

# ANNUAL DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

The Conference Center at Mercer  
1200 Old Trenton Road  
West Windsor, New Jersey  
November 22, 2025

## Agenda

8:00- 10:00 a.m.	REGISTRATION/ FULL BREAKFAST BUFFET	
9:00 a.m.	CALL TO ORDER Presiding: Karen Cortellino, M.D. Interim President	
	PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Delegates
	RECOGNITION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS	Karen Cortellino, M.D.
	REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT	Karen Cortellino, M.D.
	REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Dr. Timothy J. Purnell
	ADOPTION OF THE RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY	Karen Cortellino, M.D.
	REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE	Parliamentarian David White Irene LeFebvre
	REPORT OF THE V. P. FOR LEGISLATION/RESOLUTIONS	Karen Cortellino, M.D.
	REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE	Karen Cortellino, M.D.
	CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS	Karen Cortellino, M.D.
	INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS	Irene LeFebvre Karen Cortellino, M.D.
	ADJOURNMENT	Karen Cortellino, M.D.



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## DELEGATE CERTIFICATION FORM

**New Jersey School Boards Association  
413 West State Street  
Trenton, New Jersey 08618  
(609) 695-7600**

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I am a regular voting member of the:

\_\_\_\_\_ Board of Education in the County of

\_\_\_\_\_ ; that to the best of my knowledge, said Board of Education is a member in good standing of the New Jersey School Boards Association, and that I am duly appointed and authorized to act as the Delegate from said Board of Education at the Annual Delegate Assembly on November 22, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY/STATE/ZIP



## SUMMARY OF DELEGATE ACTION

Enclosed for your convenience to report to your board of education.

<b><u>Item Considered</u></b>	<b><u>Action Taken</u></b>
Election of President	
Election of Vice President Legislation/Resolutions	
<p><b><u>RESOLUTION NO. 1</u></b>  The Delran Board of Education, Burlington County (Delran), proposes <b>new</b> policy language for adoption by the Delegate Assembly, and for inclusion in the NJSBA's Manual of Positions and Policies on Education (P&amp;P). The proposed resolution requests that the NJSBA support a limitation on the period of time for which a board member and charter school trustee's criminal history can be reviewed, and that it support language that would consider the nature of the crime committed before a board member or charter school trustee could be permanently disqualified from service.</p> <p><b><u>RECOMMENDATION</u></b>  The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends approval of the proposed resolution with the following <b>substitute</b> language that would amend current policy language to be included in NJSBA's <i>Manual of Positions and Policies</i> in File Code 9111:</p> <p><b>The NJSBA believes</b> that board members and charter school trustee members should have the opportunity to demonstrate affirmatively to the Commissioner of Education evidence of rehabilitation upon finding a criminal offense that would disqualify them from membership, and consideration shall be given to the date of the offense.</p>	

**RESOLUTION NO. 2**

The Clifton Public School District Board of Education has proposed **new** policy language supporting the belief that there should be universal free school meals for all Pre-K through 12 students in New Jersey.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends approval of the proposed resolution with the following **substitute** language that would amend current policy language to be included in NJSBA's *Manual of Positions and Policies* in File Code 3542:

**The NJSBA believes** that a free school program should be offered to all students at the expense of the state and/or federal government.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3**

The Bridgewater-Raritan School District has proposed **new** policy language supporting the belief that Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education should be integrated into aspects of pre-K through 12 curricula for all New Jersey students.

**RECOMMENDATION**

NJSBA, therefore, recommends adoption of the proposed resolution with the following **substitute** language that would revise the language in policy file code No. 6142:

**The NJSBA believes** that local boards of education should dedicate an equitable amount of instructional time to science education in elementary and middle schools relative to the amount of instructional time allocated to other subject areas.



## NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024-2025**

(As of October 31, 2025)

#### **Officers/Executive Committee**

##### Interim President

**Karen Cortellino, M.D.**, Montville Township Board of Education

##### Vice President for Finance

**Dr. Tom Connors**, Piscataway Board of Education

##### Vice President for County Activities

**Barry Walker**, Bridgewater-Raritan Regional Board of Education

##### Vice President for Legislation/Resolutions

##### **Vacancy**

##### Immediate Past President

**Karen Cortellino, M.D.**, Montville Township Board of Education

##### Ex Officio

**Timothy J. Purnell, Ed.D.**, Executive Director, New Jersey School Boards Association

#### **Board of Directors**

##### **ATLANTIC**

Louis Della Barca, Egg Harbor Township Board of Education

Theresa Hudson, Absecon Board of Education (*Alt.*)

##### **BERGEN**

Michael Sprague, Norwood Board of Education

Behrooz Pasdar, Emerson Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **BURLINGTON**

Michael McClure, Maple Shade Board of Education  
Carlye Lamarca, Burlington Township Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **CAMDEN**

Karen Sorbello, Magnolia Board of Education  
Vacancy (*Alt.*)

## **CAPE MAY**

Jacqueline McAlister, Ocean City Board of Education  
Vacancy (*Alt.*)

## **CUMBERLAND**

Cedric Holmes, Vineland Board of Education  
Erica Williams-Mosley, Bridgeton Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **ESSEX**

