

**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 6, 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
Ms. Edithe Fulton
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Mr. Ilan Plawker
Mr. Peter Simon
Dr. Dorothy Strickland

ABSENT

Mr. Robert Haney
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill

CONVENING

State Board of Education Vice President Ilan Plawker 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 June 6, 2012, was called to order.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice President Plawker 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 June 6, 2012.

RECONVENING

Vice President Plawker 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 ALLEGANCE

INTRODUCTIONS

Acting Commissioner Cerf acknowledged Ms. Monica Tone, Manager of the Executive County Superintendent, Hudson County.

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 2, 2012 as amended below.

CONVENING

State Board of Education [President Arcelio Aponte] Vice President Ilan Plawker 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.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

[President Aponte] Vice President Plawker then read the resolution pertaining to the executive session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the Open Public Meetings Act.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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 Claire Chamberlain were also on the committee.

Public Testimony

Vice President Plawker stated that a public testimony session would be held today at 3:00 p.m. in the first floor conference room. He also stated that topics for the June public testimony session

include Interdistrict Public School Choice amendments and Charter School amendments. He further stated that State Board members Dorothy Strickland, Claire Chamberlain, Jack Fornaro and Joseph Fisicaro would hear public testimony. Vice President Plawker stated that he also intended to participate in today's public testimony session.

Vice President Plawker stated that Public Testimony would not be held on July 11, 2012, however, members of the public should contact the State Board office at 609-984-6024 or through the following website <http://education.state.nj.us/sboe/reg.php> for updates.

Special Meeting of the State Board of Education

Vice President Plawker announced the following the upcoming Special Meeting of the State Board of Education.

June 13, 2012

The State Board of Education will meet on Wednesday, June 13, 2012 from 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm at Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, NJ. The purpose of the meeting will be to receive the annual reports from the Superintendents of the three State Operated School Districts (Newark, Jersey City and Paterson).

Literacy Committee Report

State Board member and Literacy Committee chairperson Dorothy Strickland provided an overview of the work of the committee to date. She stated that the committee looked at the Department's current initiatives and their challenges and drafted some recommendations for the board to consider. The initiatives include Achievement Gap Task Force; Early Childhood Education, Educator Evaluation Pilot, Common Core Standards initiative, PARCC and NJQSAC.

Dr. Strickland stated that the committee expanded on those initial recommendations and proposed to work with the Department to develop a clearly defined, transparent infrastructure for delivering information and professional development related to the initiatives.

Dr. Strickland further stated that as a follow up to the reports and the work that produced them, the committee met with members of the department to discuss what had already been proposed and to share a set of Best Practices for their consideration.

Closing the Achievement Gap Task Force Report

The report was not presented.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Model Curriculum, Professional Development and the Regional Achievement Centers

Penny MacCormack, Chief Academic Officer, provided a presentation that highlighted the ESEA Waiver Principles 1 and 2. Ms. MacCormack also provided information about the work of the Regional Achievement Centers with the Priority and Focus Schools.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

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

A. Appointments

- Approved the following appointments pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-32-35 and N.J.A.C. 6A:2-1.1 et seq.:
 - Evo Popoff as the Chief Innovation Officer, Division of Charter Schools, School Choice, Technology, Turnarounds;
 - Timothy Matheney as the Director Educator Evaluation.

***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
Margate	Atlantic
Alpine	Bergen
Bergen Co. Vocational	Bergen
Carlstadt	Bergen
Leonia	Bergen
Mahwah	Bergen
Montvale	Bergen
Upper Deerfield Twp.	Cumberland
Harrison Township	Gloucester
Clinton-Glen Gardner	Hunterdon
Readington Township	Hunterdon
Tewksbury Township	Hunterdon
West Amwell	Hunterdon
Keyport	Monmouth
Manalapan-Englishtown	Monmouth
Tinton Falls	Monmouth
Rockaway Borough	Morris
Berkeley Township	Ocean
Andover Regional	Sussex
Byram Township	Sussex
Frankford Twp.	Sussex
Green Township	Sussex
Hamburg Borough	Sussex
Highpoint Reg. HS	Sussex
Kittatinny Regional	Sussex
Lafayette Township	Sussex
Newton	Sussex
Stanhope	Sussex
Alpha Borough	Warren
Franklin Township	Warren
Great Meadows Reg.	Warren

Greenwich Township	Warren
Hackettstown	Warren
Mansfield Township	Warren
Warren Co. Vocational	Warren

***C. State Board Calendar of Meeting Dates Resolution**

- Adopted the following resolution establishing the annual calendar of 2012-2013 meeting dates of the State Board of Education set forth in 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 2012-2013 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 2012-2013:

July 11	November 7	March 6
August 1	December 5	April 3 &/or 17**
September 5	January 2 & 16**	May 1
October 3	February 6	June 5

SPECIAL MEETING

State Board of Career & Technical Education – April 17

PUBLIC HEARING SESSIONS 2012-2013:

July 11	November 7	March 6
August 1	December 5	April 3
September 5*	January 2*	May 1*
October 3	February 6	June 5

*Open Topic Sessions

**Publications and Code Review Schedule

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.

***D. Resolution to Amend State Board of Education Public Testimony Procedures**

- Adopted as amended the following resolution changing the current public testimony procedures. State Board member Edythe Fulton opposed.

