

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION  
TRENTON, NJ

March 3, 2017  
7 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Friday, March 3, 2017 at the NJSBA headquarters, Trenton, NJ.

**Executive Committee members present were** Donald Webster, Jr., president; Daniel Sinclair, vice president for county activities; Michael R. McClure, vice president for finance; Jason A. Jones, vice president for legislation/resolutions; 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; Michael Vrancik, director of governmental relations; Jane Kershner, director of field services; Vincent DeLucia, director of training and professional development/educator-in-residence; Michael Kaelber, director of legal and labor relations services; John Faford, director of budget and finance; Kimberly Blum, director of human resources; Joseph Hsieh, director of information technology; Kristen Krulikowski, administrative/search assistant, and Ann Marie Smith, executive administrative assistant, executive office/communications.

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

Atlantic	Not Represented		Dominick Miletta (Alt.)
Bergen	Sheli Dansky (Alt.)	Somerset	Robert Morrison (Alt.)
Burlington	Brandon Pugh (Alt.)	Sussex	Ray Morris
Camden	Gail David		Anthony Fasano (Alt.)
	Naomi Davidson (Alt.)	Union	Helen Kirsch
Cape May	Not Represented		Maureen Byrne (Alt.)
Cumberland	Not Represented	Warren	Gus Rutledge
Essex	Sandra Mordecai		Christy Tighe (Alt.)
Gloucester	Pete Calvo		
	Karen Vick (Alt.)	County	
Hudson	Michael Baruch, MD	Association	
Hunterdon	Laurie Markowski	Leadership	Ginny Murphy
Mercer	Gregory Stankiewicz		
	Anthony Messina (Alt.)	Urban Boards	George Cook
Middlesex	Not Represented		Marsha Hershman
Monmouth	Not Represented		William Monk (Alt.)
Morris	Irene LeFebvre		Jonathan Hodges, MD (Alt.)
	Michael Scarneo (Alt.)		
Ocean	Not Represented	Vocational	Anthony Wilcox
Passaic	Jeff Fischer		
Salem	Eileen Miller	NSBA Rep.	Kevin Ciak

**ROLL CALL**

President Webster called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A roll call indicated five officers, 15 counties, urban boards, vocational boards and county association leadership were represented.

## **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

President Webster asked for a moment of silence for those experiencing the severe weather across the country.

## **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**

## **OATH OF OFFICE**

President Webster administered the Oath of Office to the following new members: Sheli Dansky, alternate member representing Bergen County; Sandra Mordecai, member representing Essex County; Gregory Stankiewicz, member representing Mercer County; Anthony Messina, alternate member representing Mercer County, and Maureen Byrne, alternate member representing Union County. Gus Rutledge, current member representing Warren County, also took the Oath of Office.

## **RECOGNITION OF RETIRING MEMBERS**

President Webster recognized Bruce Young, retiring alternate member representing Bergen County. Mr. Webster acknowledged Mr. Young's dedication to the students of his school district and his service to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Executive Director's update addressed the impact of the school aid numbers for 2017-2018; our increasing relevancy with the leaders of the state legislature and the Commissioner and the State Board of Education; NJSBA's meeting with the New Jersey Department of Education and representatives of the state Legislature on New Jersey's plan to implement the federal Every Student Succeeds Act; two technology partnership initiatives, Future Ready Schools – New Jersey (with the New Jersey Institute of Technology and the NJDOE ) and Finding, Buying and Saving Technology for Schools, which will identify and seek removal of bureaucratic obstacles to acquiring technology; and NJSBA's regional Leadership program, which drew 250 board presidents, vice presidents and other members.

The Executive Director also announced that the Commissioner of Education approved an adjustment to the previously granted waiver for Workshop 2017, which will allow for an additional day of training. He also informed the BOD that the Commissioner has approved waiver requests for Workshop 2018, 2019 and 2020, which also allow four days of training.

Workshop Update - The Workshop update focused on the new workshop website at <http://workshop.njsba.org>, the new badge printing system for 21 counties, and program highlights.

Advocacy Update - The advocacy update included a report on the impact of the flat funding; the proposal from the Governor that the Legislature develop a new school plan within 100 days; and recent Federal actions and their impact on education funding.

## **NJSBA 2017-2018 BUDGET**

John Faford, director of budget and finance, provided a report on the NJSBA 2017-2018 budget. In his report, Mr. Faford highlighted that the 2017-2018 budget maintains all dues-based services with no dues increase for the eighth consecutive year; non-dues revenue will increase to 34.2 percent of total.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Roll Call Agenda Items**

1. Approval of the 2017-2018 NJSBA budget.

President Webster called for a motion to approve 2017-2018 NJSBA Budget.

*Mr. Fischer moved to APPROVE the 2017-2018 budget as presented. The motion was duly seconded and carried. Vote was unanimous.*

2. Approval of the ACES Grant Request from ELFNJ

Background: Pursuant to GO/6801R, the Educational Leadership Foundation of New Jersey (ELFNJ) does hereby make application to the Board of Directors of the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) for funding through a grant from the Alliance for Competitive Energy Services (ACES) in the amount of \$50,000 for fiscal year 2016-2017 to cover the costs of the county meetings through June 30, 2017.

