

**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**

April 4, 2012

Presiding: Arcelio Aponte, President

Secretary: Christopher D. Cerf, Acting Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

Mr. Mark Beidron
Dr. Ronald Butcher
Ms. Claire Chamberlain
Mr. Joseph Fiscaro
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Mr. Robert Haney
Mr. Ilan Plawker
Mr. Peter Simon
Dr. Dorothy Strickland

ABSENT

Ms. Edithe Fulton
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill

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 New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

The 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 April 4, 2012, 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 *N.J.S.A. 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 April 4, 2012. President Aponte reconvened the open meeting at 10:30 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

INTRODUCTIONS

Acting Commissioner Cerf acknowledged Mr. Joseph Passiment, Executive County School Business Administrator, Monmouth and Union Counties.

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 March 7, 2012. State Board members Claire Chamberlain and Ronald Butcher abstained. The State Board withdrew the minutes for the March 21, 2012 visit since there was no quorum.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Visit to Passaic County Technical Institute

President Aponte thanked, Ms. Diana Lobosco, Superintendent, Passaic County Technical Institute and Judy Savage, Director NJ Council of County Vocational Schools and Kathryn Forsyth for their assistance in planning the visit to PCTI. President Aponte offered his appreciation of the visit and the programs offered by the school district.

Introduction of the New Permanent Student Representative

Samantha Puja introduced Kenneth Patrone, a student from Washington Township High School in Gloucester County as the 2012-2013 Permanent Student Representative to the State Board.

Legislative/Administrative Code Committee

Vice President Plawker stated that he attended the 2012 Legislative Conference organized by the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) in Washington D.C. on March 22 and 23, 2012. He also stated that he met with Congressional staff and discussed the national status of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Teacher Evaluation and Professional Development, Funding for Higher Education, College and Career Training and Bully prevention.

Public Testimony

President Aponte stated public testimony would not be held today as there were no items scheduled for public testimony. He also stated that there are no items scheduled for public testimony on May 2. He also stated that members of the public should check the State Board's website or contact the State Board office for updates.

Resolution to Recognize April 2012 as School Library Month

President Aponte presented a resolution to recognize April 2012 as School Library Month. On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board approved the following resolution read by State Board member Ronald Butcher:

Resolution for School Library Month

WHEREAS, the month of April 2012, has been designated nationally as School Library Month by the American Association of School Librarians; and

WHEREAS, learning to use information and ideas effectively and ethically is essential as New Jersey's youth prepare for a future characterized by change; and

WHEREAS, school library programs provide access to a wide variety of educational materials including, books, magazines, electronic databases and the technologies needed to utilize these resources; and

WHEREAS, School Library Media Specialists teach the skills of locating and using information through traditional resources and new technologies;

WHEREAS, school librarians collaborate with classroom teachers using information found in a variety of formats to design authentic learning activities that meet state and national standards;

WHEREAS school library programs and school librarians contribute to the individual growth and development of all students while fostering both excellence and equity in education; and

WHEREAS, it is both fitting and proper that special recognition be given to school library programs and the role of certified school librarians in education throughout the state of New Jersey; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education recognize April 2012 as School Library Month in New Jersey.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

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, the following school districts recommended by the Commissioner, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-14a and b.

Certified School District	County
Atlantic City	Atlantic
Bound Brook	Somerset

***C. New K-5 Praxis Tests and Respective Cut Scores Resolution**

- Adopted the new tests and recommended qualifying scores for the K-5 Praxis tests required for initial New Jersey teacher licensure pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9-8.1(a)6.

**A RESOLUTION
ADOPTING NEW PRAXIS II TESTS AND QUALIFYING SCORES
FOR TEACHER OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADES K-5**

WHEREAS, the 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 State Board of Education has required tests for the endorsement for Teacher of Elementary School Grades K-5 in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:9-8.1; and

WHEREAS, the Educational Testing Service (ETS) has recently established a new test for this endorsement to replace the current Praxis II Subject Assessment test that is used by the department; and

WHEREAS, the new test for this endorsement consists of four separately scored subtests assessing content knowledge in reading and language arts, mathematics, social studies, and science for elementary school teachers; and

WHEREAS, the department has participated in national standard-setting studies for the K-5 test to determine the validity of and the theoretically appropriate qualifying scores for the subtests; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education approves the department's selection of the respective Praxis II test and initial subtest qualifying scores for the K-5 endorsement; 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 State Board of Education hereby supports the department's selection of this Praxis II Subject Assessment test; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education hereby acknowledges and accepts the department's establishment of the following subtest qualifying scores effective September 1, 2012:

Praxis II Test	Qualifying Score
Teacher of Elementary School Grades K-5	
Reading and Language Arts Subtest	165
Mathematics Subtest	164
Social Studies Subtest	155
Science Subtest	159

WORK SESSION

There was no work session.

NEW BUSINESS

President Aponte stated that the State Board would be recognizing students from 10 counties within the state at a special meeting of the State Board of Education on May 16, 2012.

President Aponte stated that the State Board will be holding a State Board meeting at an alternate location in June. Information regarding this meeting will be announced as soon as the details are finalized.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its April 4, 2012, public meeting at 11:13 a.m.

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