

MINUTES
of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 10, 2019
7 p.m.

The New Jersey School Boards Association Headquarters
Trenton, NJ

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF May 10, 2019
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION
TRENTON, NJ

May 10, 2019

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Friday, May 10, 2019 at the NJSBA headquarters, Trenton, NJ.

Executive Committee members present were Daniel Sinclair, president; Donald Webster, Jr., immediate past president; Michael R. McClure, vice president for finance; Christy Tighe, vice president for county activities, 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; Joseph Hsieh, director of information technology; Carl Tanksley, director of legal & labor relations services; John Faford, director of finance; Vince DeLucia, director of training; Jane Kershner, director of field services; Patty Maillet, director of business development; Billie Barnett, member services representative, Brian Green, information systems specialist; and Ann Marie Smith, administrative assistant, executive office/communications.

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

Atlantic	Dr. Anne Erickson		
Bergen	Diane Holzberg	Salem	Eileen Miller
	Sheli Dansky (Alt.)		Dominick Miletta (Alt.)
Burlington	Not Represented	Somerset	Not Represented
Camden	Gail David	Sussex	Ray Morris
	Naomi Davidson (Alt.)	Union	Helen Kirsch
Cape May	Jacqueline McAlister (Alt.)*	Warren	Paul Williams
Cumberland	Not Represented		
Essex	Sandra Mordecai	County	Ginny Murphy
Gloucester	Pete Calvo*	Association	
Hudson	Not Represented	Leadership	
Hunterdon	Laurie Markowski		
Mercer	Gregory Stankiewicz	Urban Board	William Monk
	Anthony Messina (Alt.)		Diane Johnson (Alt.)
Middlesex	Deven Patel (Alt.)		
Monmouth	Mark Bonjavanni	Vocational	Elizabeth Martin
Morris	Irene LeFebvre		
Ocean	Not Represented	NSBA Rep.	Vacancy
Passaic	Not Represented		

** At the May 10, 2019 meeting, two members attended the meeting remotely Jacqueline McAlister and Peter Calvo.*

ROLL CALL

President Sinclair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A roll call indicated four officers, 14 counties, urban boards, county association leadership and vocational boards were represented.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

President Sinclair asked for a moment of silence in recognition of the Colorado school shooting.

FLAG SALUTE

President Sinclair led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Richard Snyder expressed his desire for NJSBA to advocate against the "Path to Progress" proposal to merge all K-8 districts with high school districts.

RECOGNITION OF NEW AND RETIRING MEMBERS/OATH OF OFFICE

The Board of Directors recognized retiring Immediate Past President Don Webster, who has served as an officer on the NJSBA Board of Directors since 2010, in the position of Vice President for Finance from 2010 to 2014, President from 2014 to 2019 and Immediate Past President from 2017 to 2019. Mr. Webster made significant contributions to the New Jersey School Boards Association's mission to advance public education through his leadership of the 2014 School Security Task Force, the Task Force on Educational Opportunities for the Non-College-Bound Learner, the 2018 School Security Committee, and other Association committees, all while continuing to fulfill his responsibilities as president to his local board of education.

The board also recognized retiring Vice President for County Activities Christy Tighe; Eileen Miller, member representing Salem County; Ray Morris, member representing Sussex County; and Helen Kirsch, member representing Union County.

The board acknowledge a new alternate member, Jacqueline McAlister, who will represent Cape May County.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS OF THE YEAR TRIBUTE

President Sinclair announced the creation of the School Board Member of the Year photo display in the NJSBA headquarters first floor conference room. During the public comment session at the March Board of Directors meeting, it was suggested that we honor the state's School Board Members of the Year in the same way as the NJSBA past presidents, with a photo display. The new display, with photographs of the 14 New Jersey School Board Members of the Year, was unveiled. There will also be a luncheon for the past Board Members of the Year recipients on May 22, who will have the opportunity to view the display.

Executive Director's Report Dr. Lawrence S. Feinsod provided a year-end report on NJSBA activities and progress toward the goals of the current strategic plan.

- *Rutgers University Division of Continuing Studies Partnership* – NJSBA is entering into a partnership with the Rutgers University Division of Continuing Studies. This agreement marks the beginning of the NJSBA Online University, an activity that is directly related to three goals areas of the NJSBA Strategic Plan: Building a "Future Ready" Association; enhancing direct services, and making training more accessible.

Rutgers will provide in-kind services to develop 14 courses. The online programs will cover mandated training and other professional development areas. Our goals are to expand course offerings for board members and make training available to a larger audience, including school district IT directors, facility managers and personnel administrators.

