

**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**

March 21, 2007

Presiding: Dr. Arnold G. Hyndman, President

Secretary: Lucille E. Davy, Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM:

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

ABSENT:

Mr. Arcelio Aponte
Rev. Frederick LaGarde, Jr.
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, March 21, 2007.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

A. Career and Technical Education One-Year Transition Plan

Jay Doolan, assistant commissioner, Division of Educational Programs and Assessment and Randy Trivette and the State Board members present continued their discussion of New Jersey's One-Year Career and Technical Education Transition Plan. The plan establishes the initial framework that will guide the implementation of career and technical education in the state, is required under the reauthorized Perkins Act in order to secure federal Perkins funding for the new fiscal year beginning on July 1. New Jersey's estimated federal Perkins allocation for state fiscal year 2008 is approximately \$25 million. The plan must be submitted by May 7, 2007 to the U.S. Department of Education in order for New Jersey to receive its allocation.

B. High School Graduation Survey

Jay Doolan, assistant commissioner, Division of Educational Programs and Assessment and Linda Morse, acting director, Office of Academic and Professional Standards presented the results of a Graduation Requirements Survey conducted by the department in May 2006. Dr. Doolan stated that every public high school in the state was required to complete and submit the electronic survey. He also stated that the data collection focused on the requirements for students to graduate as part of the June 2005 graduating class. He further stated that the primary goal of the survey was to obtain information about requirements for all students in four content areas: mathematics, language arts literacy, social studies, and science.

Dr. Doolan stated that schools were asked to provide information on local graduation requirements and the percentage of 2005 graduates who took specific courses such as algebra I or biology. He also stated that the survey was sent electronically to every high school principal, who was required to submit the survey along with a verification sheet signed by the chief school administrator. He further stated that schools not completing the survey by the due date were contacted by email and phone.

Dr. Doolan stated that the results of the survey were not disaggregated or reported by school or county; rather, the purpose was to establish a baseline for discussion about trends and to examine the need for changes to the existing graduation requirements. He also stated that the survey provided the department with important information that supports the need for future data collections to inform policy development.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried the State Board of Education adjourned its March 21, 2007 public work session at 3:10 p.m.

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

