

**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**

**June 1, 2011**

**Presiding:** Arcelio Aponte, President

**Secretary:** Christopher D. Cerf, Acting Commissioner

**PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM**

Ms. Claire Eckert  
Mr. Jack Fornaro  
Dr. Ernest Lepore  
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill  
Mr. Ilan Plawker  
Mr. Peter Simon  
Dr. Dorothy Strickland

**ABSENT**

Dr. Ronald Butcher  
Ms. Edithe Fulton  
Mr. Robert Haney

**CONVENING**

Arcelio Aponte, President, State Board of Education, convened the public meeting with the reading of the statement pertaining to the public session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the Open Public Meetings Act.

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.

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.

And seeing there was a quorum the meeting of June 1, 2011 was called to order.

**ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Vice President Aponte 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 *NJSA 10:4-12(b)*, the State Board of Education will now adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues.

The State Board immediately adjourned to executive session on June 1, 2011. President Aponte reconvened the open meeting at 10:00 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.

### **CONVENING**

President Aponte reconvened the public meeting at 10:00 a.m. on June 1, 2011 and requested a motion to resume the public meeting.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGANCE**

### **STUDENT SPEAKERS**

In her last address before the State Board, Tabitha Nicodemus, a senior at Rancocas Valley Regional High School (Burlington County) and school representative for the 2010-11 school year who spoke about the skills and experiences she has encountered over the course of the past year as the state board student representative.

The State Board members approved a resolution congratulating and thanking Tabitha for her service and wished her well in the coming school year. President Aponte announced that Samantha Puja, a student at Bayonne High School (Hudson County) will be the new student representative for 2011-2012 school year.

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Acting Commissioner Cerf recognized Robert Bumpus, Executive County Superintendent of Schools (Salem and Gloucester Counties) who represented the executive county superintendents. Mr. Bumpus is also the Executive County Superintendent Liaison to the Commissioner and represents the Executive County Superintendents on various Department committees and initiatives.

### **STUDENT RECOGNITION**

The State Board recognized Diana Sheridan (Salem County), as a part of its monthly recognition program designed to honor a student or a group of students who have made a significant contribution to school, community, family or other groups. The State Board recognized Diana for her outstanding accomplishments in academic programs, leadership abilities and contributions to the community.

On behalf of the State Board, President Aponte congratulated Diana on her achievements.

## **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 May 3 and 4, 2011. State Board member Peter Simon abstained.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **Public Testimony**

President Aponte stated that a public testimony session would not be held today because the State Board would be holding its retreat. He also stated that at this time public testimony would also not be held on July 13, 2011 because there were no topics scheduled for testimony. He further stated that members of the public should check the State Board website <http://www.state.nj.us/education/sboe/meetings/pubtest.shtml> and/or call the State Board Office in mid June to see if topics for public testimony are scheduled.

### **State Board of Education Retreat**

President Aponte stated that the State Board would hold a retreat beginning the afternoon of June 1, 2011 following today's regularly scheduled monthly public business meeting and continuing on June 2, 2011 in the Mallard Room located at The Chauncey Conference Center at Educational Testing Service.

### **Report of the State Board Nominating Committee**

Ernest Lepore, chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of candidates as: Arcelio Aponte for president and Ilan Plawker for vice president. The vote will occur next month. State Board members Dorothy Strickland and Edithe Fulton were also on the committee.

### **State Board Calendar of Meeting Dates for 2011-2012**

Adopted the resolution below for the annual calendar of the 2011-2012 meeting dates of the State Board of Education pertaining to *N.J.A.C. 6A:1-2.2*, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:4-7* and *10:4-6 et seq.*

## **RESOLUTION ANNUAL CALENDAR OF STATE BOARD MEETING DATES**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:4-7 states that, the State Board of Education shall hold public meetings at least once each month at such times as its rules may prescribe and at such other times and such places within the state as in its judgment may be necessary, but no meeting may commence later than 8:00 p.m.; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C. 6A:1-2.2 requires that such meetings be held at such time, place, and on such dates as established by the State Board, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., Open Public Meetings Act, and notice of such meetings shall be made in a manner consistent with the law; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the State Board establishes the following dates for its monthly business meetings and public hearings for the 2010-2011 school year, and directs that a copy of the dates be sent to the Governor, the Secretary of State, the news media, the county superintendents, and the state board agenda subscribers.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS/WORK SESSION MEETINGS 2011-2012:**

July 13	November 2	March 7
August 3	December 7	April 4
September 7	January 4	May 2
October 5	February 1	June 6

**SPECIAL MEETING**

State Board of Career & Technical Education – March 21

**PUBLIC HEARING SESSIONS 2011-2012:**

July 13	November 2	March 7
August 3	December 7	April 4
September 7	January 4	May 2
October 5	February 1	June 6

\*Open Topic Sessions

Members of the public may reserve time to speak at public hearing sessions by calling the State Board of Education Office by noon on the Friday before the public hearing session at (609) 292-0739.

