

**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 3, 2011

Presiding: Arcelio Aponte, President

Secretary: Andrew Smarick, Acting Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

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

ABSENT

Dr. Ronald Butcher
Ms. Edithe Fulton

CONVENING

State Board of Education President Arcelio Aponte 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 August 3, 2011, was called to order.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 August 3, 2011. President Aponte reconvened the open meeting at 10:20 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

President Aponte introduced the Honorable William Anklowitz, a judge of the New Jersey Superior Court in Mercer County. Judge Anklowitz administered the oath of office to new State Board member Mark W. Biedron of Hunterdon County.

Mr. Biedron is the founder of Solid Wood Construction LLC and co-founder of The Willow School. Mr. Biedron replaces Kenneth Parker. His term as a member of the State Board ends in 2012.

STUDENT SPEAKERS

Acting Commissioner Smarick acknowledged that Samantha Puja, the student representative for the 2011-2012 school year, was unable to attend the meeting.

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 13, 2011. State Board members Mark Biedron and Claire Eckert abstained.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Aponte stated that Item E on the meeting's agenda, which would amend the N.J. Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC), was being tabled until September.

Public Testimony

President Aponte stated that the public testimony session for NJQSAC amendments at second discussion still was being held as scheduled.

He also stated that the September 7, 2011, public testimony session again would include NJQSAC amendments at second discussion. The session also will include amendments to Student Transportation at second discussion, as well as open topic.

President Aponte stated that information on public testimony is available by contacting the State Board office at 609-984-6024 or through the department's website at <http://education.state.nj.us/sboe/reg.php>.

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-August to see if additional topics for the September public testimony session are scheduled.

Piscataway Summer Academy

President Aponte reported that he visited the summer academy in Piscataway, which brings together students who excel during the school year with those who struggle as a way to keep students engaged in the summer and encourage improvement. He said he applauds Piscataway Public Schools and other school districts that provide similar summer experiences for the amount of hard work that is required to run the programs.

Harrington Park Public Schools Presentation

At the request of acting Commissioner Cerf and Vice President Plawker, Harrington Park School District Superintendent Adam Fried made a presentation about the district's business model approach to shared services. Dr. Fried said Harrington Park utilizes its partnership in the Northern Valley Consortium to maximize its expenses for technology, insurance, energy and banking and utilize the cost savings for instruction and leadership development.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Teacher Evaluation Pilot

Acting Commissioner Smarick stated that the department has received more than 30 applications from school districts and charter schools seeking to take part in the teacher evaluation pilot program.

Regulatory Reform Task Force Report

Acting Commissioner Smarick stated that the report from the Regulatory Reform Task Force is due August 15.

Middle Grades Data Analysis

Chief Performance Officer Bari Erlichson and Marie Barry, director of the Office of Career and Technical Education, gave a presentation to the board that the department's analysis of state data showed there is no correlation between school structure and student achievement. The state analysis confirms national studies that compared the academic performance of students in middle schools configured as grades 6 through 8 compared to kindergarten through grade 8 schools.

New Employees

Acting Commissioner Smarick recognized the following new employees: David Hesse, Chief of Staff; Mamie Doyle, Special Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner; Bing Howell, Special Assistant for Portfolio Management; and Rochelle Sinclair, Project Manager.

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. 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. The following school districts were certified: Bergen County - Palisades Park; Camden County - Sterling High School; Cape May County - Cape May Special Services and North Wildwood; Essex County - Caldwell-West Caldwell; Gloucester County - National Park; Hudson County - Harrison, Secaucus and Union City; Hunterdon County - Bloomsbury and High Bridge; Morris County - Hanover Park Regional; Passaic County - Hawthorne, North Haledon, Passaic County Manchester Regional, Pompton Lakes and Totowa; Salem County - Alloway Township, Elsinboro, Mannington and Salem County Vocational.

***C. Resolution to Approve Interstate Reciprocity Compact from NASDTEC**

- Approved the resolution to renew New Jersey's membership in the 50-state reciprocity agreement in which members agree to honor other state's certificates.

Resolution Approving the 2010-2015 National Association of State Directors Of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) Interstate Agreement

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:26-11 *et seq.* recognizes the importance of interstate agreements concerning educational programs and personnel, and N.J.S.A. 18A:26-14 authorizes the Secretary of the Board of Examiners to enter into contracts on behalf of the State with one or more other states for the acceptance of educational personnel, and N.J.S.A. 18A:26-21 requires the specific terms of the contracts to be approved by the New Jersey State Board of Education upon recommendation by the Commissioner and State Board of Examiners; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Board of Education has authorized prior NASDTEC interstate agreements in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:26-14 and N.J.S.A. 18A:26-21; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner and State Board of Examiners recommend that

the New Jersey State Board of Education approve the 2010-2015 NASDTEC Interstate Agreement for Educator Licensure; and now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education approves the 2010-2015 NASDTEC Interstate Agreement for Educator Licensure and authorizes the Secretary of the State Board of Examiners to sign the Agreement on behalf of the New Jersey Department of Education.

***D. Resolution to Approve Praxis II Tests & Respective Cut Scores - Technology Education and Art**

- Approved the resolution to approve new tests and recommended qualifying scores for the Praxis tests required for initial New Jersey teacher licensure.

**Resolution Adopting New Praxis II Tests and Qualifying Scores
For Teacher of Art and Teacher of Technology**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Board of Education has required that teacher certification candidates pass tests in specified disciplines in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:9-8.1, effective January 5, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Board of Education has required tests for the certificates for Teacher of Art and Teacher of Technology Education in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:9-8.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:9-11.10; and

WHEREAS, the Educational Testing Service (ETS) has recently established new tests in these subjects to replace the current Praxis II Subject Assessment tests that are in use by the department; and

WHEREAS, the department has participated in national standard-setting studies for the Art and Technology Education tests to determine the validity of and the theoretically appropriate qualifying score for those tests; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Board of Education approves the department's selection of the respective Praxis II tests and initial qualifying scores for those certificates; and

WHEREAS, the department will monitor the impact of these tests and qualifying scores on the passing rates for each subject area and will report any problems with the same to the State Board of Education; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education hereby supports the department's selection of these two Praxis II Subject Assessment tests; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education hereby acknowledges and accepts the department's establishment of the following qualifying scores effective September 1, 2011:

Praxis II Test	Qualifying Score
<u>Teacher of Art</u>	158
<u>Teacher of Technology Education</u>	159

H. Student Transportation

- Discussed amendments pertaining to school bus advertising at N.J.A.C. 6A:27 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:39-31-33.

WORK SESSION

NJ SMART Demonstration

Chief Performance Officer Bari Erlichson presented an update to the board regarding the state’s status in meeting federal requirements for student-level data systems. Dr. Erlichson said the department soon will be able to perform the new, federally required calculation to determine the state’s graduation rate and to verify the number of students who graduated in 2011 via the High School Performance Assessment, the Alternative High School Assessment and the appeals process. She said the department also in the near future will be able to track accurately where the state’s high school graduates attend college and their majors of study.

NEW BUSINESS

President Aponte announced that State Board Office Director Diane Shoener gave birth to her son in July and will be on maternity leave through November. He also said that Beth Auerswald will be filling in as acting director during that time.

President Aponte also announced that an article titled “Poetry, Medium and Message” by State Board member Ernest Lepore was published on *The New York Times’* Opinionator webpage.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its August 3, 2011, public meeting at 12:40 p.m.

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