

New Jersey State Board of Education
Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education
June 1, 2022

Presiding: Kathy Goldenberg, President

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

Present Constituting A Quorum

Mrs. Mary Beth Berry

Mrs. Elaine Bobrove

Mrs. Fatimah Burnam-Watkins

Mr. Jack Fornaro

Mrs. Mary Beth Gazi

Dr. Ernie Lepore

Dr. Nedd Johnson

Mr. Andrew Mulvihill

Dr. Joseph Ricca

Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia

Absent

Mr. Arcelio Aponte

Dr. Ronald Butcher

Convening

State Board of Education President Kathy Goldenberg convened the public meeting at 9:04 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 June 1, 2022, 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 1, 2022.

Reconvening

President Kathy Goldenberg reconvened the open meeting at 11:10 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

Moment of Silence In Recognition of The Tragedy at Robb Elementary in Uvalde, Texas

Statement from President Kathy Goldenberg

President Goldenberg stated she would like to request a moment of silence in recognition of the children, teachers and families of Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, TX.

President Goldenberg stated on behalf of the New Jersey State Board of Education, she extends sincerest sympathy to everyone affected by the unspeakable and tragic event that took place at Robb Elementary School. She further stated her thoughts are with all the victims, families, students, administrators and members of the Uvalde community.

President Goldenberg stated the New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes the enormous task ahead to provide comfort and reassurance to staff, students and parents throughout the summer, and would like to send heartfelt wishes for continued strength and resolve in the coming days, weeks and months ahead.

Statement from Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated as we all mourn the loss of 21 beautiful lives at Robb Elementary School, families, students, and educators across the country have borne witness to another senseless act of gun violence. She stated such tragedies undermine the most basic feelings of safety and security we all expect from our schools and workplaces and believes in the power of our educational community to triumph over stark adversity. Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan further stated educators and administrators in New Jersey have been helping students and their families process this tragic event and to reassure them regarding student safety here at home, and the Department of Education supports school districts as they continue this important dialogue with students and families for the duration of the school year and beyond.

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 May 4, 2022. State Board members Mary Beth Gazi and Fatimah Burnam-Watkins abstained.

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 Chapter 8, Standards and Assessments Bridge Year. She also stated that the State Board does not have any topics up for discussion for the month of July.

Report of the Permanent Student Representative

President Goldenberg introduced and welcomed the State Board of Education's permanent student representative, Miss Maura Baker, a junior at West Orange High School in Essex County. President Goldenberg stated the this is Maura's last meeting and asked her to say a few final words.

Miss Baker stated that she will never forget this experience in all that she has learned as well as all the wonderful opportunities she was given as permanent student representative to the State Board. She further stated that she would like to thank President Goldenberg along with the rest of the Board members, Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan, her New Jersey Association of Student Councils advisors, Mr. Lou Miller and Mrs. Wendy Booth Sitzler, her student council school advisors, Ms. Catherine Connors and Ms. Katherine Garcia, and the members of New Jersey for inspiring her and electing her to serve as the permanent student representative to the State Board. Miss Baker also wished Lauren Knopp, the 2022-2023 permanent student representative good luck in her new role.

President Goldenberg expressed her deepest appreciation to Miss Baker for serving as the student representative for the State Board for the past year and wished her continued academic and personal success as she enters her senior year of high school and asked her to stay in touch and let her know how she is doing.

Resolution in Honor of Maura Baker, the 2021-2022 State Board Permanent Student Representative

President Goldenberg stated that the State Board and the Commissioner would like to consider a ceremonial resolution in honor of Maura Baker, the 2021-2022 Permanent Student Representative to the State Board.

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board unanimously approved the following resolution read by State Board President Kathy Goldenberg:

**Resolution in Honor of Maura Baker,
The 2021-2022 State Board Permanent Student Representative**

Whereas, Maura Baker, a student at West Orange High School in Essex County, has served with distinction as the permanent student representative to the New Jersey State Board of Education from July 2021 to June 2022; and

Whereas, Maura has ably executed her responsibilities as a representative of both the New Jersey Association of Student Councils and West Orange High School; and

Whereas, Maura's monthly presentations at virtual State Board meetings provided important student perspectives regarding returning to the classroom for the 2021-2022 school year; and

Whereas, Maura also raised the student voice by offering meaningful insights on both the impact of the pandemic on students as a keynote presenter at the New Jersey School Boards Association's Virtual Workshop 2021, as well as the effects of the return to in-person learning on students at the New Jersey Parent Teacher Association Conference 2022; and

Whereas, Maura was recognized by the Essex County School Boards Association in November 2021 for her efforts, through her keynote presentation at the Virtual Workshop, to provide an outlook into how the pandemic changed the lives of students; and

Whereas, Maura's school career demonstrates that she has many and varied interests and is an accomplished student and an asset to the school community and others; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the members of the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Acting Commissioner of Education, Angelica Allen-McMillan, extend their sincere congratulations and appreciation to Maura Baker for a job well done; and be it further

Resolved, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Acting Commissioner of Education acknowledge Maura's commitment of time and energy as the State Board Permanent Student Representative and wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan thanked Miss Baker on behalf of the Department of Education and the State Board for serving as the student representative to the State Board for the past year. She stated that she realized that her time as the representative has been less than traditional but that she has been resilient and met the challenge. She stated she most fervently wishes to express how truly grateful she is for her involvement and assistance to the Department to advance our efforts to districts and families during the pandemic. She also stated she has been deeply committed and dedicated to the student voice and kept those whose voices were the quietest at the forefront of her mind in your presentations.