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC TESTIMONY PROCEDURES**

WHEREAS, The New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes its responsibility as the entity authorized to enact statewide policy governing the supervision and control of public education in this state; and

WHEREAS, within that responsibility, it is the State Board's duty to make its statewide policy enactments subject to comment from the public; and

WHEREAS, a policy implementing public testimony before the State Board was originally adopted on September 2, 1987; and

WHEREAS, the State Board has deemed it necessary to revise its public testimony policy at this time; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the members of the New Jersey State Board of Education amend its public testimony policy to [include] hold public testimony [as part of] immediately upon the conclusion of the regular public business meeting agenda and to limit testimony to two hours; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this policy will take effect beginning with the July 11, 2012 public meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education.

***E. Resolution to Expand the Send/Receive Relationship between the Sea Isle City Board of Education and the Ocean City Board of Education**

- Adopted the following resolution expanding the send/receive relationship between the Sea Isle City Board of Education and the Ocean City Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.

RESOLUTION TO EXPAND THE SEND/RECEIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SEA ISLE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE OCEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-60 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3-3.1, the Commissioner of Education issued a show cause order on April 30, 2012 to the Sea Isle City Board of Education to show cause why the Commissioner should not order the closure of the

district after determining that Sea Isle cannot operate effectively and efficiently to enable students to achieve the Core Curriculum Content Standards (CCCS); and (2) that Sea Isle and the Ocean City Board of Education show cause why the Commissioner should not recommend to the State Board that it order Ocean City to expand the send/receive relationship with Sea Isle pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8; and

WHEREAS, the Sea Isle City Board of Education adopted a resolution dated May 1, 2012 stating that they do not object and shall not oppose the closure of Sea Isle City School District; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean City Board of Education adopted a resolution dated May 1, 2012 stating they do not object and shall not oppose the recommendation to the State Board to expand the send/receive relationship with Sea Isle pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner issued an order on May 7, 2012 and effective June 30, 2012 to close the Sea Isle City School District that also included a recommendation to the State Board of Education to expand the current send/receive relationship between Sea Isle City and Ocean City School Districts to include kindergarten through third grade; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education considered the Commissioner's decision and orders the expansion of the send/receive relationship between Ocean City and Sea Isle City to include grades kindergarten through third grade pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8 starting in the 2012-2013 school year.

***F. Resolution to Accept Donated Funds**

- Adopted the following resolution approving the acceptance of \$200,000 in donated funds.

APPROVAL OF DONATED FUNDS

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:4-26 requires the approval of the New Jersey State Board of Education in order for the acting Commissioner of Education to accept donated funds; and

WHEREAS, the shared goal of the Department and State Board of Education is to ensure that all children, regardless of life circumstances, graduate from high school college and career ready; and

WHEREAS, the Department is pursuing a comprehensive education reform agenda aimed at supporting our struggling schools and addressing the State's persistent achievement gap; and

WHEREAS, innovation is a central pillar of the Department's education reform agenda; and

WHEREAS, development of innovative models to support New Jersey's struggling schools requires further research and analysis of promising models across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education is the recipient of \$200,000 in grant funds from Startup: Education to utilize the services of a development professional to attract additional support for the Department’s innovation agenda and to support travel and other expenses associated with research to identify, analyze, and recruit potential turnaround partners and innovative school solutions to support our most struggling schools; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education approves the acceptance of the donated funds for the aforementioned specific purposes.

***G. Resolution to Accept Donated Funds**

- Adopted the following resolution approving the acceptance of \$430,000 in donated funds.

APPROVAL OF DONATED FUNDS

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:4-26 requires the approval of the New Jersey State Board of Education in order for the acting Commissioner of Education to accept donated funds; and

WHEREAS, the shared goal of the Department and State Board of Education is to ensure that all children, regardless of life circumstances, graduate from high school college and career ready; and

WHEREAS, the Department is pursuing a comprehensive education reform agenda aimed at supporting our struggling schools and addressing the State’s persistent achievement gap; and

WHEREAS, the Department’s Regional Achievement Centers will work directly with our State’s most struggling schools to implement proven turnaround principles such as improving school climate and culture and the quality of instruction; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Charter Schools continues to build upon best practices in approving and renewing charters in order to ensure that all charter schools offer excellent educational opportunities to students; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education is the recipient of grant funds in the following amounts from The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation:

- \$290,000 – *to provide world class training in the eight proven turnaround principles to Regional Achievement Center staff and leadership in Priority and Focus Schools.*
- \$140,000 – *to retain consultation and assistance in the continued improvement of the renewal and approval processes of the Office of Charter Schools.*

WHEREAS, the grant funds will accelerate the Department’s work to support our most struggling schools and improve the quality of the State’s charter schools; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education approves the acceptance of the donated funds for the aforementioned specific purposes.

***H. New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum**

- Approved for publication in the New Jersey Register the amendments to the NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum regulations at N.J.A.C. 6A:30 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7-3 et seq and the US Department of Education Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver.

I. Interdistrict Public School Choice

- Discussed the amendments pertaining to school choice proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:12, pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:36B-1 et seq.

J. Charter Schools

- Discussed the amendments pertaining to Charter Schools proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:11, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-1 et seq., specifically N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-18.

WORK SESSION

There was no work session.

NEW BUSINESS

President Aponte provided a second reminder about the upcoming Special Meeting of the State Board of Education on Wednesday, June 13, 2012 at Liberty Science Center in Jersey City, NJ.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its June 6, 2012, public meeting at 12:43 pm.

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