

# SCHOOL BOARD notes

## BUDGET WATCH



### Clock Ticks Toward State Budget Deadline

As the July 1 deadline approaches for finalizing New Jersey's fiscal 2007-2008 budget, debate continues to focus on what approach the state should take in providing adequate revenue for programs, including school aid, at the levels recommended by Gov. Jon S. Corzine.

At press time, news reports indicated that the Administration and Legislature might be heading for a show-down over the governor's proposed one-cent sales tax increase. The *Star-Ledger* reported on Tuesday that Corzine ordered his cabinet to prepare for a government shutdown if agreement could not be reached on a new budget before July 1, the start of the new state fiscal year.

While a vote in either house has not

been taken regarding the tax increase, or expanding the sales tax to professional services, the Assembly majority has made it clear where it stands.

In an announcement Monday, Assembly leaders said the governor's proposed sales tax increase would be "unachievable" because of extensive opposition by elected officials.

"The overwhelming expression of sentiment was for leadership to devise a credible list of alternatives to achieve a balanced budget that is respectful of the governor's agenda and pension fund contribution efforts while avoiding a sales tax increase," the Assembly Democrats said in a prepared statement.

Corzine's budget proposal is approximately \$30.9 billion. Proposed school

aid makes up about one-third of that at \$10.4 billion. Salary and benefits for state employees amount to about \$4.5 billion, or nearly 15 percent of the governor's recommended budget. 🍏

#### New Members Learn, Participate and Network



PHOTO BY ROSA CIRIANNI

Jennifer Cassini (second from left), new board member from Great Meadows Regional, asks group leader Tony Schaible of Monmouth Regional a question during NJSBA's New Board Member Orientation Conference earlier this month in Princeton.

The intensive weekend training program gives new board members a solid grounding in school district governance. Policy, school law, ethical dilemmas, curriculum, school finance, labor relations, board-superintendent relations and legislative activity are among the topics addressed. The next two weekend orientation programs will take place July 14-16 and Sept. 15-17. To register call Charlene Hendrix toll free at (888) 886-5722, ext. 5232.

### News 12 NJ Highlights School Leader Award

News 12 New Jersey featured winners of NJSBA's 21st Annual School Leader Award last weekend. The station's news anchor, Bryan Jenkins, interviewed representatives from six of the honored school districts during "12 In Our Schools."

Programs featured on News 12 came from the Brielle, Passaic Valley Regional, Rockaway Borough, Roselle, Woodbridge and Wyckoff school districts. (Other 2006 School Leader Award winners represent

Galloway Township, Perth Amboy and River Vale.)

Founded in 1985, the School Leader Award recognizes New Jersey school districts that improve student learning through unique educational efforts. The awards program is named after NJSBA's bi-monthly magazine, which provides information and research on educational trends and issues to the state's local school leaders. 🍏

## Milestone Awards

For Long-Term Board Service



Harry Delgado, NJSBA vice president for County Activities (left), presents plaques to J. Wilson Hughes of Elk Township (center) and Angelo Natoli of Gateway Regional for serving 30 years on their boards. The presentation took place at the Gloucester Spring Dinner on May 25.



Tom Grites of Absecon (right) receives the NJSBA Milestone Award for 20 years of local school board service. NJSBA Vice President John Bulina (left) presented the award at the Atlantic County School Boards Association spring dinner earlier this month.



Pete Calvo, past president of Gloucester SBA, presents Eileen Abbott of Washington Township with a Milestone Award for serving 20 years on her board.



John Kendall, president of Camden County SBA, presents Joyce A. Miller of Gibbsboro with a Milestone Award for serving 20 years on her board. The award was presented last month at the Camden County Spring Dinner.



Alice P. Moore of Quinton Township (center) is honored for 30 years of service on her local board by John Smith, Salem County SBA president, and Patti Pawling, NJSBA immediate past president. Moore received the award at last month's Salem Spring Dinner.

School Board Notes will feature other Milestone Award Winners in future issues.



John Bulina, NJSBA Vice President for Finance (left), presents Charles Allbee of Evesham Township with a plaque for serving 30 years on his board. The award took place at the Burlington SBA Spring Dinner on May 31.

STATE



UPDATE

### Gun Reporting Requirement

An NJSBA-supported proposal gaining steam would expand reports on violence or vandalism that school districts submit to the state Department of Education.

The state Senate unanimously approved S-246 (Allen, Palaia) in March. The Assembly Education Committee released the bill, along with its Assembly counterpart, A-3109 (Barnes), on June 15. The legislation is in position for a vote by the full Assembly.

The bill requires that districts' annual violence and vandalism reports include information on the number of pupils removed from a school's regular education program pursuant to the 1995 Zero Tolerance for Guns Act and the disposition of those cases by law enforcement or prosecuting agencies.

S-246/A-3109 would also direct the Commissioner of Education to establish a program to recognize successful intervention programs designed to decrease school violence.

### Meningitis Fact Sheet

State Sen. Joseph J. Vitale has proposed a measure that would require the state to give parents of students in grades six through 12 information about meningococcal meningitis.

