

**New Jersey State Board of Education  
Minutes of the Public Work Session  
in the Conference Room on the First Floor,  
100 River View Executive Plaza  
Trenton, NJ**

**June 15, 2005**

**Presiding:** Arnold G. Hyndman, Ph.D., President

**Secretary:** William L. Librera, Ed.D., Commissioner

**PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM:**

Dr. Ronald K. Butcher  
Ms. Debra Casha  
Ms. Kathleen A. Dietz  
Mrs. Anne S. Dillman  
Ms. Josephine E. Figueras  
Mr. John A. Griffith  
Dr. Ernest Lepore  
Dr. Thelma Napoleon-Smith  
Mr. Edward M. Taylor  
Mrs. Roberta Van Anda

**ABSENT:**

Ms. Maud Dahme  
Ms. Margaret F. Bartlett

**CONVENING**

Arnold Hyndman, president, State Board of Education, convened the public meeting with the reading of the resolution pertaining to the public session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the Open Public Meetings Act.

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey 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, and

**WHEREAS**, 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, 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, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that by adopting this resolution the State Board of Education states its intention to convene a public meeting to conduct the state's business on Wednesday, June 15, 2005.

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

### **● Mathematics Literacy Update**

Joyce Baynes and Bruce Normandia, co-chairs, Mathematics Task Force, provided the State Board members and Department staff present with preliminary recommendations that may affect State Board and Department policy. The task force made the following recommendations:

- A four- year mathematics graduation requirement;
- Development of a State Mathematics Panel;
- Establishment of Regional Centers;
- Greater articulation between the institutes of higher education and K-12; and
- Mandating a specific amount of time that must be devoted to the teaching of mathematics in schools.

### **● New Jersey Standards Measurement and Resource for Teaching (NJ SMART)**

Deputy Commissioner Dwight Pfennig provided an update on the New Jersey Standards Measurement and Resource for Teaching (NJ SMART) initiative. He stated that due to financial shortfalls, NJ SMART has not been operational for the past 13 months. He also stated that since March 2005 the Department initiated and produced a \$4 million dollar grant proposal for a statewide longitudinal data system that will provide the solution for assigning unique state identifiers, creating a repository with advanced reporting capabilities and housing data. He further stated that data collection will begin with the Abbott school districts plus 12 additional school districts as early as the fall. President Hyndman requested that the Department provide a report on the progress of NJ SMART in the fall.

### **● Certification Update**

Dr. Pfennig provided an update on the on-line certification system. He stated that the teacher certification system provides internet tools for applicants who are seeking certification. He also stated that the system ensures efficiency in searching the website; accuracy in application/documentation; reduction of processing time; payment processing via the internet; and offers the ability to track the progress in processing certificates. He further stated that using this system the Department has been able to reduce the backlog from over 11, 000 applications in December of 2004 down to 0 by April 2005.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board adjourned its June 15, 2005 public work session at 3:25 p.m.

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William L. Librera, Ed.D., Commissioner  
Secretary, NJ State Board of Education