President Webster called for a motion to approve the ACES grant request from ELFNJ.

*Mr. Pugh moved to APPROVE the ACES grant request from ELFNJ in the amount of \$50,000 for fiscal year 2016-2017 to cover the costs of the county meetings through June 30, 2017. The motion was duly seconded and carried. Vote was unanimous.*

3. Approval of the NJSBA TEC Program Resolution

Background: On March 27, 2015, the NJSBA Board of Directors duly approved the establishment of a program to provide digital and electronic products and services to its members under NJSBA's Technology for Education and Careers Program (TEC) and approved competitively contracting for VMWare® products and services (N.J.S.A. 18A-4.1) to be added to NJSBA's Cooperative Pricing System. On March 31, 2016, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, (NJCA) approved adding TEC and VMWare® products and services to NJSBA's Cooperative Pricing System.

President Webster called for a motion to approve the lead agency resolution authorizing NJSBA to competitively contract for TEC specialized goods to be offered by NJSBA's cooperative pricing system #E-8801-ACES-CPS.

*Mr. Wilcox moved to APPROVE the lead agency resolution authorizing NJSBA to competitively contract for TEC specialized goods to be offered by NJSBA's cooperative pricing system. The motion was duly seconded and carried. Vote was unanimous.*

## **Consent Agenda Items**

### 1. Open session minutes of the January 20, 2017 meeting

President Webster asked for a motion to approve the open session minutes of January 20, 2017.

*Ms. Kirsch moved to APPROVE the minutes of the January 20, 2017 meeting. The motion was duly seconded and carried. Abstentions: Mr. Wilcox, Mr. Stankiewicz, Ms. Dansky, and Ms. Davis.*

### 2. Legislative Committee Appointments

President Webster asked for a motion to approve the 2017 Legislative Committee appointments.

*Ms. LeFebvre moved to APPROVE the Legislative Committee appointments. The motion was duly seconded and carried.*

## **OFFICERS' REPORTS**

The Board of Directors received written updates on activities from the NJSBA President, Vice Presidents and Immediate Past President. Below are the highlights of the reports made by the officers during the meeting.

*President* – Mr. Webster reported on Kevin Ciak's election as president of the National School Boards Association and congratulated him on his achievement. President Webster also reported on his participation in the first ever iSTEAM Task Force meeting on January 25 to discuss the possible inclusion of this subject area in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools Program. The committee members agreed that it is an area that should be pursued as part of the program. The committee will now work to develop goals and specific action items to be considered by the trustees for inclusion in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools program. It is hoped that iSTEAM action items will be part of the program as early as the fall of 2017.

*Vice President for County Activities* – Mr. Sinclair reported on two county meetings held this month that exemplify how important the county associations are in NJSBA's advocacy effort. In Essex County, the county legislators, led by former Speaker Sheila Oliver, reached out to the Essex County School Boards Association to have a conversation on school funding. The legislators wanted to hear what the local school board members thought. Almost every district in the county was represented. At the Camden/Gloucester joint meeting, Senate President Stephen Sweeney and Assembly Majority Leader Lou Greenwald spoke before the members and took questions on school funding.

*Vice President for Finance* – Mr. McClure thanked the NJSBA department directors and Finance Department staff for all the work they put into the 2017-2018 budget and the Board of Directors for their support.

*Vice President for Legislation/Resolutions* - Mr. Jones thanked Mike Vrancik and Sharon Seyler for a successful trip to Washington, D.C. for the NSBA Advocacy Institute. He also reported on the success of the Monmouth County School Boards Association's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dialogue program.

*Immediate Past President* – Mr. Bulina reported on his attendance at the Burlington County Military Affairs Committee’s open house, where he met with Bob Smyth, field representative for Congressman Tom MacArthur; Karl Parker, director of outreach & constituent services for Congressman Donald Norcross; and Colonel Fredrick D. Thaden, U.S.A.F. installation commander of the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. They discussed the need for an educated citizenry and how NJSBA can work with the congressmen and the U.S. Air Force to further this mission. Follow-up meetings have been scheduled for Dr. Feinsod, Don Webster and Mr. Bulina with Mr. Parker and Colonel Thaden.

### **INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION**

Members shared their district’s experience with special education costs and programming including the challenges encountered concerning special education costs and placement; strategies implemented to control special education costs and innovative approaches to dealing with both the financial and programmatic challenges related to special education.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Members requested an update on the current status of the Appellate Court decision on Rice Notices. In a ruling expected to impact local school boards, the state’s second-highest court ruled that employees and prospective employees are entitled to receive a “Rice Notice” any time a matter involving their employment is placed on the board’s agenda, regardless of whether the board will actually be discussing the individual. Currently, the ruling stands and must be complied with. NJSBA has been tracking the impact through the Personnel Administrators Association. NJSBA will also participate in an *amicus* action arguing against the ruling.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, *Ms. LeFebvre moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was duly seconded and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,



Lawrence S. Feinsod, Ed.D.  
Executive Director