

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION
TRENTON, NJ**

November 19, 2021

7 p.m.

A regular meeting of the New Jersey School Boards Association Board of Directors was held virtually on Friday, November 19, 2021. President Irene M. LeFebvre presided over the meeting from the Association’s headquarters in Trenton. Immediate Past President Michael R. McClure was also present at headquarters. Executive Director Lawrence S. Feinsod provided his report to the board from headquarters.

Executive Committee members present were Irene LeFebvre, president; Bruce Young, vice president for county activities; Tammeisha Smith, vice president for finance, Michael McClure, immediate past president, and Dr. Lawrence Feinsod, executive director.

Association staff present were Patty Maillet, acting deputy executive director; Carl Tanksley, Esq., acting general counsel; Janet Bamford, chief public affairs officer; Maja Klysinski, director of human resources; Vincent DeLucia, educator-in-residence; John Faford, director of finance and operations; Ray Pinney, director of member engagement; Jonathan Pushman, director of governmental relations; Brian Green, network administrator; Samantha Matias, executive assistant; Kurt Rebovich, Jr., labor relations manager, and, Ann Marie Smith, assistant editor/communications program specialist.

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

Atlantic	Jerome Page		Shannon Cuttle (Alt.)
Bergen	Sheli Dansky	Gloucester	Natalie Baker
	Joseph Steele (Alt.)	Hudson	Not Represented
Burlington	Harry Litwack	Hunterdon	Laurie Markowski
Camden	Joseph Miller (Alt.)	Mercer	Dana Krug
Cape May	Jacqueline McAlister		Addie Lane (Alt.)
Cumberland	Not Represented	Middlesex	Joyce Mehta
Essex	Shane Berger	Monmouth	Al Miller

Morris	Paul Breda	County	Mattia Scharfstein (Alt.)
	Diane Morris	Association	
Ocean	Stephanie Wohlrab (Alt.)	Leadership	
Passaic	Joseph Canova		
Salem	Emily Cannon	Urban Board	Rita Martin
Somerset	Robert Morrison		Diane Johnson
	Barry Walker		Marsha Hershman (Alt.)
Sussex	Marie Bilik		
	Ronald Hoffman	Vocational	Jon-Henry Barr (Alt.)
Union	Brendan Galligan		
Warren	Scott Nodes (Alt.)		

Guest Presenter: Mr. Robert Butvilla, partner, Suplee, Clooney & Company (Auditor)

ROLL CALL - President LeFebvre called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A roll call indicated 4 officers, county association leadership, urban boards, vocational boards and 19 counties were represented. Those present constituted a quorum.

NON-BOARD MEMBERS: The following non-board members were also present at the meeting: Jerry Jacobs, John Perrone, Anne Erickson, and Sheri Lowery.

MOMENT OF SILENCE - President LeFebvre asked for a moment of silence honoring those who have served our nation through Military Service, in particular the many school board members who have contributed to the safety and security of our country as members of the military.

FLAG SALUTE - President LeFebvre led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MISSION STATEMENT - President LeFebvre led the members in reciting the Association's Mission Statement.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT - No public comments

RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS - The following new alternates were introduced.

New Members:

- Mercer County Alternate - Addie Lane, Trenton Board of Education
- Morris County Alternate – Diane Morris, Mine Hill Board of Education

OATH OF OFFICE – New members and members who were not present at the October 2021 reorganization meeting were asked to take the oath of office.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT - Dr. Feinsod addressed NJSBA activities, and the progress made in enabling school districts to meet the challenges presented to them including those of the public health crisis, ensuring that members continue to benefit from essential training, advocacy, and direct service.

Board of Education Meetings – For the past seven weeks, NJSBA has been responding to inquiries both from board members and members of the public concerned about the National

School Boards Association acting executive director sending a letter to the Biden administration urging the federal government to respond to harassment and threats to board members and others in the education community. The letter has been interpreted, in some cases, as an attack on parents and citizens voicing concerns at board of education meetings and a small number who have urged NJSBA to withdraw from NSBA.

On Nov. 6, NJSBA sent an email to all of its members clarifying its views on the issue. In it, NJSBA expressed its disapproval of NSBA's statement, and at this time, prefers to work within the organization to ensure that the NSBA adheres to its primary mission. On Wednesday, the NSBA announced the appointment of a new executive director, replacing the person who had been serving as interim leader. NJSBA is hopeful that productive changes will now occur at NSBA.

Virtual Workshop 2021 - NJSBA received extremely positive feedback from board members and others in the education community. More than 5,200 registrants participated in Workshop 2021. In addition, when the speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, Wind Down program guests and the parents who attended virtually for the STEAM Tank event are added in, the conference touched several hundred more. It also met all of its financial goals.

By popular demand, all registrants now have until Dec. 28 to watch or re-watch any sessions simply by logging back into the Workshop website.