S-1461 would direct the state commissioners of Education and Health and Senior Services to create a fact sheet about meningitis for distribution to parents at the beginning of the next school year, and in fall 2007.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently recommended that adolescents receive a vaccination for meningitis at ages 11 or 12, or before they enter high school.

Meningitis is a disease usually caused by a viral or bacterial infection with symptoms that typically include high fever, headaches and stiff neck. Other symptoms can include nausea, vomiting, confusion, sleepiness, and discomfort when looking into bright lights. The bacterial form of the disease can be more severe and cause brain damage, hearing loss and learning disabilities, according to the CDC.

The proposal now advances to the full Senate for consideration.

(PHOTOS BY SHARON SEYLER)



# Are You A School Administrator Seeking a New Position?

NJSBA's Superintendent Opportunity and Registry Service (SOARS) may offer the perfect way for you to move a step closer to achieving your goal. When you register in the SOARS search registry for superintendents, you'll receive:

- Direct e-mail notification about all superintendent searches facilitated by NJSBA
- The ability to complete and file a time-saving common application with NJSBA
- An opportunity to choose the searches in which you wish to participate

## Your Privacy is Protected

We will never reveal your name to anyone, or the fact that you are enrolled in our registry, unless you ask us to do so.

## Save Time With One Common Application

SOARS offers an efficient and time-saving approach to conducting your career search. Instead of filling out applications every time you apply for a position, you'll complete one common application to use over and over again. It's that simple!

## Enrollment Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*Subscription Renews Annually on July 1st*

Return with the introductory enrollment fee of \$25.00 to:

**NJSBA, Field Services Department**  
413 West State Street, P.O. Box 909  
Trenton, NJ 08605-0909

## Act Now on Our Limited-Time Offer

NJSBA is pleased to offer a special introductory fee of \$25 to register with SOARS! But hurry, because this great offer won't last forever.

## For More Information Call Your NJSBA Field Service Representative

### **Northern Office (West Caldwell)**

Toll-free 877-294-6416

### **Central Office (Manalapan)**

Toll-free 877-294-6418

### **Southern Office (Voorhees)**

Toll-free 877-294-6417

### **Headquarters – Field Services Department**

Toll Free 1-888-886-5722

Last year, 75 percent of all facilitated superintendent searches were conducted by NJSBA.



### Position Available: Field Service Representative

This position will serve as a consultant to school boards in all aspects of board of education governance by conducting board effectiveness training and by providing consultation on school-community relations, superintendent evaluation and search, strategic planning, marketing, public engagement, and bond referenda.

Must be able to develop and deliver effective presentations, have strong interpersonal and facilitation skills, including the ability to work with groups and individuals. Evening and weekend work required. Bachelor's degree or equivalent work experience, two years experience with local board of education or agency, department, or organization dealing with education. Technological competence required; PowerPoint and Excel preferred.

Minimum salary is \$57,736. We offer excellent benefits including NJ State Health Benefits Plan for active employees, prescription drug, dental, Public Employees' Retirement System.

Established in 1914, the New Jersey School Boards Association advocates the interests of the state's local school districts, trains local school board members, and provides resources for the advancement of public education.

Please send resume *by July 7* to: Kimberly Blum, Manager, Human Resources, New Jersey School Boards Association, 413 W. State St., P.O. Box 909, Trenton, N.J. 08605-0909. Fax: (609) 695-4031; e-mail: [kblum@njsba.org](mailto:kblum@njsba.org).

## CALENDAR

### June 29

- Standards & Assessment Committee Meeting, Manalapan Field Office, 6 p.m.

### July 4

Independence Day, NJSBA closed

### July 14-16

- New Board Member Orientation, Princeton Marriott Hotel and Conference Center at Forrestal, Princeton

For information about county school boards association activities, log on to [www.njsba.org](http://www.njsba.org) and click on the appropriate county association.



Volume XXIX Number 43

June 22, 2006

*School Board Notes is printed on recycled paper using vegetable ink.*

*School Board Notes is published as a weekly supplement to School Leader, the official bimonthly journal of the New Jersey School Boards Association. Mailed to board members, superintendents and school business administrators or affiliated school boards as part of membership dues. Subscriptions may be purchased at the following prices. School Board Notes: members, \$27.50; non-members, \$55; School Leader, members, \$17.50; non-members, \$35.00. Members are all New Jersey school board members and staff of districts in good standing. ©2005*

**Kevin E. Ciak, president**  
**Edwina M. Lee, executive director**  
**SCHOOL BOARD NOTES**  
Frank Belluscio, director of communications  
Rosa Ciriani, contributor  
Adriana DiGiacomantonio, manager, graphic design  
Stacy Pezzola, graphic design

### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION**  
Headquarters: 413 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 909, Trenton, NJ 08605-0909  
Telephone: 1-888-88NJSBA • Web site: [www.njsba.org](http://www.njsba.org)



**PRESORTED**  
**FIRST-CLASS MAIL**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
Trenton, NJ  
Permit No. 1068