

MINUTES
of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 11, 2018
7 p.m.

The New Jersey School Boards Association Headquarters
Trenton, NJ

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF May 11, 2018
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION
TRENTON, NJ

May 11, 2018
7 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Friday, May 11, 2018 at the NJSBA headquarters, Trenton, NJ.

Executive Committee members present were Daniel Sinclair, president; Christy Tighe, vice president for county activities; Mike McClure, vice president for finance; Brandon Pugh, vice president for legislation/resolutions; Donald Webster, immediate past president, and Dr. Lawrence Feinsod, executive director.

Association staff present were Frank Belluscio, deputy executive director/director of communications; Cynthia Jahn, general counsel; Michael Vrancik, director of governmental relations; Vincent DeLucia, director of training and professional development/educator-in-residence; Carl Tanksley, director of legal and labor relations services; John Faford, director of budget and finance; Ray Pinney, director of member engagement; Patty Maillet, director of business development; Jane Kershner, director of field services; Joseph Hsieh, director of IT; Billie Barnett, member services representative, and Ann Marie Smith, executive administrative assistant, executive office/communications.

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

Atlantic	Anne Erickson	Salem	Eileen Miller
Bergen	Diane Holzberg		Dominick Miletta (Alt.)
Burlington	Not Represented	Somerset	Barry Walker (Alt.)
Camden	Gail David	Sussex	Ray Morris *
Cape May	Andrea Hipkins	Union	Helen Kirsch
Cumberland	Not Represented	Warren	Paul Williams
Essex	Sandra Mordecai		
Gloucester	Pete Calvo	County	Ginny Murphy
Hudson	Not Represented	Association	Judith Amorim Dias (Alt.)
Hunterdon	Charles Miller (Alt.)	Leadership	
Mercer	Gregory Stankiewicz		
	Anthony Messina (Alt.)	Urban Boards	Dr. Jonathan Hodges
Middlesex	Deven Patel (Alt.)		Marsha Hershman
Monmouth	Mark Bonjavanni		William Monk (Alt.)
Morris	Irene LeFebvre *		
	Michael Scarneo (Alt.)	Vocational	Barbara Dawson
Ocean	Not Represented		
Passaic	Nancy Schwartz (Alt.)	NSBA Rep.	Kevin Ciak *

**A major goal of the NJSBA's 2018-2020 Strategic Plan focuses on "Building a 'Future Ready' Association." The Strategic Plan calls for NJSBA to "lead by example" while providing local school boards with strategies and resources to advance digital learning and become "Future Ready." At the May 11 meeting, the Association rolled out its video-conferencing capability. Three Board of Director members attended the meeting remotely: Irene Lefebvre, Ray Morris and Kevin Ciak.*

ROLL CALL

President Sinclair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A roll call indicated five officers, 17 counties, urban boards, vocational boards and county association leadership were represented.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

President Sinclair asked for a moment of silence in memory of Bob Iannacone of Atlantic County, a former member of the NJSBA Board of Directors, and other colleagues who have recently passed away.

FLAG SALUTE/NATIONAL ANTHEM

Members of the Woodbridge High School choir lead the Board members in the flag salute and performed the National Anthem under the director of Beth Amory via video conference from Woodbridge.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT – No comments from the public.

RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS/OATH OF OFFICE

The Board of Directors recognized Barry Walker of the Bridgewater-Raritan Regional Board of Education, who was elected to serve as alternate representative from Somerset County.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Larry Feinsod's report focused on NJSBA's recent initiatives. Below are highlights.

- **A Year of Progress: 2017-2018 Year-End Report:** Executive Director Dr. Larry Feinsod provided the members with a year-end report on the state of the Association that indicated excellent financial health for the Association. He noted the support of “corporate New Jersey,” which shares NJSBA's commitment to public education, expanded training, and the continued development of relationships with state government, particularly the new administration.
- **State Aid:** Dr. Feinsod reported that state aid to education for 2018-2019 continues to be a work in progress. As a service to “underfunded” districts, NJSBA is sponsoring forums on this issue. The first meeting took place on May 3 in West Orange. Two more programs will be held on May 22 in Monroe Township and on June 6 in Absecon. The meetings focus on the issues facing underfunded school districts and effective lobbying strategies for board members. In addition, regional conferences, called “Funding 101,” were held in northern and southern New Jersey in late April to educate members about the school funding formula and issues related to state aid.
- **School Security:** NJSBA's School Security Committee is updating the 2014 report, *What Makes Schools Safe?* The new report is expected to be completed this summer. Recent county school boards association meetings have focused on the topic of student safety. In addition, NJSBA will hold its third annual School Security Conference on Friday, June 1.
- **STEAM Education:** The NJSBA continues its work with the U.S. Army to advance STEAM education. Major General Jeffrey Snow, the worldwide commander for U.S. Army recruiting, requested a meeting with NJSBA to discuss the replication of the

NJSBA-U.S. Army STEAM education partnership in other states. The meeting took place on May 15.

In recognition of its work to advance STEAM Education, NJSBA will receive the “Impact” award from the New Jersey Technology and Engineering Educations Association. The award recognizes an organization that promotes technological and engineering education through collaboration with the technology teachers’ association.

