

Discussion Resolution July 10, 2024

Resolution to Amend State Board of Education Public Comment and Open Topic Public Testimony Procedures

Whereas, the New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes its responsibility as the entity authorized to enact statewide policy governing the supervision and control of public education in this State; and

Whereas, within that responsibility, it is the State Board's duty to make its statewide policy enactments, including those pertaining to rulemaking, subject to comment from the public; and

Whereas, the Administrative Procedure Act requires that the State Board receive public comment on a rulemaking during the formal comment period; and

Whereas, in addition to accepting written public comment on rulemaking, the State Board previously established a process for accepting oral public comment on rulemaking from the public; and

Whereas, the State Board also has established a process for scheduling three open topic public testimony opportunities each year; and

Whereas, that policy implementing a process to allow for oral public comment on rulemaking and to schedule separate open topic public testimony sessions before the State Board was originally adopted on September 2, 1987; and revised on June 6, 2012, and March 6, 2013; and

Whereas, the State Board has currently deemed it necessary to reconsider its policy for oral public comment on rulemaking and open topic public testimony sessions; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the members of the New Jersey State Board of Education amend its oral public comment and open topic public testimony procedures policy so that it may begin an estimated 30 minutes following the conclusion of the regular public business meeting agenda rather than at 2:00 pm; and be it further

Resolved, that the members of the New Jersey State Board of Education further amend its oral public comment and open topic public testimony procedures policy and remove the previously established two-hour time limit; and be it further

Resolved, that this policy will take effect immediately beginning with the first public testimony session following adoption of this resolution.

Kathy Goldenberg, President N. J. State Board of Education