

**New Jersey State Board of Education  
Minutes of the Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education  
In the Conference Room on the First Floor  
100 River View Executive Plaza  
Trenton, NJ**

**October 5, 2016**

**Presiding:** Mark W. Biedron, President

**Secretary:** Kimberley Harrington, Acting Commissioner

**PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM**

**ABSENT**

Mr. Arcelio Aponte  
Dr. Ronald Butcher  
Mr. Joseph Fisicaro  
Mr. Jack Fornaro  
Ms. Edithe Fulton  
Dr. Ernest Lepore  
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill  
Mr. Peter Simon

**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 October 5, 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 October 5, 2016.

**RECONVENING**

President Biedron reconvened the open meeting at 10:05 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 September 7, 2016.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

#### **Public Testimony**

President Biedron stated public testimony would be held at 2 pm following the October 5, 2016 meeting. He also stated that the topics for the October public testimony session are the amendments to the Fiscal Accountability, Efficiency and Budgeting Procedures (subchapter 16-22) regulations, Educator Effectiveness and Professional Development regulations and the Programs to Support Student Development regulations and the ESEA Unsafe School Choice Option Policy.

President Biedron stated public testimony would be held at 2 pm following the November 2, 2016 meeting. He also stated that the topics for the November 2 public testimony session are the amendments to the Charter School regulations, Interdistrict Public School Choice regulations, the Student Residency regulations and the Student Transportation regulations. He further stated that registration for the November 2, 2016 public testimony session would open on Thursday, October 13, 2016 and close on Thursday, October 27, 2016.

President Biedron stated that anyone interested in speaking at or also attending the public testimony session 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.

#### **National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Elections**

President Biedron stated that elections for the NASBE Board of Directors for the 2016-2017 year including President-Elect and Area Directors will take place at the annual conference in Kansas in October. He also stated that state board member Ronald K. Butcher would serve as NJ's delegate this year. He further stated that the NJ State Board of Education needs to submit its choice for President-Elect and Northeast Area Director. The NJ State Board of Education supported Mr. John R. Kelly (Mississippi) as President-Elect and Ms. Martha Harris (Maine) as Northeast Area Director.

#### **Permanent Student Representative**

President Biedron welcomed Ava Rybicki the 2016-2017 permanent student representative to the State Board of Education. Ava Rybicki is a junior from Williamstown High School in Gloucester County. President Biedron also introduced Ava's father, Mr. Sebastian Rybicki. Ava followed up on her presentation from the September 7, 2016 meeting about student stress and provided some recommendations to alleviate student stress in schools for the State Board's consideration.

#### **New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) / United States Army Partnership**

Dr. Larry Feinsod, Executive Director, NJ School Boards Association and Colonel Edward Croot, Battalion Commander, Mid-Atlantic Recruiting Battalion for the United States Army provided an

overview of the partnership they have formed to enhance students' success, career readiness and iSTEAM awareness.

### **Strategic Plan Update**

President Biedron stated that the Strategic Planning Committee consisting of State Board members and Department senior staff continue to work on the draft Strategic Plan. He also stated that over the summer the committee convened and received input on the plan from numerous stakeholders. He further stated that in November, the committee will convene to finalize the draft.

President Biedron stated that the draft Strategic Plan will be presented to all board members in January, followed by opportunities for stakeholders to comment. He also stated that he planned to bring the final plan to the State Board for approval in April.

### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

#### **Presentation of the 2016-2017 New Jersey Teacher of the Year**

Kristen Brown, Chief Talent Officer introduced Mrs. Argine Safari, a high school music teacher from Bergen County, as the 2016-2017 New Jersey State Teacher of the Year. She stated that Mrs. Safari has been a teacher in the Pascack Valley Regional High School District since 2005.

Representatives from the following organizations and companies presented Mrs. Safari with these items: New Jersey Education Association - a one-year lease on a new car and a \$500 clothing allowance and a gold ring; and Educational Testing Service - a half-year sabbatical.

#### **Human Trafficking Awareness Collaborative**

Nancy Curry, Director, Office of Student Support Services, James Halfpenny, Atlantic County Human Services, and Dawn Roan, Department of children and Families provided a presentation on the Human Trafficking Awareness Collaborative underway in New Jersey.

### **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 district(s) recommended by the Commissioner, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-14a and b.

<b>Certified School District</b>	<b>County</b>
Carlstadt-East Rutherford	Bergen
Harrington Park	Bergen
New Milford	Bergen
Park Ridge	Bergen
South Hackensack	Bergen
Wildwood Crest	Cape May

**\*C. Regulatory Flexibility and Relief Package**

- Approved for publication in the New Jersey Register the amendments to N.J.A.C. 6A:3, 6A:9, 6A:11, 6A:32, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15.

**D. Fiscal Accountability, Efficiency and Budgeting Procedures**

- Discussed the reoption with technical amendments of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16 through 22, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-12 and N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15.

**E. Interdistrict Public School Choice**

- Discussed the sunset reoption without amendments to the regulations pertaining to school choice proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:12, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36B-14 through 24 and N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15. The State Board members in attendance agreed to move this rulemaking to Proposal Level in November.

**F. Student Residency**

- Discussed the sunset reoption with amendments proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:22, Student Residency, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1. The State Board members in attendance agreed to move this rulemaking to Proposal Level in November.

**G. Charter Schools**

- Discussed the amendments to the regulations pertaining to charter schools, proposed at N.J.A.C. 6A:11, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-18.

**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 October 5, 2016, public meeting at 1:05 p.m.

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Kimberley Harrington, Acting Commissioner  
Acting Secretary, State Board of Education