- **Advocacy Update**

- **“Janus” Bill A-3686/S-2137**, entitled the “Workplace Democracy Enhancement Act,” requires public employers to provide employee unions with access to members of their negotiations units. The legislation is a direct response to a pending United States Supreme Court case, *Janus v. AFSCME*, which concerns the constitutionality of public sector union “agency shop” or “fair share” fees. A ruling against the union, which is expected to come down this June, could affect union membership and result in a loss of revenue for unions.
 - The Senate was scheduled to vote on legislation that will help finance school security improvements and the expansion of county vocational school and county college capital projects. The measure was pulled and amended on the floor to add even more funds for school security improvement grants. S-2293, titled the “Securing Our Children’s Future Bond Act,” will now authorize the issuance of \$1 billion in bonds, which may be utilized for the following purposes:
 - \$500 million for school facility security projects (up from \$250 million);
 - \$450,000,000 for county vocational school district construction projects; and
 - \$50,000,000 for county college projects.
 - The NJDOE is working on the future of PARCC and student assessments. The DOE is conducting focus groups to study the issue.
 - Legislative Day is May 17. Members are encouraged to participate.
- **Educational Impact of Video-Conferencing:** The Executive Directors’ report included a presentation by Jared Heiner of Cisco Systems and Michael Esolda, NJSBA consultant on the educational impact of video-conferencing. (Further discussion took place during the Interactive Session.)

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda Items

- Open session minutes of the March 16, 2018 meeting.
President Sinclair asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2018 meeting.

Ms. Miller moved to APPROVE the minutes of the March 16, 2018 Board of Directors meeting. The motion was duly seconded and carried with four abstentions by Dr. Erickson, Mr. Calvo, Ms. Kirsh and Ms. Hipkins.
- Resolution to enter into a shared service agreement with NJEdge.
President Sinclair asked for a motion to approve the resolution to enter into a shared service agreement with NJEdge.

Dr. Erickson moved to APPROVE the resolution to enter into a shared service agreement with NJEdge. The motion was duly seconded and carried.

- Resolutions of appreciation recognizing Cisco Systems and SHI.

President Sinclair asked for a motion to approve resolutions recognizing Cisco Systems for its generous contribution of video-conferencing equipment and SHI for its assistance in providing training and support in the implementation of the new technology.

Ms. Kirsh moved to APPROVE the resolutions of appreciation for Cisco Systems and SHI. The motion was duly seconded and carried.

The resolutions of appreciation were presented to representatives of Cisco Systems and SHI.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND OFFICERS

President – Dan Sinclair reported on the upcoming Delegate Assembly addressing two matters of critical importance to the NJSBA membership: fair and adequate education funding, and school security.

Immediate Past President – Don Webster reported on his attendance at county school board meetings and the status of the Non-College Bound Student Learners Task Force. He also reported that he attending the Resolutions Subcommittee meeting in place of President Sinclair. He introduced the participants and answered any questions concerning the “School Safety & Security Resolution” approved by the Board of Directors for consideration at the upcoming Delegate Assembly in May.

Vice President for County Activities – Christy Tighe thanked the Officers and Dr. Feinsod for their participation in the county school board association meetings. She also shared key points from the “Workforce Education: NJ as a Laboratory for America” conference at the Gloucester County Institute of Technology. The takeaways included the need for more to be done to prepare students for the jobs of the future and for employers to be more involved in job training. Ms. Tighe said that employer engagement is critical and the only way to guarantee that workers are learning the skills in demand of the workplace. Ms. Tighe also announced that the CAL meeting on June 2 would focus on the issue of vaping and its effect on health.

Vice President for Finance – Mike McClure focused on the Association’s finances, reporting that nine months into the 2017-2018 fiscal year, the Association is tracking favorably versus budget through March. Staff vacancies in the Legal & Labor Relations Department and the Mailroom, savings in health benefit costs and greater-than-expected revenue from Workshop 2017 enabled the Association to absorb a shortfall (vs. budget) in some of the fee-based services.

Vice President for Legislation/Resolutions – Brandon Pugh reported on the Legislative Committee meeting held on Saturday, May 5, where there was standing room only. The meeting included an exceptional speaker, Mark Magyar, associate executive director of the NJ Senate Majority Office. Mr. Magyar is responsible for policy and communications, and spoke on school funding, including the history of the current formula, and the state of the Legislature’s 2018-2019 appropriations process. Mr. Pugh also provided a written update on legislative activity in Trenton.

INTERACTIVE SESSION

Dr. Feinsod provided a brief introduction to a question-and-answer session on NJSBA’s new video-conferencing equipment and related services available to local boards of education. The session was conducted by Michael Esolda, NJSBA IT consultant, and Jared Heiner of Cisco Systems.

RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION

President Sinclair asked for a motion to go into a closed session to review the Executive Director's evaluation.

Dr. Erickson moved to APPROVE the body entering into closed session. The motion was duly seconded and carried.

Members went into closed session at 8:56 p.m. Kevin Ciak signed out of the meeting online. Members returned to open session 9:08.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – There was no unfinished business

NEW BUSINESS

A member requested that NJSBA address the cost of sending special needs students to private schools, where the tuition is very high.

A member requested that NJSBA communicate with legislators about standardized testing/PARCC.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, *Ms. Miller moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was duly seconded and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,



Lawrence S. Feinsod, Ed.D.
Executive Director

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BOD Minutes (full)