

New Jersey State Board of Education
Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education
December 1, 2021

Presiding: Kathy Goldenberg, President

Secretary: Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner

Present Constituting a Quorum

Mr. Andrew Mulvihill

Mrs. Mary Beth Gazi

Mrs. Elaine Bobrove

Mr. Jack Fornaro

Dr. Joseph Ricca

Mrs. Mary Beth Berry

Dr. Nedd Johnson

Mrs. Fatimah Burnam-Watkins

Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia

Mr. Arcelio Aponte

Dr. Ronald Butcher

Absent

Dr. Ernest Lepore

Convening

State Board of Education President Kathy Goldenberg convened the public meeting at 9:07 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 (Department), 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 December 1, 2021, 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 December 1, 2021.

Reconvening

President Kathy Goldenberg reconvened the open meeting at 10:12 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 November 3, 2021.

President’s Reports

President Goldenberg welcomed the viewing audience to the virtual State Board of Education meeting.

Public Testimony

President Goldenberg stated that the State Board is not accepting written testimony this month because there are no Administrative Code topics on the schedule. She also stated that the State Board will be accepting written testimony on any educational topic of choice for January as it is an Open Topic public testimony session.

Report of the Permanent Student Representative

President Goldenberg introduced and welcomed the State Board of Education’s new permanent student representative, Miss Maura Baker, a junior at West Orange High School in Essex County. Ms. Baker provided remarks on the importance of extra-curricular activities for students.

State Board Committee Reports

Policy Committee

Ms. Elaine Bobrove, chair, Policy committee, stated that the committee met with Department staff on November 10, 2021. She stated they discussed the status of the readoption of Chapter 32, School District Operations. She further stated they discussed the upcoming readoption of Chapter 25, Qualified Zone Academy Bonds, as well as next year’s review of the English language arts, mathematics, and preschool standards.

CTE Committee

Ms. Berry, chair, CTE committee, stated that the committee met with Department staff on November 10, 2021. She stated the Department presented an array of preliminary data regarding CTE enrollment during the 2020-2021 school year. She further stated the Department is still reviewing the data and preparing it for a required submission to the U.S. Department of Education.

Assessment Committee

Mr. Arcelio Aponte, chair, Assessment committee, stated that the committee met with Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan and Department staff on November 17, 2021. Mr. Aponte stated they discussed the board's concerns with the draft cut scores for the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA).

Commissioner's Reports

N.J. State Board of Recognition Slide Show

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated she would like to honor New Jersey's outstanding education professionals and schools, and that the Board and she deeply value the opportunity to celebrate excellence in education. She further stated that during the awards presentation, the following recipients will be recognized:

- **Superintendent of the Year**, Dr. Scott Rocco
- **School Business Administrator of the Year**, Mr. Frank Ceurvels
- **Visionary Principals of the Year**, Ms. Annie Corley-Hand and Dr. Kwame Morton
- **State Teacher of the Year Finalists**, Ms. Lynne Bussott, Ms. Alyssa Geary and Ms. Faith Roncoroni
- **National Blue Ribbon Schools**, Academy for Information Technology, Hillside Elementary School, John F. Kennedy Elementary School, Lucy N. Holman Elementary School, North End Elementary School, Torey J. Sabatini Elementary School, Walter M. Schirra Elementary School, Wemrock Brook School, and Weymouth Township Elementary School
- **National Green Ribbon Schools**, Switlik Elementary School and Winslow Township School District

ASAH Humanitarian Award 2021

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated that she would like to congratulate President Goldenberg. The Acting Commissioner further stated that Ms. Goldenberg was recently honored by ASAH with the Humanitarian Award for 2021. Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated that President Goldenberg was recognized as an outstanding leader and advocate whose work has significantly improved the lives of students and adults with disabilities in New Jersey.

Honoring New Jersey Department of Education Retiring Employees

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan acknowledged five employees who made the momentous decision to retire.

- Daniel Burke, Office of Comprehensive Support, Division of Field Support and Services, December 2000 – December 2021, 21 years of service.
- Wayne Jacobson, Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf, Division of Educational Services, September 1978 – December 2021, 43 years of service.
- Corazon “Cora” Jayme, Office of Human Resources, Division of Administrative Services, October 2013 – December 2021, 9 years of service.
- Wendy Keck, Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf, Division of Educational Services, November 1990 – December 2021, 31 years of service.
- Dolores Walther, Office of Special Education, Division of Educational Services, March 1988 – December 2021, 33 years of service.

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan thanked them for their dedication, commitment and contributions over the years and wished them the best of health and happiness in retirement.

Items for Consideration:

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

***A. Appointments**

- Mr. Jesse Young, Special Assistant to the Commissioner of Education.
- Mr. Luiz Pereira, Director of Student Support Services.

***B. Certification of School Districts**

- There were no districts for certification.

***C. Bilingual Education**

- Approved for publication in the *New Jersey Register*, the amendments to N.J.A.C. 6A:15, Bilingual Education, pertaining to Federal requirements under ESSA, pursuant to The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (P.L. 115-141).

D. Resolution of Intent to Amend the State Board of Examiners and Certification Regulations

- Adopted the resolution of intent to amend the regulations pertaining to the State Board of Examiners and Certification Regulations, pursuant to P.L. 2021, chapter 224, Senate, No. 2826.

E. Resolution to Establish Proficiency Level Cut Scores Standards for the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment

- Discussed the resolution approving the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Level cut scores for English Language Arts and Mathematics, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1.

New Business

There was no new business.

Public Testimony

There were no topics for written testimony.

Adjournment

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its December 1, 2021, public meeting at 12:12 p.m.

Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner
Acting Secretary, N.J. State Board of Education