

**New Jersey State Board of Education**  
**Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education**  
**November 9, 2022**

**Presiding:** Kathy Goldenberg, President

**Secretary:** Dr. Angelica Allen-McMillan, Acting Commissioner

**Present Constituting a Quorum**

Mr. Andrew Mulvihill  
Mrs. Elaine Bobrove  
Mrs. Mary Beth Berry  
Mr. Jack Fornaro  
Dr. Joseph Ricca  
Dr. Nedd Johnson  
Mrs. Mary Beth Gazi  
Dr. Ronald Butcher

**Absent**

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

**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 November 9, 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 October 12, 2022.

### **Reconvening**

President Kathy Goldenberg reconvened the open meeting at 10:06 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**

President Goldenberg welcomed the public and thanked everyone for joining the State Board for another virtual meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by State Board Member, Dr. Joseph Ricca.

### **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 October 12, 2022. State Board Members Ronald Butcher and Mary Beth Gazi abstained.

### **President's Reports**

#### **Public Testimony**

President Goldenberg stated that the State Board will not receive public testimony today as there are no topics scheduled. For the month of December, the State Board will receive testimony on Chapter 15, Bilingual Education, readoption with amendments.

### **Report of the Permanent Student Representative**

President Goldenberg introduced the State Board of Education's permanent student representative, Miss Lauren Knopp. Miss Knopp is a senior at Ocean High School in Cape May county. She asked Miss Knopp to present her report for the month of October.

Miss Knopp stated she attended and served as a keynote speaker at the New Jersey School Boards Association Workshop 2022. She also stated that during her speech, she spoke about the presence of student voices after the pandemic and elaborated on the effects of virtual learning on the student population two years after the first lockdown. She further stated she explored the effects of technology and "virtual learning" on the student environment. Miss Knopp stated that she also participated in a Question-and-Answer session with Mr. Michael Kvidahl, NJSBA Marketing Manager and shared her experience on how she became a student representative to a board of education on both the local and state level. She further stated she spoke in an action lab and how to properly involve a student representative in board activities.

Miss Knopp thanked the Ocean City board of education for helping her throughout this process as well as the leadership that organized Workshop 2022.

## **State Board Committee Reports**

### ***Policy Committee***

Ms. Elaine Bobrove, chair of the Policy committee, stated that the committee met with Department staff on October 21, 2022, to discuss changes at Proposal Level to the endorsements for the school library media specialist and the associate school library media specialist. She stated they discussed other new changes to Chapter 9B that also appear in the materials made public as part of today's agenda. Ms. Bobrove stated they also discussed the upcoming re adoption of Chapter 7, which is the chapter focused on equality and equity in education.

### ***Policy Committee***

Ms. Elaine Bobrove, chair of the Policy committee, stated that the committee met with Department staff on November 3, 2022, to discuss a few issues that educators and stakeholders have raised regarding the proposed amendments at Chapters 9, 9A, 9B and 9C. She stated the meeting provided the committee members with an additional opportunity to discuss some of the major policy changes in the proposed readoptions, as well as requests or comments from stakeholders and the Department's stance on those issues. She further stated she would like to thank her committee colleagues and Department staff for the many hours dedicated to the rulemakings and for the extensive, thoughtful discussions. Ms. Bobrove stated she looks forward to today's discussion with the full State Board regarding the four chapters.

### ***CTE Report***

Ms. Mary Beth Berry, chair of the CTE/Coding Committee, stated that on November 3, 2022, she, President Goldenberg and state board members Mary Beth Berry and Sylvia toured Biotechnology High School and the Career Center with Jackie Burke, Executive Director at the New Jersey Council of County Vocational Schools. She stated they saw every student smiling and actively engaged in their academics and the tour was incredible. She further stated they sat with individual students and learned about the entrance exams and rigor of the programs. Ms. Berry stated that she would like to thank the educators and students involved and hopes this is a real example of what is going on overall in the state.

