

MINUTES  
of the  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
May 13, 2016

The New Jersey School Boards Association Headquarters  
Trenton, NJ

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MINUTES OF May 13, 2016  
I N D E X

Action Items.....	2
Executive Director’s Report.....	3
Flag Salute.....	2
Mission Statement .....	2
Moment of Silence .....	2
New Business .....	5
Oath of Office .....	2
Officers’ Comments .....	2
Opportunity for Public Comment .....	2
President’s Comments.....	2
Recognition of New Board of Directors Members and Alternates.....	2
Roll Call .....	1
Unfinished Business .....	6

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION  
TRENTON, NJ

May 13, 2016

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Friday, May 13, 2016 at the NJSBA headquarters, Trenton, NJ.

**Executive Committee members present were** Donald Webster, Jr., president; Dan Sinclair, vice president for county activities; Michael R. McClure, vice president for finance; John Bulina, Immediate Past President, and Dr. Lawrence S. Feinsod, executive director.

**Association staff present were** Frank Belluscio, deputy executive director/director of communications; Cynthia Jahn, Esq., general counsel; Kimberly Blum, director of human resources; Michael Vrancik, director of governmental relations; Joseph Hsieh, director of information technology; Michael Kaelber, director of legal & labor relations services; Fran Pullo, director of finance; Jane Kershner, director of field services; Patty Maillet, director of business development; Kristen Krulikowski, administrative/search assistant, and Ann Marie Smith, administrative assistant, executive office/communications.

**The following members and alternates of the Board of Directors were present:**

Atlantic	Not Represented	Somerset	Thomas Kasper
Bergen	Not Represented		Nick Hladick (Alt.)
Burlington	Brandon Pugh (Alt.)	Sussex	Ray Morris
Camden	Naomi Davidson		Anthony Fassano (Alt.)
Cape May	Not Represented	Union	Helen E. Kirsch
Cumberland	Treemanisha Stewart	Warren	Gusna Rutledge
Essex	Not Represented		Christy Tighe (Alt.)
Gloucester	Peter Calvo	County	
	Karen Vick (Alt.)	Association	
Hudson	Dr. Michael Baruch	Leadership	Cynthia Auberger
Hunterdon	Laurie Markowski (Alt.)		Ginny Murphy (Alt.)
Mercer	Not Represented		
Middlesex	Deven Patel (Alt.)		
Monmouth	Mark Bonjavanni	Urban Boards	George Cook
	Cherie Adams (Alt.)		Marsha Hershman
Morris	Irene LeFebvre (Alt.)		Tafari Anderson
Ocean	Not Represented		
Passaic	Not Represented	Vocational	Barbara Dawson
Salem	Eileen Miller		
	Dominick Miletta (Alt.)	NSBA Rep.	Not Represented

Special guests introduced were: Mark Biedron, president, State Board of Education; Ted Stanziatti, representative, VMWare

**ROLL CALL**

President Webster called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A roll call indicated four officers, 13 counties, urban boards, county association leadership and vocational boards were represented.

## **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

President Webster asked for a moment of silence in recognition of those individuals in Texas dealing with the severe storms and flooding.

## **FLAG SALUTE**

President Webster led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

President Webster led the members in reciting the Association's Mission Statement.

## **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS AND OATH OF OFFICE**

President Webster administered the Oath of Office to Deven Patel, new alternate member representing Middlesex County, and Karen Vick, alternate member representing Gloucester County.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Consent Agenda Items**

1. Open session minutes of March 18, 2016 meeting
2. Closed session minutes of March 18, 2016 meeting

Two amendments to the minutes: corrected spelling of the first names of Marsha Hershman and Treemanisha Stewart

*Ms. LeFebvre moved to APPROVE the consent Agenda Items as amended. The motion was duly seconded and carried.*

### **Roll Call Agenda Items**

Approval of funds to the Educational Leadership Foundation of New Jersey (ELFNJ) from the Alliance for Competitive Energy Services (ACES) in the amount of \$50,000 for fiscal year 2015-2016.

*Mr. Kasper moved to APPROVE the ACES grant request from ELFNJ. The motion was duly seconded and carried. Vote was unanimous.*

## **OFFICERS' REPORTS**

Received an update on activities from the NJSBA President, Vice President for Finance and Immediate Past President:

*President* – Highlight of the week was representing NJSBA at the New Jersey PTA Student Arts Awards Ceremony and Conference in Princeton on April 16. Students across the state were recognized for their accomplishments in the areas of art, music, dance, poetry and visual arts.

*Immediate Past President* – Attended the NJSBA iSTEAM field trip to the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD, where the participants saw the construction of the new James Webb Telescope in progress. Participants also met Dr. John Mather, 2006 Nobel Laureate in Physics, with George F. Smoot, for their work using the COBE satellite to measure the heat

radiation from the Big Bang. NJSBA continues to discuss ways to expand its relationship with NASA.

*Vice President for Finance* – Thanked the Board of Directors for approving the ACES grant request from ELFNJ. Acknowledged Fran Pullo, director of finance, for his outstanding work. Mr. Pullo is retiring after more than 15 years of service at NJSBA.

