

**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**

September 11, 2013

Presiding: Arcelio Aponte, President

Secretary: Christopher D. Cerf, Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

Dr. Ronald Butcher
Mr. Mark Beidron
Ms. Claire Chamberlain
Mr. Joseph Fisicaro
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Ms. Edithe Fulton
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Dr. Dorothy Strickland
Mr. Peter Simon-via teleconference

ABSENT

Mr. Robert Haney
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 September 11, 2013, 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 September 11, 2013.

RECONVENING

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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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 August 7, 2013. State Board members Claire Chamberlain, Mark Biedron and Ernie Lepore abstained. On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board members unanimously approved the minutes of the public meeting conducted on August 26, 2013.

INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioner Cerf recognized Mr. Scott Rixford, Interim Executive County Superintendent of Schools (Bergen and Passaic Counties) who represented the county superintendents.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Resolutions in honor of Mr. Ilan Plawker

State Board of Education Resolution

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board members unanimously approved the following resolution in honor of State Board Vice President Ilan Plawker who passed away on July 11, 2013. President Aponte and Commissioner Cerf presented a framed resolution and official State Board portrait of Mr. Plawker to his wife Terry and their sons Adam, Mark and Roger.

Resolution in honor of Ilan Plawker

WHEREAS, Mr. Ilan Plawker served with distinction as a member of the New Jersey State Board of Education from February 2009 through July 2013 and is being honored posthumously for his distinguished tenure of service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Plawker served under two governors and four commissioners and was selected by the State Board of Education membership to serve as vice president for three years; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as vice president, Mr. Plawker was a vocal supporter of innovative educational reform initiatives such as teacher evaluation, tenure restructuring and the adoption of the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and mathematics, and advocated to ensure the integrity of these programs for the students of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Plawker strongly believed in the State Board of Education's role and responsibility in the development of education policy and consistently maintained a presence at meetings of the General Assembly and Senate education committees; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Plawker, faithfully gave of his time to serve as the Northeast Area Director for the National Association of State Boards of Education's Board of Directors, to which he contributed guidance and practical insight; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education and the education community hold Mr. Plawker in high regard for his ability to analyze educational policy and issues and to express his concerns regarding their effects on all of New Jersey's children; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education recognize Mr. Plawker's many accomplishments and appreciate his qualities as an astute, forward-looking policymaker, strategic thinker and advocate for children and educators, as well as his personal qualities of warmth, humor and unwavering optimism; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, it is both fitting and proper that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education extend their sincerest gratitude to Mr. Plawker's family for his leadership and steadfast commitment to the children of New Jersey through his service on the State Board of Education; and be it further

RESOLVED, the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education hereby honor Mr. Ilan Plawker for devoting his time and energy to the State Board and to the oversight of public education in New Jersey and extend their deepest condolences to his entire family.

National Association of State Board's of Education Resolution (NASBE)

President Aponte and Commissioner Cerf also presented the following resolution to Mr. Plawker's family signed by Patrick A. Guida, the president of the National Association of State Board's of Education celebrating the life of Ilan Plawker.

Celebrating the Life of Ilan Plawker

WHEREAS, Ilan Plawker, a member of the New Jersey State Board of Education and the board of directors of the National Association of State Boards of Education, passed away on July 11, 2013; and

WHEREAS, born in Israel in 1935, Plawker grew up in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, N.Y. and enlisted in the Marine Corps at age 17; and,

WHEREAS, a successful business leader, Ilan Plawker served on his community's board of education and on its borough council; and,

WHEREAS, appointed to the New Jersey State Board of Education in 2009 by Governor Jon Corzine, Plawker was, in the words of New Jersey Education Commissioner Christopher Cerf, "wholly committed to making sure that every child receives a high-quality education"; and,

WHEREAS, a strong advocate of vocational education, Plawker constantly looked for ways to help New Jersey students pursue college and careers; and

WHEREAS, an advocate for all New Jersey's children, he worked to close achievement gaps among students from different income and racial groups; and,

WHEREAS, optimistic by nature, Plawker devoted many hours to visiting classrooms; and,

WHEREAS, an active member of the National Association of State Boards of Education, Ilan Plawker was elected to the NASBE Board of Directors in 2011 and was a regular and valuable contributor to that body; and

WHEREAS, respected by his colleagues, he was reelected as vice president of the New Jersey State Board of Education the day before his passing; and

WHEREAS, a loving family man, Ilan Plawker is survived by his wife, three sons, a sister and seven grandchildren; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the National Association of State Boards of Education, that the NASBE Board of Directors mourn the passing of an education policy leader and advocate for children, Ilan Plawker; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Executive Secretary of the National Association of State Boards of Education prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Ilan Plawker as an expression of the Board of Directors' deep affection and respect for his memory.