## **New Jersey Strategic Plan for Preschool Expansion Phase I- Stakeholder Engagement-- National Institute for Early Education Research**

President Goldenberg stated that on October 6, 2020, Governor Murphy released the New Jersey Strategic Plan for Preschool Expansion Phase I: The Foundation, signaling a concrete step towards making preschool universally available to 3- and 4-year-olds across the state. She stated the strategic plan draws on New Jersey's strong history of high-quality preschool to outline critical decision points in the areas of financing, scaling, facilities, workforce and mixed-delivery. She further stated with this plan as a foundation, the Governor's Office and the NJDOE have asked NIEER to engage in the second phase of this work. President Goldenberg stated that Phase II starts with virtual sessions to gather stakeholder input, and four State Board members were able to attend one of the sessions to provide feedback and ask questions. She stated that NIEER will also be holding meetings in each county to identify opportunities and barriers to preschool expansion, and the Phase II Plan, expected in late 2023, will include a landscape of every county as well as a statewide blueprint for expansion.

## **Resolution in Recognition of Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Membership Month in New Jersey**

President Goldenberg requested that the State Board adopt a resolution recognizing November as Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Membership Month in New Jersey.

The State Board unanimously adopted the following resolution read by State Board member Mary Beth Gazi recognizing November as Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Membership Month in New Jersey.

### **Resolution in Recognition of November 2022 As New Jersey Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Membership Month**

**Whereas**, the New Jersey Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is an association advocating for the benefit of children's education and well-being by focusing attention on issues affecting youth and public education; and

**Whereas**, for more than 120 years, the New Jersey PTA has served the needs of children, teachers, parents, and schools through active volunteerism; and

**Whereas**, the New Jersey PTA promotes family engagement in schools and communities, advocates for public education, and provides a network of local, State, and national voices speaking together on behalf of all children; and

**Whereas**, among the millions of members of the National PTA, the New Jersey PTA has nearly 100,000 members in almost 600 Local PTAs; and

**Whereas**, many PTA leaders across the State have found themselves in times of new challenges, adventures, and rewards as the result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**Whereas**, the strength of the PTA lies in its membership -- the volunteers who tirelessly devote themselves to making the world better for children and youth; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Acting Commissioner of Education encourage everyone to become advocates for children and show their support for their local PTA or the Garden State PTA, which is the Statewide local PTA; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Acting Commissioner of Education commend the hardworking individuals and members serving in their local, State, and national roles in PTA and recognize November 2022 as New Jersey PTA Membership Month.

President Goldenberg introduced Ms. Candy Fredericks, President, Parent Teacher Association (PTA) in New Jersey to accept the resolution.

#### **Commissioner's Reports:**

##### **In Case You Missed It**

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated that In Case You Missed It (ICYMI) is drawing increasing numbers of viewers on our Twitter site, and the most popular social media post this past month was The State Teacher of the Year (STOY) post, announcing Christine Gurtain as the 2022 STOY. She further stated that on October 26th she had the honor of giving the keynote

speech themed “We Weather Together – From Grit Comes Growth” at the annual 2022 New Jersey School Boards Association Workshop, in collaboration with the New Jersey Association of School Administrators and the New Jersey Association of School Board Officers. She stated the theme addressed how school leaders, education professionals, and influencers in New Jersey education gathered to identify and solve problems, allocate resources, and continue to move education forward in spite of previously unimaginable hardship during the global COVID-19 pandemic. She further stated she also gave remarks and presented the Digital Schools Star awards to 13 schools at the eighth Sustainable Jersey for Schools Awards Ceremony.

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillian stated that in late October, she provided closing remarks at the 5th Annual Diversifying the Teacher Workforce Convening at Rutgers University-Newark and shared the Department’s goal that by 2025, 56 percent of new and novice teachers entering classrooms will be teachers of color, and all teachers will be culturally responsive, ensuring students in New Jersey public schools will have access to a high-quality ethno-racially diverse workforce that more closely reflects the race and ethnicity of the public-school student population. She further stated another ongoing priority at the Department is the Governor’s signature universal preschool program with demonstrated progress made with the recent approval for funding of new programs in 27 districts, for approximately 2,150 additional seats. She stated the Governor recently released The Strategic Plan for Preschool Expansion, created in partnership with the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) at the Rutgers Graduate School of Education, which sets a foundation for New Jersey’s effort to provide high-quality preschool to all 3- and 4-year-old children in the State and outlines the benefits and considerations for policy areas related to enrollment, funding, facilities, workforce, and partnerships. She further stated the Department will begin engaging with stakeholders throughout New Jersey to obtain insight and feedback. Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated after the Notice of Funding Opportunity was released and applicants were funded, additional funding is still available for districts to offer preschool expansion in the 2022-2023 school year. She further stated on October 21<sup>st</sup>, the Department opened a second opportunity for all eligible districts based on Free and Reduced-Price Lunch percentages, with applications due by November 22, and funding for these programs set to begin in January 2023.

