

**New Jersey State Board of Education  
Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting  
in the Conference Room on the First Floor,  
100 River View Executive Plaza  
Trenton, NJ**

**August 20, 2008**

**Presiding:** Josephine Hernandez, President

**Secretary:** Lucille E. Davy, Commissioner

**PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM**

Mr. Arcelio Aponte, Vice President  
Dr. Ernest Lepore  
Mrs. Florence McGinn  
Mr. Kenneth Parker  
Dr. Dorothy Strickland

**ABSENT**

Dr. Ronald K. Butcher  
Mrs. Debra Casha  
Mrs. Kathleen Dietz  
Mrs. Edythe Fulton

**CONVENING**

Josephine Hernandez, 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 August 20, 2008.

**STUDENT SPEAKERS**

Jen Luck, the 2008 State Board student representative and a junior from South Brunswick High School (Middlesex County) was not present.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Lucille E. Davy, Commissioner of Education, recognized Bruce Greenfield, Executive County Superintendent of Schools, Ocean County, who represented the county superintendents.

## **Student Recognition Program**

There is no student recognition in August.

## **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 July 16, 2008.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORTS**

President Hernandez thanked state board members for their confidence in selecting her as president of the State Board of Education. For the September meeting, President Hernandez has asked Commissioner Davy to give an overview of the department's main priorities for the coming school year. She also requested a review of the new travel policy for state board members.

President Hernandez asked state board members to review the current State Board committee list and liaison positions and consider where they would like to serve.

President Hernandez stated that she invited Governor Jon Corzine to attend the September State Board meeting to discuss educational priorities and initiatives with the State Board.

## **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

Commissioner Davy provided a preview of the following priorities for the coming year: High School Redesign and Transformation, Standards of Expectations for Teacher Preparation Programs and revision to the Core Curriculum Content Standards.

Commissioner Davy stated that the department is circulating a draft of revisions to the travel regulations clarifying the provisions. This draft will be distributed to the State Board in the coming months.

## **Monitoring of School Districts**

Commissioner Davy stated that there are 200 school districts that will begin the monitoring process through the Quality Single Accountability Continuum, or QSAC. In addition, minor amendments to the District Performance Review will be proposed to clarify some indicators and provide guidance to assist school districts with self-assessment.

## **End of Course Biology Test**

Commissioner Davy stated that more than 100,000 students were administered the end of course biology exam. The Department should receive the test results by the end of September and will provide that information to the State Board. She stated that a proficiency standard will not be set for this year but will be postponed until next year to give more opportunity to review the results.

## **Reorganization of Department**

Commissioner Davy stated that at the September or October State Board meeting, she will present a reorganization chart for State Board consideration. She stated that the department reorganization will address the impact of the early retirement program and new legislative priorities. She stated that senior staff is currently identifying those areas of priorities such as the county office implementation of QSAC, preschool expansion, high school redesign and district and school improvement.

### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

On motions duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education took the following action:

#### **A. Appointments**

- There were no appointments.

#### **B. Bilingual Education**

- Adopted the regulations at N.J.A.C. 6A:15, Bilingual Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35- 3 and Title III of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

#### **C. Managing for Equality and Equity in Education**

- Adopted the regulations at N.J.A.C. 6A:7, Managing for Equality and Equity in Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:15-1 et seq. and 18A:36-20.

#### **D. School Ethics Commission**

- Discussed the readoption with amendments of the School Ethics regulations proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:28, School Ethics Commission, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:12-34.

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

#### **Core Curriculum Content Standards Revision**

Jay Doolan, assistant commissioner, Division of Educational Standards and Programs, and Janis Jensen, director, Office of Academic Standards, provided an overview of the process to revise the Core Curriculum Content Standards (CCCS) in 2009. Dr. Doolan stated that this is the third revision of the CCCS that were originally adopted by the State Board in 1996. Donna Fletcher Lugo, Susan Sullivan and Joseph Seaman of the Office of Educational Technology provided a demonstration of the website that is being developed to assist in the process of revising the CCCS.

#### **Highly Qualified Teacher Survey Results**

Dr. Doolan provided the results of the 2007-2008 Highly Qualified Teacher Survey. He reported that 99% of New Jersey's teachers, teaching in core academic subjects, are qualified in one or more content areas. In 2007, the gap between highly qualified teachers in high-poverty vs. low-poverty districts grew by 0.5%. The department is working with districts to close this gap.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

President Hernandez reminded State Board members to review the list of committees and consider whether the present list is relevant or need revision and to identify which committee state board members would like to serve.

President Hernandez asked Willa Spicer, deputy commissioner, for a future presentation on how all of the new initiatives will work with No Child Left Behind in future years.

Vice President Aponte requested that the department develop a more comprehensive strategy on closing the achievement gap from pre-school through secondary education and address this issue with each new initiative launched.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion duly seconded and carried the State Board of Education adjourned its August 20, 2008 public meeting at 12:20 p.m.

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