

**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**

February 21, 2007

Presiding: Dr. Arnold G. Hyndman, President

Secretary: Lucille E. Davy, Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM:

Dr. Ronald Butcher
Ms. Maud Dahme
Rev. Frederick LaGarde, Jr.
Ms. Debra Casha
Ms. Kathleen A. Dietz
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Ms. Josephine E. Hernandez
Mr. Edward M. Taylor

ABSENT:

Mr. Arcelio Aponte
Dr. Thelma Napoleon-Smith

CONVENING

Arnold G. 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, February 21, 2007.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

A. Civics Study Group/Rutgers Center for Law Related Education-Report

Arlene Gardner, Executive Director, New Jersey Center for Law Related Education, Rutgers University, and Alan Lucibello, Social Studies Supervisor, Montville School District, along with State Board member Debra Casha provided a comprehensive report relating to the civic mission of schools. Ms. Gardner discussed the issues related to teaching social studies supported with national and state data. Mr. Lucibello added his concerns and suggestions from the perspectives of the urban and suburban school districts. Debra Casha offered some of the recommendations that were reported by the National Association of State Boards of Education Study Group, *Civic Engagement and Ethical Behavior in a Global Society*.

B. Wellness and Nutrition Presentation

Emma Davis-Kovacs, acting director, Division of Food and Nutrition; Janet Renk, coordinator, School Nutrition Programs; and Janet Celi, a consultant; represented the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and provided information pertaining to the promotion of wellness among students and school staff. Ms. Davis-Kovacs stated that the New Jersey Department of Agriculture adopted new regulations that affect all public and nonpublic schools that participate in any federally funded child nutrition program, including the national school lunch program and the school breakfast program. She further stated that these regulations require school districts to make significant changes to their school nutrition policies and practices and to implement a model school nutrition policy.

Commissioner Davy stated that New Jersey is a leader in this initiative and implementing its own state policies in September 2005. Commissioner Davy also stated that in keeping with its belief that health and success in school are interrelated, the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) held a Wellness Policy Symposium on October 11-12, 2007 in Louisville, Kentucky. Members from 17 state boards of education, including State Board member Debra Casha, attended the symposium. The goal of the symposium was to explore the state's role in promoting wellness among students and school staff. In particular, participants discussed and debated how to support local school districts to implement federally mandated wellness policies.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried the State Board of Education adjourned its February 21, 2007 public work session at 3:00 p.m.

Lucille E. Davy, Commissioner
Secretary, NJ State Board of Education