*Vice President for County Activities* – Attended a meeting in almost every county this year. Over the past three years, statewide participation in the county meetings has increased by more than two-thirds. Training has improved, with high-level discussions on PARCC, school security, dealing with student stress, school information systems, and legal issues. Acknowledged the County Activities & Member Engagement staff—Ray Pinney, director, and Patricia Rees and Marcia Lavigne—for their work.

A concentrated effort was made to attract legislators to the county meetings. The response was overwhelming. Assembly Speaker Prieto; former Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver; Senator Nellie Pou and many other senators and Assembly Representatives attended meetings and interacted with local board members, participated in panel discussions and answered questions.

A record number of school board members achieved their certification through NJSBA's Board Member Academy training programs: 95 new Certificated Board Members, 30 Master Board Members, 12 Certified Board Members, 18 Board Certifications, and 2 New Board Member Certifications. In addition, 54 Milestone Awards were given out to members with 20 or more years of service.

The Board of Directors members also viewed a video about this year's county school boards association meetings.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Feinsod reported on the following:

- Announced the publication of *Fundamentals of School Board Membership*. The 105-page publication is an “anthology” on critical areas of school board responsibility. The publication may be accessed by members free of charge through the NJSBA website. Printed copies will also be distributed at certain NJSBA programs.
- Presented the NJSBA report, “Unfunded and Underfunded State and Federal Mandates: A Burden on Local School Districts. The report addresses special education/IDEA, state testing, the evaluation process, the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights, and Workers' Compensation requirements. The report includes the results of a statewide survey of board presidents, superintendents and school business administrators.
- Reported on the advancement of legislation consistent with the recommendations of the NJSBA Special Education Task Force and the NJSBA School Security Task Force and provided an update on NJSBA's work with the National School Boards Association in support of federal-level initiatives that will benefit the operation and financing of New Jersey's public schools, including the Every Student Succeeds Act.
- For the seventh consecutive year, NJSBA's budget calls for no dues increase. In 2015, NJSBA non-dues revenue passed the 30 percent mark for only the second time in the Association's history. Non-dues revenue will increase even further under the 2016-2017 budget, due to the growth of the NJSBA Corporate Partnership Program, Workshop sponsorships and other efforts.
- Will appear on NJTV, New Jersey's public television station, in an interview with Steve Aduabato. The topic will be board member training and NJSBA's Board Member Academy.

As part of the Executive Director's report, the Board of Directors heard a presentation on the new NJSBA VMWare service. With VMware service, NJSBA has started a Cooperative Pricing System for the Technology for Education and Careers program. It will give school boards the opportunity to purchase VMware cloud services at deeply discounted rates. And it will enable them to find solutions for disaster recovery, cybersecurity and desktop-as-a-service.

Significantly, by using a single procurement number secured by NJSBA, there will be no legal requirement for school districts to go through the extended public bidding process. In addition, districts that belong to NJSBA's ACES energy-buying program—over 400 statewide—can start purchasing products through NJSBA TEC immediately by using their ACES procurement number. NJSBA believes that there will also be nationwide market for this service.

### **ADVOCACY UPDATE**

The advocacy updated included a report on the following: the federal government's guidance on transgender students and the need for districts to have a transgender policy in place, and S-2099, a proposal in the state Legislature that would prevent school districts with November elections from moving them back to April.

### **WORKSHOP 2016 UPDATE**

The Workshop 2016 updated focused on the new online registration process and the three-county pilot program for printing badges on-site at the convention center.

### **INTERACTIVE SESSION – School Security**

Background: The 2014 NJSBA School Security Task Force report, *What Makes Schools Safe*, identified security measures that school districts have implemented since the Newtown tragedy. The report also described security measures that districts would like to implement if they have the funds.

On June 3, NJSBA will host a state wide School Security and Student Safety Conference that will explore strategies to protect our students.

During the interactive session, board members discussed the following:

1. *What security enhancements has your district implemented since 2014?*
2. *Identify three security enhancements that your district would like to take if it had the necessary funding.*
3. *One of the key security issues facing districts has been personnel. Does your district use a school resource officer, a retired police officer, or private security guards?*

### **RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION**

*Ms. LeFebvre moved to APPROVE the resolution to enter into closed session to discuss the Executive Director's evaluation. The motion was duly seconded and carried.*

The Board entered into closed session at 9 p.m.

*Ms. LeFebvre moved to APPROVE the motion to go back into open session. The motion was duly seconded and carried.*

The Board entered back into open session at 9:10 p.m.

## **Roll Call Agenda Items**

Approval of the officers' recommendation for merit pay for the Executive Director.

*Ms. Dawson moved to APPROVE the officers' recommendation for merit pay for the Executive Director. The motion was duly seconded and carried. Vote was unanimous.*

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The GO 6000 series needs to be updated online to reflect the changes made on the Board Member Academy test for certification. A task force composed of board members and staff has been formed to review the current Board Member Academy certification test.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Members acknowledged the success of the cooperative program between NJSBA and the U.S. Army to develop member leadership skills.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Ms. Hershman moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was duly seconded and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lawrence S. Feinsod, Ed.D.  
Executive Director