

New Jersey State Board of Education
Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education
February 1, 2023

Presiding: Kathy Goldenberg, President

Secretary: 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

Mr. Arcelio Aponte

Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia

Mrs. Mary Beth Gazi

Absent

Mrs. Fatimah Burnam-Watkins

Dr. Ronald Butcher

Convening

State Board of Education President Kathy Goldenberg convened the public meeting at 9:05 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 February 1, 2023, 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 February 1, 2023.

Reconvening

President Kathy Goldenberg reconvened the open meeting at 10:37 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, Sylvia Sylvia.

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 January 11, 2023.

President’s Reports

Public Testimony

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

Statement by President Goldenberg

President Goldenberg stated the State Board is working together with Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan to allow for in person meetings for those who can be present to be present and those who may not be able to attend but wish to fully participate be remote. She stated they would like a hybrid system developed that works well and professionally, and the hope is that a hybrid system can be offered to the public soon.

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 City High School in Cape May County. She asked Miss Knopp to present her report for the month of October.

Miss Knopp spoke about her attendance at the New Jersey Association of Student Council’s (NJASC’s) Winter Convention on January 11 at The College of New Jersey. She stated this yearly

event is one of the largest, as this is the time where new state officers are elected. She further stated that students were offered workshops to help develop their leadership skills and student advisors are offered professional development opportunities.

State Board Committee Reports

There were no committee meetings this month.

Resolution in Honor of New Jersey School Board Recognition Month

President Goldenberg requested that the State Board adopt a ceremonial resolution designating February as Career and Technical Education Month in New Jersey, as originally designated by the National Association for Career and Technical Education. She stated the New Jersey State Board of Education is also by law the State Board of Career and Technical Education, and that this dual distinction provides us with the unique opportunity to include in our ongoing work policy issues related to career and technical education. She further stated during the month of February, we join with the Department of Education in acknowledging the significant contribution of career and technical education not only to quality education in New Jersey but also to workforce development statewide, and are pleased to recognize February as Career and Technical Education Month.

The State Board unanimously adopted the following resolution read by State Board member Mary Beth Berry recognizing February as Career and Technical Education Month in New Jersey.

Resolution In Honor of Career and Technical Education Month in New Jersey

Whereas, the month of February 2023 has been designated nationally as Career and Technical Education Month[®] by the Association for Career and Technical Education; and

Whereas, teachers, administrators and school counselors involved in career and technical education help more than 138,852 secondary and postsecondary students in New Jersey pursue a range of career pathway; and

Whereas, career and technical education programs incorporate rigorous academic core coupled with high-level technical curriculum to deliver an opportunity for students to earn college credit, industry-valued credentials, and work-based learning to be college and career ready; and

Whereas, career and technical education prepares New Jerseyans for the jobs that exist today, and equips them with the skills employers will need in the future; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education has continued to implement a variety of career and technical education initiatives including the Building Capacity for Career Pathways initiative and Middle Grades Career Awareness and Exploration program; and

Whereas, career and technical education offers opportunities for student leadership experiences supporting personal and professional growth through seven state career and technical student organizations currently serving approximately 39,087 students in New Jersey through membership in Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA); National FFA Association (FFA); Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA); Distributive Education Clubs of

America (DECA); Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA); Technology Student Association (TSA); and SkillsUSA; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education hereby recognize February 2023 as Career and Technical Education Month in New Jersey and the potential of career and technical education to fully prepare our students for postsecondary success.

President Goldenberg introduced Mr. Michael Dicken, Superintendent of Gloucester County Vocational-Technical School District and President for The New Jersey Council of County Vocational-Technical Schools and Jackie Burke, Executive Director for The New Jersey Council of County Vocational-Technical Schools who accepted the resolution and on behalf of Career and Technical Education Programs statewide.

Burlington County Institute of Technology (BCIT) Career and Technical Education Presentation

President Goldenberg introduced Dr. Christopher Nagy, Superintendent of Burlington County Institute of Technology whom she invited to join the State Board meeting to talk about the Career and Technical Education Programs available in his schools. Dr. Nagy was joined by Danielle Hartman, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Asenur Turkmenoglu, a Dental Occupations student, who spoke about her first-hand experience at BCIT.

Commissioner's Reports

Career and Technical Education Landscape in New Jersey

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan introduced Dr. Schiff, Acting Assistant Commissioner of the Division of Teaching and Learning Services, who provided a presentation about the opportunities offered through career and technical education programs.

In Case You Missed It

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated in January, Governor Murphy signed legislation establishing the requirement of K-12 instruction on information literacy under the implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. She stated this bipartisan legislation reaffirms our state's commitment to leading the nation in public education while preparing students for lifelong learning by equipping them with the skills they need to accurately assess information. She further stated on January 26, the Department announced the opening of applications for \$350 million in school construction grants for regular operating districts, or "ROD" districts. She stated these funds are available for high priority capital projects and will be awarded based on a priority of project type that is outlined in the application which closes on May 1, 2023. Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated in other #GoodNewsInNJSchools, she is pleased to announce that the Department has approved \$29.65 million in Stabilization Aid funding to help 42 school districts that are experiencing a reduction in state aid or are otherwise facing a budgetary imbalance. She further stated funding for the Stabilization Aid was made available through a \$30 million line item in Governor Murphy's Fiscal Year 2023 State Budget, and they prioritized applications for the aid based on equipment, supplies, technology, and furniture; purchase of school buses and other transportation costs; textbooks; and one-time security costs. She further stated they also included two

additional priority categories funded with Stabilization aid, ADA facility upgrades and environmental remediation (removal of underground oil tanks).

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated she is eager to kick off the celebration of Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month and would like the public to view our social media posts as we have a dynamic campaign underway. She further stated she would like to thank all of today's presenters who shared some of the exemplary CTE advancements that are happening across our State.

Commissioner's Announcement

Acting Commissioner Allen-McMillan stated that the Department of Education will be presenting Chapter 7 at proposal level to the State Board of Education at its March meeting, as the Department continues to compile and prepare responses to comments received regarding Chapter 7.

Items for Consideration

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

***A. Appointments**

- Approved the following appointments pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-32-35 and N.J.A.C. 6A:2-1.1 et seq.:
 - Lisa Haberl, Executive Director, Division of Teaching and Learning Services.
 - Amanda Schultz, Executive Director, Division of Finance and Business Services.
 - Dorothea Specht, Director, Office of K-3 Education, Division of Early Childhood Services.

***B. Certification of School Districts**

- There were no districts for certification.

***C. Chapter 28, School Ethics Commission**

- Approved upon adoption the amended 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

State Board President Kathy Goldenberg requested that upcoming State Board of Education meetings also include curriculum support presentation by the various commissions that are in but not of the Department of Education.

State Board member Arcelio Aponte stated as February 1, 2023, marked the beginning of Black History Month. He asked how the Department planned to celebrate the occasion. He also stated that he would appreciate opportunities available to celebrate Black History Month.

Public Testimony

For the month of February, the State Board did not receive written public testimony as there are no topics scheduled. For the month of March, the State Board will receive written testimony on Chapter 15, Bilingual Education.

Adjournment

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its February 1, 2023, public meeting at 12:16 p.m.

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