment of silence to honor the lives lost due to unjust murders.



## Retirement of Linda Eno, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Academics and Performance

Commissioner Repollet stated that Linda Eno would be retiring from the Department after serving as a member of his senior team. He expressed his gratitude to Linda for her hard work, dedication and loyalty during his tenure at the Department. On behalf of the entire Department, Commissioner Repollet wished Assistant Commissioner Eno a happy and healthy retirement.

### Items for Consideration:

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

#### \*A. Appointments

- There were no appointments.

#### \*B 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 Nedd J. Johnson abstained.

Districts	County
Hammonton	Atlantic
Bergenfield	Bergen
Edgewater	Bergen
Hackensack	Bergen
Hasbrouck Heights	Bergen
Oakland	Bergen
Palisades Park	Bergen
Ridgewood	Bergen
River Dell Regional	Bergen
Waldwick	Bergen
New Hanover	Burlington
Camden County Vocational	Camden
Haddonfield	Camden
Cape May County Special Services	Cape May
Essex County Vocational	Essex
Clayton	Gloucester
Deptford Twp	Gloucester
Glassboro	Gloucester
Greenwich Twp	Gloucester
Monroe Twp	Gloucester
Westville	Gloucester
Califon	Hunterdon

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Holland Twp	Hunterdon
Freehold Reg.	Monmouth
Manasquan	Monmouth
Madison	Morris
Wharton Borough	Morris
Elsinboro	Salem
Pittsgrove Twp	Salem
Woodstown-Pilesgrove Reg.	Salem
Montgomery Twp	Somerset
South Bound Brook	Somerset

**Resolution to Adopt the Annual State Board Calendar of Meeting Dates**

- Adopted the following resolution establishing the annual calendar of 2020-2021 meeting dates of the State Board of Education set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:1-2.2, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-7 and 10:4-6 et seq.

**Resolution**

**Annual Calendar of State Board Meeting/Public Testimony Dates**

**Whereas**, N.J.S.A. 18A:4-7 states that, the State Board of Education shall hold public meetings at least once each month at such times as its rules may prescribe and at such other times and such places within the state as in its judgment may be necessary, but no meeting may commence later than 8:00 p.m.; and

**Whereas**, N.J.A.C. 6A:1-2.2 requires that such meetings be held at such time, place, and on such dates as established by the State Board, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., Open Public Meetings Act, and notice of such meetings shall be made in a manner consistent with the law; now therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the State Board establishes the following dates for its monthly business meetings and public testimony sessions for the 2020-2021 school year and directs that a copy of the dates be sent to the Governor, the Secretary of State, the news media, the executive county superintendents, and the State Board agenda subscribers.

**Regular Public Business Meetings/Public Testimony Sessions 2020-2021**

July 1	November 4	March 3
August 5	December 2	April 7
September 9	January 6	May 5
October 7	February 3	June 2

**Open Topic Testimony Sessions 2020-2021**

September 9	January 6	May 5
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**\*\* Alternate Board Meeting Dates in The Event of Snow Cancellations**

\*\*December 16

\*\*January 20

\*\*February 17

\*\*March 17

Notice of changes in the above will be made in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

**\*D. Career and Technical Education Programs and Standards**

- Readopted the regulations pertaining to career and technical education proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:19, Career and Technical Education Programs and Standards pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-25, 18A:40-12.1 and 12.2, 18A:54-1 et seq., and 18A:59-5 and N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15.

**\*E. Resolution to Adopt the New Jersey Student Learning Standards**

- Adopted the resolution to readopt the New Jersey Student Learning Standards as revised including the science, social studies, comprehensive health and physical education, visual and performing arts, world languages, and 21<sup>st</sup> century life and career, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-2.1(a). State Board members Andrew Mulvihill, Jack Fornaro, Mary Beth Gazi, and Mary Beth Berry opposed.