Hybrid County School Boards Association Meetings – The fall roster of “hybrid” county school boards association meetings is well underway and last week, the Essex County School Boards Association meeting had some distinguished guests including Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver, Acting Commissioner of Education Dr. Angelica Allen-McMillan, 2021-2022 New Jersey Teacher of the Year Theresa Maughan, and Maura Baker, student at West Orange High School and the student representative to the New Jersey State Board of Education. A brief video excerpt from the meeting was shown.

Online University Hub - NJSBA has formally introduced its Online University Hub, an online professional development academy for educators in partnership with the New Jersey Association of School Administrators. The program will offer engaging and interactive e-learning courses to all K-12 public school district stakeholders. The Online University Hub will deliver a

subscription-based, remote learning center of more than 100 courses across 30-plus learning paths that support timely topics in education.

SHI, a Somerset, New Jersey-based company that serves districts and businesses with integrated IT services, and Eduscape of Montvale, New Jersey, a nationally recognized leader in K-12 professional development and innovation, are the private industry partners that will facilitate the program.

NJSBA will continue to offer its Online University, where our members can complete their mandated training courses and receive other board-focused professional development.

Re-Defined Organizational Structure for NJSBA - As part of NJSBA's moving forward efforts, a year-long examination of the structure and processes of the Association, an internal reorganization has been undertaken. There are now five divisions:

1. Executive Office – consisting of the executive director, deputy executive director, chief public affairs officer, educator-in-residence, general counsel, governmental relations, human resources, member engagement and county activity services.
2. Communications, Information Technology and Marketing
3. Finance and Operations
4. Professional Learning – consisting of the Training, Field Services and Legal and Policy Services divisions
5. Members Services and Strategic Partnerships

This new structure will increase collaboration and efficiency, while still maintaining the high standard of service provided to our members.

The NJSBA Strategic Plan – The process for developing the NJSBA 2022-2024 Strategic Plan involved stakeholder input, identification of the organization's strengths and challenges, and the setting of goals and objectives. The attitudes of the general membership and the staff were assessed through surveys sent out last summer.

Five goal areas were developed:

1. Impacting Opportunities for Student Growth
2. Services for Tomorrow's World

3. Professional Learning for Effective Governance
4. Partnering in Public Education Advocacy
5. Future Innovation and Advancements in Technology

The next step will be to develop action plans and a timeline to implement the goal areas.

ACTION ITEMS

Roll Call Agenda Items:

President LeFebvre asked for a motion to accept the 2020-2021 NJSBA Audit Report.

Background: Mr. Robert Butvilla, partner, Suplee, Clooney & Company provided a report on the NJSBA 2020-2021 annual audit report. The independent audit for fiscal year 2020-2021 reflects positively on the Association's business and finance operations.

Robert Morrison moved to ACCEPT the 2020-2021 NJSBA Audit Report. The motion was duly seconded and carried, with 27 members voting in the affirmative.

President LeFebvre asked for a motion to approve the NJSBA 2021-2024 Strategic Plan.

Background: NJSBA's current Strategic Plan will conclude at the end of December. To develop the new plan, a process similar to the one offered to local school districts by our Field Services Department was used. This process involved stakeholder input, identification of the organization's strengths and challenges, and the setting of goals and objectives. The proposed Strategic Plan for 2021-2024 was presented to the Board of Directors for its consideration.

Jacqueline McAlister moved to APPROVE the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan. The motion was duly seconded and carried, with 27 members voting in the affirmative.

President LeFebvre asked for a motion to approve sending the revisions to GO/9302, Officers Qualifications and Terms of Office, to the Resolutions Subcommittee to be presented for approval at the May 14th Delegate Assembly.

Background: The bylaw is being recommended for revision to align with updates to the board member certification process.

Dana Krug moved to APPROVE to send revisions to GO/9302, Officers Qualifications and Terms of Office, to the Resolutions Subcommittee to be presented for approval at the May 14th Delegate Assembly. The motion was duly seconded and carried, with 27 members voting in the affirmative.

Consent Agenda Items:

President LeFebvre asked for a motion to approve the following consent agenda items:

- A. Open session minutes of the October 1, 2021 meeting

Emily Cannon moved to APPROVE the consent agenda items. The motion was duly seconded and carried. The following member abstained from voting on the previous meeting open minutes: Shane Berger.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND OFFICERS

The Board of Directors also received both written and verbal reports from the president, vice president for county activities, vice president for finance, and immediate past president.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No unfinished business

NEW BUSINESS – No new business

SUMMARY

President LeFebvre reminded members they will receive “take-away” points from this meeting, which can be used in making reports to the county associations.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, *Mike McClure moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was duly seconded and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lawrence S. Feinsod". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.

Lawrence S. Feinsod, E.D.

Executive Director