Acting Commissioner stated the Office of Charter and Renaissance Schools (OCRS) conducted comprehensive on-site visits and document reviews of 4 charter schools on probation in the state of New Jersey in the spring and fall of 2022 and have recommended two of the four charter schools, Achieve Community Charter School in Newark and Millville Public Charter School in Millville, be removed from probation effective October 28, 2022. She further stated our state’s Charter and Renaissance Schools have received 10 million dollars in Charter School Emergent Project Grant Allocations for facilities, which represents an increase of 5 million dollars in Emergent Project Grants distributed in FY 2022. She further stated grant allocations are based on student enrollments multiplied by Facilities Efficiency Standards (FES) and grade group (K-5, 6-8, 9-12), with Pre-kindergarten enrollment being excluded. She stated enrollments are based on October 2021 charter enrollment system Average Daily Enrollment (ADE) counts and October 2021 Application for State School Aid (ASSA) for Renaissance Schools.

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated she recently attended and engaged in discussions about key policy issues defining the education system today at this year’s Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Annual Policy Forum. She stated the forum highlights ways the states are implementing innovative practices, evaluating impact and outcomes, as well as

sustaining critical partnerships in key policy focus areas -- all in pursuit of ensuring each student graduates from school ready for college, careers and success in life.

**Items for Consideration**

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

**\*A. Appointments**

- There were no appointments.

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

- Certified 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.

<b>Districts</b>	<b>County</b>
Wood-Ridge School District	Bergen
Bloomington School District	Passaic
Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District	Union

**\*C. Chapter 9, Professional Standards**

- Approved for publication in the *New Jersey Register*, the proposed readoption with amendments to the rules pertaining to educator preparation, certification, and professional development at N.J.A.C. 6A:9, Professional Standards, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15, 18A:6-34, 18A:6-38, 18A:26-2.7; and P.L. 2013, c.68. State Board members Andrew Mulvihill, Jack Fornaro, Mary Beth Gazi and Mary Beth Berry opposed.

**\*D. Chapter 9A, New Jersey Educator Preparation Programs**

- Approved for publication in the *New Jersey Register*, the proposed readoption with amendments to the rules pertaining to educator preparation, certification, and professional development at N.J.A.C. 6A:9, Professional Standards, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15, 18A:6-34, 18A:6-38, 18A:26-2.7; and P.L. 2013, c.68. State Board members Andrew Mulvihill and Mary Beth Berry opposed.

**\*E. Chapter 9B, Board of Examiners and Certification**

- Approved for publication in the *New Jersey Register*, the proposed readoption with amendments to the rules pertaining to educator certification at N.J.A.C. 6A:9B, State Board of Examiners and Certification, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15, 18A:6-34 and 38, and 18A:26-1, 2.7, and 10; and P.L. 2012, c. 11. State Board members Andrew Mulvihill and Mary Beth Berry opposed.

**\*F. Chapter 9C, Professional Development**

- Approved for publication in the *New Jersey Register*, the proposed readoption with amendments to the rules pertaining to professional development at N.J.A.C. 6A:9C, Professional Development, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15, 18A:6- 128, 18A:26-2.7 and 10, and P.L. 2012, c. 11. State Board members Andrew Mulvihill and Mary Beth Berry opposed.

**G. Chapter 15, Bilingual Education**

- Discussed the reoption with amendments pertaining to bilingual education at N.J.A.C. 6A:15, Bilingual Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15 and 18A:35-15 to 26 and Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (P.L. 114-95).

**New Business**

The State Board asked when they could look forward to hearing the results of the Statewide Assessments.

**Public Testimony**

There were no educational topics scheduled for the month of November. For the month of December, the State Board will accept written testimony on Chapter 15, Bilingual Education reoption with amendments.

**Adjournment**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its November 9, 2022, public meeting at 1:47 p.m.

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