

**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**

March 2, 2016

Presiding: Mark Biedron, President

Secretary: David C. Hespe, Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

Mr. Arcelio Aponte
Dr. Ronald Butcher - via teleconference
Mr. Joseph Fisicaro
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Ms. Edithe Fulton
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Mr. Peter Simon
Dr. Dorothy Strickland

ABSENT

Mr. Andrew Mulvihill

CONVENING

State Board of Education President Mark 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 March 2, 2016, 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 March 2, 2016.

RECONVENING

President Biedron reconvened the open meeting at 10 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 February 10, 2016.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Public Testimony

President Biedron stated public testimony would not be held after the meeting as there are no topics scheduled.

President Biedron also stated public testimony would not be held after the April 6, 2016, State Board meeting because there are no topics scheduled.

Regional Public Testimony

President Biedron stated the State Board will be hosting the last of three regional testimony sessions on the draft revisions to the academic standards in English language arts and mathematics. He stated the southern session will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2016, at 10 a.m. in the Dennis Flyer Theatre at Camden County College in Blackwood. President Biedron also stated the central session was held at the department after the February 10, 2016, meeting and the northern session was on February 22, 2016, at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy.

President Biedron stated that anyone interested in speaking at or also attending any public testimony session(s) must register so the State Board staff can make proper arrangements for space. He also 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 welcomed Alexis Bailey, the 2015-2016 permanent student representative to the State Board of Education. Alexis is a senior from Bayonne High School in Hudson County. President Biedron also introduced Alexis's advisor, Ms. Kerry Toomey.

Alexis spoke to the State Board about the importance of civics education in schools and civic engagement by students.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

State Operated School District of Newark Update

Commissioner Hespe introduced Newark Public Schools Superintendent Christopher Cerf, who provided the State Board with status report on the school district. Superintendent Cerf provided an update on the school district's finances, academics and efforts to increase parent and community engagement. The presentation can be found at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/sboe/meetings/2016/March/public/Newark%20Update.pdf>.

Anti-Bullying Task Force

Commissioner Hespe introduced Dr. Patricia Wright, chairperson of the N.J. Anti-Bullying Task Force. Dr. Wright provided an update to the State Board regarding the work of the task force, its final report, and the recommendations for Administrative Code amendments. The presentation can be found at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/sboe/meetings/2016/March/public/Anti-bullying%20Task%20Force%20Update.pdf>.

Future Ready Schools NJ

Chief Innovation and Intervention Officer Evo Popoff and Larry Coco, director of the Office of Educational Technology, presented on the Future Ready Schools NJ partnership between the Department, the N.J. School Boards Association (NJSBA) and the N.J. Institute of Technology (NJIT). Dr. Lawrence Feinsod, executive director of NJSBA, and Dr. Joel Bloom, president of NJIT, also spoke about their involvement in the program, which was launched to support schools as they make the transition to a digital future. The presentation can be found at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/sboe/meetings/2016/March/public/Future%20Ready%20Schools%20NJ.pdf>.

Every Student Succeeds Act Overview

Deputy Commissioner Peter Shulman and Deputy Chief Talent and Performance Officer Jill Hulnick provided an overview of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), expected timelines for its implementation and its implications for New Jersey. The presentation can be found at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/sboe/meetings/2016/March/public/ESSA%20Overview.pdf>.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

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

***A. Appointment(s)**

- 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-14.a and b:

Certified School District	County
Madison	Morris
Watchung Borough	Somerset

***C. Managing for Equality and Equity in Education**

- Adopted the readoption with amendments to the regulations pertaining to equality and equity in education, proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:7, Managing for Equality and Equity in Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-20.

***D. Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission Name Change Request**

- Adopted the following resolution approving the recommendation pertaining to the request from the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission for a name change, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-61.

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING A NAME CHANGE
FOR THE MIDDLESEX REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education approved the establishment of the Middlesex County Educational Services Commission in December 1977, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-52, to provide educational and administrative services and programs to member school district boards of education; and;

WHEREAS, the Middlesex County Educational Services Commission was approved to provide services to nonpublic schools, cooperative transportation to out-of-district schools, cooperative purchasing, adult education, summer school, computer services, specialized consultants, printing and duplicating services, equipment maintenance services, and other specialized services; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-69, the State Board of Education approved an enlargement of purpose for the Middlesex County Educational Services Commission in December 1991, which permitted the provision of nursing services to nonpublic schools; and subsequently resulted in the approval of a name change by the State Board of Education on August 17, 2005 to the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission, and

WHEREAS, at the present time, the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission is providing services to over eight hundred (800) entities, individuals, school districts, colleges, county colleges, and municipalities in all twenty-one (21) counties throughout the State of New Jersey; and therefore requested and received approval from the State Board of Education on June 3, 2015 to expand its areas of service beyond those identified in its original petition to better identify and authorize the scope of services it now provides to its clientele; and

WHEREAS, those services provided by the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission will continue to supplement and not supplant services offered by other Educational Services Commissions; and

WHEREAS, the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission has agreed to expand its membership, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-53 to include representation that reflects the programmatic depth and geographic reach of the approved purpose; and

WHEREAS, and the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission is requesting that the State Board of Education approve a name change to The Educational Services Commission of New Jersey, to more accurately reflect the clientele served by the Commission; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-61, the State Board of Education grants approval to the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission to change its name to The Educational Services Commission of New Jersey.

***E. School Ethics Commission**

- Approved for publication in the New Jersey Register the readoption without amendments to the regulations pertaining to school ethics proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:28, School Ethics Commission, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15 and 18A:12-34.

F. Religious Holidays Calendar

- Discussed the resolution pertaining to the annual calendar of religious holidays for the 2016-2017 school year as established at N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3(j), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14 through 16.

WORK SESSION

There was no work session.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice President Fiscaro said he attended two recent events and received feedback from educators, administrators and parents. Vice President Fiscaro said he attended the February 18, 2016, dinner of the Gloucester County Education Association and the February, 23, 2016, meeting of the Camden City School District Board of Education at the KIPP Cooper Norcross Academy.

State Board member Edithe Fulton had additional questions regarding the rulemaking for chapter 7, Managing for Equality and Equity in Education.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its March 2, 2016, public meeting at 12:17 p.m.

David C. Hesper, Commissioner
Secretary, State Board of Education