

**New Jersey State Board of Education**

**Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education**

**January 5, 2022**

**Presiding:** Kathy Goldenberg, President

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

**Present Constituting a Quorum**

Mrs. Mary Beth Gazi

Mrs. Elaine Bobrove

Mr. Jack Fornaro

Mrs. Mary Beth Berry

Dr. Nedd Johnson

Mrs. Fatimah Burnam-Watkins

Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia

Mr. Arcelio Aponte

Dr. Ronald Butcher

**Absent**

Mr. Andrew Mulvihill

Dr. Ernest Lepore

Dr. Joseph Ricca

**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 ensure 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 January 5, 2022, 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 January 5, 2022.

### **Reconvening**

President Kathy Goldenberg reconvened the open meeting at 10:07 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 Meeting**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board members approved the minutes of the public meeting conducted on December 1, 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 will receive written testimony on any education topic of choice because today is an Open Topic Public Testimony opportunity. She also stated that the State Board will be accepting written testimony on Bilingual Education for the month of February.

### **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 NJASC State Charity, the Emmanuel Cancer Foundation.

### **Resolution in Honor of New Jersey School Board Recognition Month**

President Goldberg acknowledged January as School Board Recognition Month.

On behalf of the State Board and the Department of Education, President Goldenberg and Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan presented the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) with a resolution recognizing January as New Jersey School Board Recognition Month. President Goldenberg acknowledged and welcomed Executive Director, Larry Feinsod.

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board unanimously approved the following resolution read by the State Board member, Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia:

### **Resolution in Honor of New Jersey School Board Recognition Month**

**Whereas**, the New Jersey State Board of Education, which adopts the administrative code to implement state education law, has established rigorous standards through its promulgation of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, which set the expectations of academic achievement for nearly 1.4 million public schoolchildren; and

**Whereas**, New Jersey's locally elected and appointed boards of education play a vital role in ensuring that their local school districts meet state standards and adhere to state and federal education statute and regulations, with the goal of preparing all students for college and the workplace, thereby enabling them to compete in a global economy; and

**Whereas**, New Jersey's 5,000 non-partisan local board of education members and charter school trustees are public servants who dedicate their time, without pay or benefit, to the oversight of school district operations, sound financial practices, comprehensive policies, curriculum, staffing, and the well-being and academic achievement of all students in the district; and

**Whereas**, the efforts of local boards of education, in conjunction with state education officials and local educators, have built a foundation of success that has led to New Jersey's status as a leader in student achievement, as evidenced by the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores; and

**Whereas**, the National School Boards Association and the New Jersey School Boards Association have declared January 2021 to be School Board Recognition Month; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Acting Commissioner of Education recognizes the contributions of our state's local boards of education to the academic success of its public school students and expresses its sincere appreciation to local board of education members for their continued focus on the achievement of children throughout New Jersey; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Acting Commissioner of Education encourages qualified New Jersey citizens to consider serving as members on their local school boards.

### **State Board Committee Reports**

#### **Policy Committee**

Mrs. Elaine Bobrove, chair, Policy committee, stated that the committee met with Department staff on December 8, 2021. She stated they discussed the notice of substantial changes of Chapter 32. She further stated they also discussed the public law that established the five-year pilot program for limited certificates of eligibility (CE) and certificates of eligibility with advanced standing (CEAS). Mrs. Bobrove stated both items will be discussed during today's meeting, so she will forgo providing additional details on the presentations.

## **CTE Committee**

Mrs. Berry, chair, CTE committee, stated that the committee met with Department staff on December 15, 2021. She stated the Department presented preliminary data regarding CTE enrollment by region 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. Mrs. Berry stated the Department also presented national enrollment data by career cluster, as well as discussed grant opportunities related to CTE and received an update on the P-Tech initiative and work-based learning issues.

## **Assessment Committee**

Mr. Arcelio Aponte, chair, Assessment committee, stated that the committee met with Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan and Department staff on December 22, 2021 to review the Statewide assessment data for 2020-2021. The data reviewed included the Dynamic Learning Maps and ACCESS for ELLs, which were administered last spring, and the Start Strong assessment, which was administered this past fall. Mr. Aponte also stated that the committee had another discussion about the proposed cut score of 725 for the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA) as a number of committee members still had concerns regarding the recommended score. We also had a preliminary conversation about the substitute competency assessments. Mr. Aponte further stated that he looked forward to today's discussions with the full State Board regarding the Statewide assessment data and the proposed NJGPA cut score.

## **Commissioner's Reports**

### **2020-2021 Statewide Assessment Data Overview**

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan along with Mr. Gonzalez, Acting Assistant Commissioner of the Division of Teaching and Learning Services, Mr. Young, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, Ms. Ehling, Assistant Commissioner of the Division of Educational Services, and Mr. Boczany from the Office of Assessments, presented data from the 2020-2021 statewide assessments administrations, which include the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessments in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science, the ACCESS for ELLs assessments for English Language Learners, and the Start Strong Assessments in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science.

### **Five-Year Limited CE/CEAS Teacher Pilot**

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan, Dr. Schiff, Assistant Commissioner of the Division of Field Support and Services, and Ms. Davis, Director of Recruitment, Preparation, and Certification, presented a detailed overview of the pilot program, as outlined by Public Law 2021, chapter 224, which was signed into law by Governor Murphy on September 24, 2021. Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated the law requires the State Board to establish a five-year pilot program for the issuance of limited Certificates of Eligibility and Certificates of Eligibility with Advanced Standing, and that the purpose of today's presentation and discussion is to familiarize the State Board with the requirements of the law, prior to their consideration of the regulatory amendments necessary to implement the pilot program.

**Items for Consideration:**

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

**\*A. Appointments**

- Approved the following appointment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-32-35 and N.J.A.C. 6A:2-1.1 et seq.:
  - Ms. Marianne Cappello, Director, Office of Career Readiness
  - Dr. Katherine Czehut, Director, Office of Fiscal and Data Service
  - Mr. Azan Waddell, Director, Office of Comprehensive Supports
  - Mr. Robert Gregory, Executive Director, Division of Field Support and Services

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

- There were no districts for certification.

**\*C. School District Operations**

- Approved for publication in the *New Jersey Register* the notice of substantive changes at N.J.A.C. 6A:32, School District Operations, pertaining to the daily operation of schools, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 18A:4-10 and 15, 18A:6-50, 18A:10-6, 18A:12-21 et seq., 18A:13-14, 18A:16-1, 18A:17-14 through 14.3, 15, 17, 20 and 32, 18A:22-14 and 19, 18A:24-11, 18A:28-9 and 13, 18A:29-9, 11 and 13 to 16, 18A:38-1, 18A:40-12.1, P.L. 2020, c. 27, and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (P.L. 115-141).

**\*D. Resolution to Establish Proficiency Level Cut Scores Standards for the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment**

- Tabled for amendment, 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. State Board member Dr. Nedd J. Johnson opposed.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

**Public Testimony**

Open Topic

**Adjournment**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its January 5, 2022, public meeting at 1:07 p.m.

---

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