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan extended her gratitude to Maura's advisors, Ms. Catherine Connors and Ms. Katherine Garcia, whose help and guidance this year have been invaluable and greatly appreciated by all at the Department. She stated her thanks to Dr. Schoen and Mr. Moore for their leadership and for taking part in today's recognition of Miss Baker's efforts this year.

Report of the State Board Nominating Committee

Mrs. Mary Beth Berry, chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the committee's nominations for the 2022-2023 school year: Mrs. Kathy Goldenberg for president and Mr. Andrew Mulvihill for vice president. The vote will occur next month. State Board members Mr. Arcelio Aponte and Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia also served on the committee.

State Board Committee Reports

Assessment Committee

Mr. Arcelio Aponte, chair of the Assessment committee, was not in attendance. President Kathy Goldenberg, ex-officio, stated that the committee met with Department staff on May 18, 2022 to discuss the schedule for the public reporting of the results from the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment, the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments, Dynamic Learning Maps, and ACCESS for ELLs. She stated the committee will continue to work with the Department to update the plan, so the State Board and the public are made aware of the Statewide results as expeditiously as possible.

Commissioner's Reports

Statement on the passing of former Commissioner, Dr. Saul Cooperman

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated she would like to take a moment to remember former Commissioner of Education -- Dr. Saul Cooperman, who passed away on May 26, 2022 at the age of 87. She also stated he served as Commissioner from 1982 to 1990 during the administration of Governor Thomas H. Kean.

She stated he was born in Newark and raised in West Orange and began his career in education as a history teacher at North Plainfield High School. She also stated he later became vice principal and then principal at Belvidere High School, and also served as superintendent of the Montgomery Township School District and then in Madison Borough before becoming the Commissioner.

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated in a profile shortly before his tenure as Commissioner ended that EducationWeek called Dr. Cooperman a "dogged and persistent educator" who "pushed New Jerseyans to pioneer some of the nation's most controversial school reforms." She also stated EducationWeek cited Dr. Cooperman's work to create the alternate route for individuals to become teachers and to increase the minimum starting salary for new teachers. She further stated he also oversaw the State's first monitoring system of school districts and the first State takeover of a school district, and also served in the U.S. Navy and later in the Naval Reserves.

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan asked for a moment of silence to honor Dr. Saul Cooperman.

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. Lisa Haberl, Director, Office of Standards.

***B. Certification of School Districts**

- Approved for a period of three years, those school districts recommended by the Commissioner, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-14.a and b.

Districts	County
Galloway Twp.	Atlantic
Burlington Twp.	Burlington
No. Burlington Co. Reg.	Burlington
Audubon	Camden
Collingswood	Camden
Wayne Twp.	Passaic
West Milford Twp.	Passaic
Blairstown	Warren
North Warren Reg.	Warren
Washington Twp.	Warren
White Twp.	Warren

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

- Adopted the following resolution establishing the annual calendar of 2022-2023 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 2022-2023 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 2022-2023

July 6	November 9	March 1
August 3	December 7	April 5
September 14	January 11	May 3
October 12	February 1	June 7

* Open Topic Testimony Sessions 2022-2023

*September 14 *January 11 *May 3

** Alternate Board Meeting Dates in The Event of Snow Cancellations

**December 14 **January 18 **February 8 **March 8

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

*D. State Board of Examiners and Certification

- Adopted the new rules at N.J.A.C. 6A:9B, State Board of Examiners and Certification, pertaining to a five-year pilot program for issuance of a limited certificate of eligibility (limited CE) and a limited certificate of eligibility with advanced standing (limited CEAS) in an instructional area for candidates.

*E. Bilingual Education

- Adopted 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).

*F. School Ethics Commission

- Approved for publication in the *New Jersey Register*, the proposed readoption with amendments pertaining to N.J.A.C. 6A:28, School Ethics Commission, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15 and 18A:12-21 et seq.

New Business

Dr. Joseph Ricca stated that June 1, 2022 was the first day of PRIDE month as well as the end of the academic year. He wished all a safe summer.

Public Testimony

Chapter 8, Standards and Assessments, Bridge Year

Adjournment

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its June 1, 2022, public meeting at 1:08 p.m.

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