Permanent Student Representative

President Aponte introduced Caitlin Slate the 2013-2014 the permanent student representative to the State Board of Education who introduced herself to the State Board. He also recognized Ms. Christine Henry, the student council advisor.

Public Testimony

President Aponte stated that public testimony would be held following today's monthly public business meeting. He also stated that the Professional Licensure and Standards, mentoring and certification amendments are on the schedule and that today's public testimony session is an Open Topic public testimony opportunity. He further stated that Open Topic means that members of the public may provide comment on any educational topic of their choice.

President Aponte stated that the Professional Licensure and Standards (Teacher Preparation) regulations are scheduled for proposal level public testimony on October 2, 2013. He also stated that registration for the October 2, 2013 public testimony session would open on Friday, September 13, 2013 and end at noon on Friday, September 27, 2013.

President Aponte stated that members of the public should contact the State Board office at 609-984-6024 or check the following website <http://education.state.nj.us/sboe/reg.php> for updates.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Camden Update

Justin Barra, Chief Policy and External Affairs Officer, provided an update on the work completed by the Department in the Camden School District since the State assumed control of the school district. In addition to hiring Paymon Rouhanifard as superintendent, the State has made immediate, positive changes in the following areas: curriculum, staffing, text books, technology, security, re-enrolling dropouts and student meal offerings.

The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Update

Bari Erlichson, Chief Performance Officer, provided an update of the ongoing work of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and the State's involvement in the development of standardized assessments aligned to the Common Core State Standards. In July, PARCC adopted a manual outlining how accommodations will be made so all students can take the new assessments.

PARCC also released five performance-level descriptors, which define achievement levels for each grade level and end-of-course assessment. The Department also has issued its first request for proposal related to the technology aspect of PARCC. A technical program review funded by the Race to the Top Assessment Grant was conducted and it was determined that the test items and test packages are of very

high quality. The consortium also released new sample items and plans to post online in November all of its sample items and provide practice exams in the spring. Finally, New Jersey will be participating in extensive field testing of the PARCC exams in the current school year and has just issued invitations to schools asking them to voluntarily participate in the field testing.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

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

***A. Appointment**

- 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
Fort Lee	Bergen
Rutherford	Bergen
Burlington Co. Special Serv.	Burlington
Black Horse Pike Regional	Camden
Haddon Township	Camden
Woodbury Heights	Gloucester
Marlboro Township	Monmouth
Rumson Borough	Monmouth
Shrewsbury	Monmouth
Bloomingtondale	Passaic
Lakeland Regional HS	Passaic
Ringwood	Passaic
Hardyston	Sussex
Elizabeth	Union

***C. Career and Technical Education Programs and Standards**

- Adopted the amendments to the regulations pertaining to career and technical education proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:19, Career and Technical Education Programs and Standards pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §§ 2301 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15.

***D. Student Transportation**

- Adopted the amendments to the regulations pertaining to student transportation proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:27, Student Transportation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:39-21.

***E. TEACH NJ**

- Adopted the amendments to the regulations pertaining to educator evaluation and tenure charges proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:10 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3-5, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15 and P.L. 2012, c. 26.

F. Professional Licensure and Standards

- Discussed the regulations pertaining to mentoring and certification of staff proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:9, Professional Licensure and Standards pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1, 18A:4-15, 18A:6-34, 18A:6-38, 18A:36-10 and 18A:26-2.7.

ELECTION OF STATE BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board members elected Joseph Fisicaro as State Board Vice President for a one-year term.

Mr. Fisicaro expressed his gratitude to the members of the State Board for electing him vice president.

WORK SESSION

There was no work session.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its September 11, 2013, public meeting at 12:15 p.m.

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