Notice of changes in the above will be made in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

**PSI and PMI: Effective New Approaches to High School Science and K-12 Mathematics**

Dr. Robert Goodman, Director, NJ Center for Teaching and Learning provided a presentation on effective new approaches to teaching High School Science and K-12 Mathematics.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

**Middle Schools to Watch**

Rochelle Hendricks, Acting Deputy Commissioner stated that in 2007, the department became one of 19 states involved with the Schools to Watch program. She stated that the program requires schools to engage in significant reflection about how they operate, the vision for their work, and the outcomes of programs and services. The goal of the program is to support student achievement through thoughtful, sustained practices that address the needs of the whole child. She also stated that the NJ Schools to Watch program assesses over 100 criteria in four key areas: academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity and organizational structures. Over the last three years, 75 schools have applied to be part of this rigorous program, which currently recognizes only 243 schools nationally.

The New Jersey Schools to Watch program is a partnership with the Garden State Partnership for Teacher Quality, which includes Kean, Rowan and William Paterson Universities. Other organizations involved in the program include the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, the New Jersey Middle School Association, and the New Jersey Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

Ms. Hendricks stated that New Jersey has a total of eight Schools to Watch and that the following personnel from two of those schools were in attendance to be introduced to the State Board: Dr. Frank Rudnesky, principal of the Belhaven Middle School, Dr. Thomas Baruffi, superintendent of Linwood public schools; Richard Sless, member of the board of education; and Christine Ruth, school counselor and Patricia Lambert, principal of Mountain View Middle School and Dr. Janie Edmonds, superintendent of the Mendham borough school district.

Ms. Hendricks stated that these two schools will also be recognized at the National Schools to Watch Conference in Washington DC from June 23-25 and at an upcoming awards dinner at Kean University. She also stated that during the next three years, these schools will serve as models for others, sharing their successes and talking about ways they can continue to improve.

### **Plans for New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum**

Robert Bumpus, Executive County Superintendent of Salem and Gloucester Counties, Barbara Gantwerk, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Student Services and Pamela Castellanos, Executive Assistant, Division of Field Services provided a report on the future plans for the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQAC). Mr. Bumpus stated that the Department conducted its own review of NJQSAC using a committee composed of Department and district staff along with a local board member. He also stated that based on this review, the committee is recommending an overhaul of the existing monitoring regulations to focus on evaluation on student achievement, fiscal accountability and governance. He further stated that the committee's work will create a less burdensome monitoring process.

Mr. Bumpus stated that the Department would be presenting amendments to the NJQSAC regulations to the board for consideration at the July 13 board meeting.

### **Common Core Meeting**

Commissioner Cerf stated that on Tuesday, May 31, 2011, he met with Superintendents and district staff responsible for Curriculum and Instruction, to discuss and learn about critical aspects of New Jersey's education reform efforts. He stated that he was joined by experts who helped to develop the new standards for Math and English Language Arts as well as those working to ensure successful implementation.

### **Acknowledgement**

Commissioner Cerf and State Board President Aponte both congratulated Rochelle Hendricks on her pending new role as Secretary of Higher Education.

### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

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

**\*A. Appointments**

- Approved the following resolution appointing Ms. Cami Anderson to the position of State District Superintendent for the Newark School district:

**Resolution to Approve the Appointment of the State District Superintendent of the State Operated School District of City of Newark**

**WHEREAS**, on July 5, 1995, the New Jersey State Board of Education issued an Administrative Order creating the State-Operated School District in the City of Newark; and

**WHEREAS**, in the Spring of 2007, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-53, the State-Operated School District of the City of Newark was evaluated by a team of highly skilled professionals, based on the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC); and

**WHEREAS**, on October 17, 2007, based on the provisions of NJQSAC, the State-Operated School District of the City of Newark regained control in the area of Operations Management and remained under partial State intervention in the areas of Personnel, Instruction and Program, Governance and Fiscal Management, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.2 and -8.3; and

**WHEREAS**, the current state district superintendent had resigned the position effective February 4, 2011 and an interim state district superintendent was appointed effective February 5, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, after a national and comprehensive search for a new State District Superintendent, a community-based search committee has identified Cami Anderson as the best candidate to serve as the Newark State District Superintendent; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner of Education has affirmed the decision of the search committee and recommends the appointment of Cami Anderson to serve as the Newark State District Superintendent;

**RESOLVED**, that, subject to an employment contract, the New Jersey State Board of Education hereby approves the appointment of Cami Anderson as the State District Superintendent of the State-Operated School District of the City of Newark.

**\*B. Certification of School Districts**

- Certified for a period of three years, those school districts recommended by the Commissioner, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-14a and b.

**WORK SESSION**

**Evaluating Teacher Effectiveness**

Dr. Laura Goe, Research Scientist, Educational Testing Service and Principle Investigator, Research and Dissemination for the National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality presented her research on evaluating teacher effectiveness.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion duly seconded and carried the State Board of Education adjourned its June 1, 2011 monthly public business meeting at 2:34 p.m.

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Christopher D. Cerf, Acting Commissioner  
Acting Secretary, State Board of Education