**Resolution to Adopt New Jersey Student Learning Standards**

**Whereas**, the New Jersey State Board of Education is empowered, pursuant to P. L. 1990, c. 52, P. L. 1991, c. 3 and P. L. 1991, c. 62, with the authority to establish the State's educational goals and standards, and

**Whereas**, the State Board of Education is responsible under N.J.A.C. 6A:8-2.1(a)5 for initiating every five years a review and readoption process for the New Jersey Student Learning Standards based on recommendations by the Commissioner of Education; and

**Whereas**, the New Jersey Student Learning Standards define the knowledge and skills students should acquire within their kindergarten through grade 12 education careers to graduate high school with the ability to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs; and

**Whereas**, the State Board of Education reviewed the revised New Jersey Student Learning Standards, to ensure that the standards both set expectations for and meet the needs of New Jersey's students, and

**Whereas**, kindergarten through grade 12 educators, representatives from higher education, business, industry, and stakeholders statewide have provided focused expertise in reviewing the following New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Visual and Performing Arts, Comprehensive Health and Physical Education, Science, Social Studies, Technology, World Languages, and 21st Century Life and Careers; and

**Whereas,** the New Jersey Department of Education has fully considered the recommendations of the Standards Review Committees, revised the standards accordingly, and now presents them to the State Board of Education for review and adoption; and

**Whereas,** extensive public input was sought and thoughtfully considered through regional testimony sessions, written comments, and feedback submitted through the New Jersey Department of Education’s website; and

**Whereas,** the revised standards include expectations for addressing climate change as the New Jersey Department of Education seeks for New Jersey to continue leading the nation in preparing students to be problem-solvers, critical thinkers, consumers of information, and innovators, and

**Whereas,** revisions to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Science reflect the knowledge, practices, and skills necessary to innovate and thrive in high demand, high paying careers in STEM fields; and

**Whereas,** revisions to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Visual and Performing Arts reflect the knowledge, skills and practices necessary to develop creativity, critical thinking, and expressive skills to become active, contributing members of a global society; and

**Whereas,** revisions to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Comprehensive Health and Physical Education reflect new legislative mandates and the knowledge, practices, and skills necessary to develop physical, social, and emotional wellness; and

**Whereas,** revisions to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Social Studies reflect the knowledge, practices, and skills necessary to become active, informed, contributing members of local, state, national, and global communities; and

**Whereas,** revisions to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Computer Science and Design Thinking reflect the knowledge, practices, and skills necessary to adapt to evolving technologies, engage in design thinking, and understand and apply the principles of computer science; and

**Whereas,** revisions to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards – World Languages reflect the knowledge, practices, and skills necessary to communicate in more than one language interacting with people from diverse cultures and linguistic backgrounds; and

**Whereas,** revisions to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills reflect the knowledge, practices, and skills necessary to think critically, collaborate, innovate, develop goals strategically, be financially literate, and thrive in globally and culturally diverse environments; and

**Whereas,** the New Jersey Student Learning Standards provide the foundation for high expectations and rigorous curriculum, instruction, and assessment for every student; and now therefore be it

**Resolved**, the State Board of Education reaffirms its commitment to ensuring the Standards both set expectations for and meet the needs of New Jersey’s students and by adoption of this resolution hereby directs school districts to integrate the New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Visual and Performing Arts, Comprehensive Health and Physical Education, Science, Social Studies, Computer Science and Design Thinking, World Languages, and Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills in kindergarten through grade 12; and be it further

**Resolved**, the State Board of Education hereby directs that the revised New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Visual and Performing Arts, Comprehensive Health and Physical Education, Science, Social Studies, Computer Science and Design Thinking, World Languages, and Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills will serve as standards of quality for public school students in kindergarten through grade 12 programs in New Jersey; and be it further

**Resolved**, district boards of education shall fully comply with this resolution and shall implement the revised New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Science, Visual and Performing Arts, World Languages, and Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills by September 2021 and Comprehensive Health and Physical Education, Social Studies, and Computer Science and Design Thinking by September 2022, align their curricula with the standards, and ensure students learn and are assessed as required by federal law; and be it further

**Resolved**, the State Board of Education commends and expresses their appreciation to the individuals and organizations, both within the State and beyond its borders, who have contributed to this revision of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

### **Introduction of First Lady Tammy Murphy**

Commissioner Repollet introduced First Lady Tammy Murphy who has been an invaluable partner to the Department of Education since the beginning of the New Jersey Student Learning Review and Revision process. He stated that from her remarks at the kickoff in March 2019, to in person visits with the various standards review teams, her leadership and passion around environmental education has been inspirational.

He further stated that the First Lady has been a steady champion for the cause of climate change and the role that education plays in helping to solve it.

