

**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**

November 5, 2014

Presiding: Mr. Mark W. Biedron, President

Secretary: David C. Hespe, Acting Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

Mr. Arcelio Aponte
Mr. Joseph Fisicaro
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill
Mr. Peter Simon

ABSENT

Dr. Ronald Butcher
Ms. Claire Chamberlain
Ms. Edithe Fulton
Dr. Dorothy Strickland

CONVENING

State Board of Education President Mark W. Biedron 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 November 5, 2014, was called to order.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Biedron 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 November 5, 2014.

RECONVENING

President Biedron reconvened the open meeting at 10:15 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 unanimously approved the minutes of the public meeting conducted on October 1, 2014. State Board members Arcelio Aponte and Andrew Mulvihill abstained.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Public Testimony

President Biedron stated that public testimony would not be held following today's monthly public business meeting because no one signed up to testify. He also stated that public testimony would not be held on December 3, 2014 because there are no topics on the schedule.

President Biedron 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.

Permanent Student Representative

President Biedron introduced Russell Bauer, the student representative for the 2014-2015 school year, and his advisor in attendance, Ms. Laura Hoy. Russell spoke to the State Board members about Seneca High School's Safe Trick or Treat Program.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

State Operated School District of Newark Annual Report

Acting Commissioner Hesper introduced Ms. Cami Anderson, Superintendent, Newark City Public Schools who provided her annual report to the State Board. Ms. Anderson's updated the State Board on the status of student achievement, facilities and operations of the district. Ms. Anderson highlighted key accomplishments that have occurred during her tenure from 2011-2014. Specifically, Ms. Anderson spoke about the core challenges the district faces such as chronic low performance in the district K-8 schools; declining enrollment in the traditional public school system due to charter school growth; a declining budget and poor school facility conditions and lack of funds necessary to bring the school facilities up to 21st century standards.

Ms. Anderson also spoke about what she believes are the 5 essential ingredients for success: an established mission and vision; transformational school leaders; excellent teachers; safe buildings with flexible resources and excited families. Ms. Anderson further spoke about her current work in the following areas: the implementation of One Newark; the SUCCESS

Framework; Universal Enrollment and the focus on increasing equity and options; increasing PreK enrollment and quality; retaining more high school students and increasing results and raising student achievement so all children are college and career ready.

2014 Student Performance

Bari Erlichson, Chief Performance Officer presented to the State Board of Education the results of the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJASK) and the High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) for the 2013-14 school year. She stated that this is the final year of the assessments, as New Jersey transitions to the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers, or the PARCC assessments. She also stated that statewide performance results remained relatively constant on both the NJASK and HSPA this year, with only slight increases or decreases from the results seen in 2013.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

**Items scheduled for a vote are marked with an asterisk.*

***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
Lawrence Township	Cumberland
Elsinboro Township	Salem

***C. Charter Schools**

- Adopted the amendments of the rules pertaining to charter schools, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-18.

WORK SESSION

There was no work session.

NEW BUSINESS

President Biedron stated that State Board would receive an in depth report on PARCC and a report on what the Department is doing to assist school districts that are not meeting the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) benchmarks at the December meeting. He also stated that in January the State Board would receive an in depth report on NJQSAC. He further inquired about the status of the School Security Task Force.

Vice President Fiscaro congratulated New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) on their 100th anniversary and thanked them for the invitation to their annual workshop.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its November 5, 2014, public meeting at 12:43 p.m.

David C. Hesse, Acting Commissioner
Acting Secretary, State Board of Education