- *Donation to Sustainable Jersey for Schools* – Dr. Feinsod addressed the proposed \$50,000 donation to Sustainable Jersey for Schools, which was on the board’s agenda. Sustainable Jersey for Schools is one of NJSBA’s long-standing and most successful collaborations. Today, more than 56 percent, or 328 of the state’s operating school districts are members of the free program. In fiscal year 2018 alone, Sustainable Jersey awarded over \$330,000 in grants to local school districts. Since its founding, the program has provided \$1.8 million in grants. Thanks to Sustainable Jersey, our state’s public schools have implemented over 3,900 actions in areas such as energy efficiency, waste management, healthy school environment, student and staff wellness, and student learning.
- *NJSBA Website: Future Ready* - Three years ago, NJSBA launched its new website. A recent analysis by the NJSBA Marketing Unit, which tracks website activity, shows a 40 percent increase in traffic to NJSBA.org over the past year. The site is a valuable information source for school board members, other public officials, the news media, parents and other citizens who care about education.
- *Workshop 2019* - At the March meeting, Dr. Feinsod, executive director, announced that the Workshop 2019 speaker would be Ian Hockley. Ian founded a non-profit group called “Dylan’s Wings of Change,” and named the group in honor of his son, who was one of the children killed in the Sandy Hook mass shooting. The organization works to develop youth leadership in schools through a program called “Wingman,” which teaches children to be empathetic, courageous and inclusive. Last month, we announced a collaborative effort with the foundation to provide resources on social and emotional skill development for New Jersey schools and districts. The partnership will include the introduction of the Wingman program to 17 schools in New Jersey. The Educational Leadership Foundation of New Jersey will also offer several no-cost Wingman Workshops to school board members later this year.

Workshop 2019 is scheduled for Monday, October 21st through Thursday, October 24th and will feature more than 250 training and information session, including expanded Monday programming. Information, including program and hotel registration, is available on the Workshop website.

- *Advocacy* - Governor Murphy signed a bill that would expand the pool of qualified candidates for Class 3 special law enforcement officers – a viable lower-cost option to employing traditional school resource officers.

Another new law will require arbitrators in tenure cases to receive training on “unbecoming conduct,” particularly when it involves sexual assault and child abuse. NJSBA alerted lawmakers to the need for the training after arbitrators allowed staff to return to the classroom after engaging in questionable activities.

In addition, the State Board of Education is considering revisions to certification requirements that would give flexibility to candidates for the Career and Technical Education endorsement. This reflects a recommendation of the NJSBA Task Force on

Educational Opportunities for the Non-College-Bound Learner. These changes are expected to increase the pool of CTE teachers, who are currently in limited supply.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda Items

- Approval of the open session minutes of the March 15, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting
- Approval of the closed session minutes of the March 15, 2019 Board of Directors meeting
- Approval of the NJSBA Legislative Committee appointments

President Sinclair asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda items.

Dr. Erickson moved to APPROVE the minutes of consent agenda items. The motion was duly seconded and carried.

Roll Call Agenda Items:

President Sinclair asked for a motion to approve the \$50,000 donation to Sustainable Jersey for Schools.

Dr. Erickson moved to APPROVE the donation to Sustainable Jersey for Schools. The motion was duly seconded and carried, with 22 members voting in the affirmative.

President Sinclair asked for a motion to approve the revisions to GO Policy/4131.3, Tuition Reimbursement Advance Eligibility.

Dr. Erickson moved to APPROVE the revisions to GO Policy/4131.3, Tuition Reimbursement Advance Eligibility. The motion was duly seconded and carried, with 22 members voting in the affirmative.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND OFFICERS

President – Dan Sinclair

President Sinclair acknowledged that this will be his last board of directors meeting as president by reflecting on NJSBA's growing influence over state education policy, improved training and resources for members and its proactive steps toward growing educational opportunities for students who aren't headed to four-year colleges.

He thanked the officers with whom he served. In particular, he commended Don Webster, immediate past president, for his 22 years as a local school board member and his dedication to the well-being of students and the New Jersey School Boards Association.

President Sinclair expressed his enthusiasm for NJSBA's new president, Mike McClure, and his confidence in Mr. McClure to advance the Association to the next level. He also thanked the Board of Directors members for their commitment to public education and for the opportunity to serve as their president.

Immediate Past President – Don Webster

Mr. Webster acknowledge NJSBA’s accomplishments over the last few years, including the election of Kevin Ciak as president of NSBA, the first for New Jersey in 50 years; establishing relationships with the U.S. Army; creation of Future Ready Schools, and the enormous success of the Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification program.

Vice President for Finance – Mike McClure

Mr. McClure reported on the state of the Association’s Finances through March of 2019, the status of the new Association Management System, Cobalt; and his activities since the March 2019 Board of Directors meeting.

Vice President for County Activities – Christy Tighe

Ms. Tighe reported on the importance of the county school boards associations to enhance the skills and knowledge of local boards of education members, serve as a forum for the exchange of information and ideas, and provide opportunities of school board member to receive professional development and up-to-date information on current education initiative, legislation and regulations affecting public schools.

She acknowledged the success of this year’s spring programs. Recognition was paid to those school board members who have achieved milestone awards for years of service; those who have achieved their New Board Member, Certificated Board Member, Master Board Member, and Certified Board Leader certifications; as well as the high performing boards who receive Board Certification and Master Board Certification. Ms. Tighe also congratulated newly elected county SBA leaders, and thanked those who are retiring for their dedicated service to their county associations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS – There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, *Mr. Williams moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was duly seconded and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,



Lawrence S. Feinsod, Ed.D.
Executive Director