Commissioner Repollet stated that this past year, First Lady Tammy Murphy visited many schools around the state to see first-hand, the amazing work our educators and students are doing in the classroom to address issues related to climate change. He thanked her for her time and commitment to this very important issue before introducing her to the members of the State Board and all in attendance.

### **Remarks by First Lady Tammy Murphy**

Before I begin, I want to thank and acknowledge the incredible teachers across the state and country who have worked tirelessly to teach virtual classes during the pandemic. Your determination to continuing education has not gone unnoticed and New Jersey thanks you wholeheartedly.

Now, for this momentous occasion, it is a privilege to join with Governor Murphy and Lt. Governor Oliver in thanking the State Board for their leadership and vision. Many months of investigation and dedication to NJ public school students in the achievement of this undertaking. As New Jersey is poised to lead the nation in a green economy, it is critical that every student is provided an opportunity to study and understand the climate crisis in an interdisciplinary way, beyond just their science classrooms.

Going forward, it is not just scientists who will need a deep understanding of this issue, but urban planners, artists, engineers, insurance brokers, entrepreneurs, and more. Including the study of climate change across all 7 content areas ensures that our students will be equipped and empowered to combat climate change no matter what career path they choose.

Over the last 12 months New Jersey's educational system has reached milestone after milestone. We are among the very best in the country for public education. We are the first in the nation to offer arts education in 100% of our public schools, and we are now the first to admit that climate change is real.

It's a really tangible problem that this generation of children will be required to face, and further it is our duty to prepare them for that certain future. In our beautiful state the effects of climate change are already felt. NJ is warming at a rate faster than almost all other states. Our shorelines are vanishing, we have harmful algae blooms, rain comes in torrential downpours and our summers are blazing hot. All of this as a direct result of climate change will cost NJ a projected \$10b. Time has begun to run out.

Despite that, today I am really incredibly optimistic that by including climate change education in history, world languages, visual and performing arts, physical education and of course science, our teachers will be able to leverage the passion that this generation of students have shown for this critical issue. Our children are already engaged in climate activism and incredibly motivated to tackle this problem. For our students in environmental justice communities who suffer most deeply the effects of air pollution the climate crisis is even more personal.

Now every student will be prepared to explore, imagine, and advocate for the innovative solutions to this crisis needed in the communities in which they live. The adoption of these standards is much more than an added educational requirement; it is a symbol of a partnership between generations. We have shared in the creation of this crisis and we will do all we can to help our children resolve it. It genuinely comes as no surprise to me that we are the first here in New Jersey in this endeavor. Our public school has long been the jewel of our nation's educational systems. New Jerseyans value the commitment to academic rigor and the pursuit of knowledge. We believe in the power of education holds to change the course of a person's life, but our educational professionals, teachers, administrators, para professionals, custodians – every member of our educational community does more than that. They teach our students to be good citizens.

In one fell swoop, with the adoption of these standards, we strengthen the future of the green economy in New Jersey and protect every future generation from the deadly effects of climate change. It will create the catalyst of knowledge base for new green jobs and teach our students how to be good stewards of the earth, and to become the leaders who will take us to

100% of clean energy by the year 2050. I am incredibly proud to have been able to use my platform to help advocate for the adoption of these standards and I want to express my deepest gratitude to Board President, Kathy Goldenberg, the members of the State Board, Commissioner Repollet, the entire Department of Education and all those in my office and beyond who have helped us get to this point. Congratulations to everyone for today's incredible achievement. It is a direct result of the collaboration and hard work of hundreds of people and a victory for the people of NJ. I'm really grateful.

**F. Adult Education**

- Discussed the readoption with amendments pertaining to adult education proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:20, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1, 18A:4-15, 18A:7C-1 et seq., 18A:27-2, 18A:48-1, 18A:49-1 through 8, 18A:50-12, 13, and 14, and the Adult Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1201 et seq.

**G. Student Transportation**

- Discussed the readoption with amendments pertaining to the transportation of students pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1, 18A:4-15, 18A:39-21, 18A:39-24, and 18A:39-33.

**Work Session**

There was no work session.

**New Business**

State Board member Mary Beth Berry requested an update on district's use of CARES Act Funds with respect to the purchase of technology for students and our efforts to ensure that all students are equipped with the proper resources for online education.

**Adjournment**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its June 3, 2020, public meeting at 1:10 p.m.

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