413 West State Street • Trenton, NJ 08618 • Telephone: 609.695.7600 • Toll-Free: 888.88NJSBA • Fax: 609.695.0413

NJSBA SPECIAL EDUCATION TASK FORCE 2013-2014

CHAIR: Dr. Gerald Vernotica, Associate Professor, Montclair State University

Lynne E. Crawford, South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education (Essex)

Sheli Dansky, River Edge BOE (Bergen)

Carol Grossi, Superintendent, Hanover Park Regional School District (Morris)

Dr. Leon B. Kaplan, Lawrence Township BOE (Mercer)

Michael Lee, Tabernacle BOE (Burlington)

Irene LeFebvre, Boonton Town BOE (Morris)

Charles T. Miller, East Amwell BOE (Hunterdon)

Valerie Wilson, School Business Administrator, Newark School District (Essex)

EX OFFICIO: John Bulina, President, New Jersey School Boards Association

STAFF: John J. Burns, Esq., Counsel E-mail: jburns@njsba.org

Barbara Deveney, Executive Assistant to General Counsel E-mail: bdeveney@njsba.org

New Jersey School Boards Association

413 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08618

The Task Force thanks officials of the New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs and Division of Finance, for their consultation and assistance.

CHARGE:

The NJSBA Special Education Task Force will review the state's current process for funding and providing special education services, study other states' methods of financing and delivering special education, identify cost-efficient strategies to deliver special education, and explore alternative methods of funding.

As a result of its study, the task force will recommend appropriate additions and/or changes to state and federal statute and regulation, with the goal of reducing special education costs to local school districts without diminishing the quality of needed services, as well as identify strategies New Jersey may wish to implement. The task force may also recommend changes in NJSBA policy.

The purpose of this project is not to find ways to take from one funding source to pay for another. Rather, our goal is to make the system better. Never should special-education students and traditional-education students compete against each other for the same funding dollar.