

**New Jersey State Board of Education
Meeting Notes
100 River View Executive Plaza
Trenton, NJ**

October 3, 2007

Presiding: Ronald K. Butcher, President

Secretary: Lucille E. Davy, Commissioner

PRESENT NOT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

Ms. Debra Casha
Ms. Maud Dahme
Ms. Kathleen A. Dietz
Ms. Edithe Fulton

ABSENT

Mr. Arcelio Aponte
Ms. Josephine E. Hernandez
Dr. Arnold G. Hyndman
Rev. Frederick LaGarde, Jr.
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Mr. Kenneth Parker
Dr. Thelma Napoleon-Smith

CONVENING

Ronald K. Butcher, president, State Board of Education, convened the public meeting with the reading of part of the resolution pertaining to the public session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the Open Public Meetings Act.

President Butcher stated that since the State Board did not have a quorum for the meeting only non-action items would be considered.

STUDENT SPEAKERS

Kayla Stoll, the 2007 State Board student representative and a junior from High Point Regional High School (Sussex County), offered congratulatory remarks to Ms. Maud Dahme on her retirement from the State Board on behalf of the New Jersey Association of Student Councils.

INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioner Davy recognized Patrick Piegari, Middlesex County Superintendent of Schools, who represented the county superintendents. Dr. Piegari has served in this position since November 2002.

Student Recognition Program

The State Board recognized Eleidie Torres, Raritan Valley Academy, (Middlesex County) as a part of its monthly recognition program designed to honor a student or a group of students who have made a significant contribution to school, community, family or other groups. The State Board recognized Eleidie for her achievements.

On behalf of the State Board, President Butcher congratulated Eleidie on her achievements.

PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

October Work Session and Public Testimony Session

President Butcher stated that the October work session will be held on October 17, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at the Department of Education. He stated that the items for discussion will be the World Language Assessment, the National Assessment of Educational Progress Results (NAEP) and an update on the Strategic Plan.

President Butcher also stated that the October public testimony session will be held on October 17, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. The topics for consideration will be the State Technology Plan and amendments to *NJAC 6A:9*, Professional Licensure and Standards. Additionally, he stated that the October 17 public testimony session will be an open topic session.

Resolution Honoring Maud Dahme

State Board member Debra Casha read a resolution to honor Ms. Maud Dahme for her years of service to the State Board. Ms. Dahme has been a State Board member for 24 years.

The State Board intends to approve the resolution at its October 17, 2007 meeting.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

New Jersey Teacher of the Year

Commissioner Davy stated that John Kline, a seventh and eighth grade social studies teacher at the Norwood Public School in Bergen County, was named the 2007-08 New Jersey State Teacher of the Year. Commissioner Davy also stated that as State Teacher of the Year, Mr. Kline will receive a half-year sabbatical, sponsored by the Educational Testing Service, and a new car provided by the New Jersey Education Association and the Saturn Retailers of New Jersey. Commissioner Davy further stated that the 2007-2008 State Teacher of the Year was selected from the list of County Teachers of the Year.

New Jersey Principals of the Year

Commissioner Davy stated that two principals were named Principals of the Year: Mr. James Kelly of the School District of the Chathams and Mr. John Sarcone of the Hackettstown School District. She further stated that each principal will receive a \$1,000 personal award from the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association and a \$5,000 award that may be used to leverage school-based improvements or to support professional development opportunities for the recipient or other district staff members.

On behalf of the State Board of Education, President Butcher congratulated the Teacher of the Year and the Principals of the Year.

New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC)

Commissioner Davy stated that the department continues to implement the new monitoring process for school districts. She also stated that self-assessments are underway in school districts in several counties. She further stated that many of the school districts that went through monitoring this past summer are in the process of developing district improvement plans.

Commissioner Davy stated that she has recently filed regulations governing NJQSAC implementation with the Office of Administrative Law to readopt with amendments the rules at NJAC 6A:30, Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts. She also stated that the statute requires that regulations or amendments to this chapter be promulgated through the Administrative Procedures Act for the next two years.

Englewood Report

Commissioner Davy introduced the interim report to update the State Board on the degree of progress made by the Englewood School District since her February 2007 report. President Butcher requested that this report be held for discussion until the November 7, 2007 meeting.

Clearing Hurdles to Shared Services, Overriding Waste in Schools, Reining in Abuses, and Empowering Citizens (CORE) Bill Update

Commissioner Davy stated that she would file regulations to implement the CORE legislation based on the criteria for promulgating the rules as established in the law in conjunction with the State Board and other education stakeholders.

NEW BUSINESS

President Ronald Butcher stated that the State Board has received notice from the Governor's office that its members can attend the upcoming annual convention of the New Jersey Education Association but that travel expenses and overnight accommodations will not be reimbursed. He also stated that details have not been finalized for State Board members to attend the annual New Jersey School Board's Association conference. He further stated that State Board members should consider this information and respond to him with their thoughts. State Board member Kathleen Dietz stated that she objected to these limitations. State Board member Debra Casha stated that she was concerned with the timeliness of the response from the Governor's office. She stated that she is invited to attend a Science convention on October 9, 2007 and has not yet received information regarding approval.

Ms. Casha requested that the report entitled *New Jersey's Special Review Assessment: Loophole or Lifeline?* prepared by researchers from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, New Jersey's Education Law Center, the Institute on Education Law and Policy at Rutgers, Newark and Newark's Project GRAD be made accessible to all State Board members.

State Board member Maud Dahme requested that the report entitled *Within Our Power, The Progress, Plight and Promise of Arts Education for Every Child*, a comprehensive report on arts education in every New Jersey public school prepared by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, New Jersey State Department of Education, The Geraldine R. Dodge

Foundation, Music for All and the Playwrights Theatre of New Jersey be made available to all State Board members.

CONCLUSION

This meeting concluded at 11:45 a.m.

Lucille E. Davy, Commissioner
Secretary, State Board of Education