Benjamin Morse, Bloomfield Board of Education  
Kasey Dudley, Bloomfield Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **GLOUCESTER**

Dr. Rena' Morrow, Monroe Township Board of Education  
Crystal Greene, Clayton Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **HUDSON**

Hector Gonzalez, Jr., Bayonne Board of Education  
Vacancy (*Alt.*)

## **HUNTERDON**

Robert Imhoff, High Bridge Board of Education  
Elizabeth Fiore, Readington Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **MERCER**

Dana Krug, West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education  
Addie Lane, Trenton Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **MIDDLESEX**

Liwu Hong, East Brunswick Board of Education  
Diana Jaquez, New Brunswick Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **MONMOUTH**

Kathy Winecoff, Millstone Township Board of Education  
Kenneth Cook, Keansburg Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **MORRIS**

Diane Morris, Mine Hill Township Board of Education  
Irene LeFebvre, Boonton Town Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **OCEAN**

Victoria Pakala, Brick Township Board of Education  
Dana Weber, Island Heights Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **PASSAIC**

Alan Paris, Clifton Board of Education  
Maryann Capursi, Passaic City Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **SALEM**

Eileen Miller, Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional Board of Education  
John Ashcraft, Penns Grove-Carneys Point Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **SOMERSET**

Jean Trujillo, Hillsborough Township Board of Education  
Jennifer Agugliaro, Watchung Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **SUSSEX**

Ronald Hoffman, Hardyston Township Board of Education  
Kaitlin Gagnon, Sparta Township Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **UNION**

William Hulse, Cranford Board of Education  
Dicxiana Carbonell, Union Township Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **WARREN**

Scott Nodes, Greenwich Township Board of Education

Jaclyn Rowbotham, Harmony Township Board of Education (*Alt.*)

## **COUNTY ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP**

Michael Jacobs, Ridgefield Board of Education, Bergen County

Julie Kozempel, Washington Township Board of Education, Gloucester County (*Alt.*)

## **URBAN BOARDS**

Rita Martin, Winslow Township Board of Education, Camden County

Marsha Hershman, Lindenwold Board of Education, Camden County (*Alt.*)

Rosa E. Moreno-Ortego, Elizabeth Board of Education, Union County

Cynthia Atkins, Roselle Board of Education, Union County (*Alt.*)

Diane Johnson, Pennsauken Board of Education, Camden County

Sheri Lowery, Pemberton Township Board of Education, Burlington County (*Alt.*)

## **VOCATIONAL BOARDS**

Jon-Henry Barr, Union County Vocational Board of Education

Ruth Hands, Cumberland County Vocational Board of Education (*Alt.*)

**10/31/2025**

## PROCEDURAL SUGGESTIONS FOR DELEGATES

Action in delegate meetings is sometimes prolonged when parliamentary procedure has not been properly followed in difficult situations. To speed the meeting, delegates might consider the following procedures:

### **Making Motions**

*To be discussed, a resolution must be moved by a delegate, preferably from the sponsoring board.* The Vice President for Legislation/Resolutions does not move the resolution but merely reads a summary of the objectives sought in the resolution and the Resolutions Subcommittee's recommendation for delegate action as sent to all boards of education.

The recommendations proposed to the Delegate Assembly at the end of the discussion pages in this Delegate Handbook are made by the Resolutions Subcommittee. The Subcommittee is authorized by the NJSBA Bylaws to review all resolutions to come before the Delegate Assembly for policy consideration. Research on the issues presented in these resolutions sometimes leads the Resolutions Subcommittee to offer an alternative solution to the objectives sought with the Subcommittee recommending a substitute resolved clause for delegate approval. If a board delegate so chooses, the substitute resolved clause may be moved as the original motion for delegate approval.

*When moving a resolution as originally presented by the sponsoring board of education, please say:*

I move Resolution No. \_\_\_\_ as originally submitted.

*When moving a resolution with the substitute resolved clause recommended in the discussion pages, please say:*

I move Resolution No. \_\_\_\_ with the substitute resolved clause and recommended policy language for NJSBA'S Manual of Positions and Policies on Education.

### **Making Amendments**

Any motion to amend a resolution or committee report recommendations must be submitted in writing to the Chair and official reporter before or at the time the motion is made on the floor.

An amendment form may be obtained at the Legal Table which is located at the front of the meeting room to your right. Delegates may consult with an NJSBA staff attorney should assistance be required in drafting an amendment.

***When moving to amend a motion, please clarify your intent by saying one of the following:***

- I move to strike on page \_\_\_\_, line \_\_\_\_ the word(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- I move to strike on page \_\_\_\_, line \_\_\_\_ the word(s) \_\_\_\_\_ and insert the word(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- I move to insert the word(s) \_\_\_\_\_ between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on page \_\_\_\_, line \_\_\_\_.
- I move to add at the end of line \_\_\_\_ on page \_\_\_\_ the word(s) \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Postponing or Referring a Motion**

When delegates wish to defer action in order to develop more information, they should move to refer a resolution to a committee for study or refer a report back to the original committee for further study.

### **Close Votes**

Whenever a delegate doubts the result of a vote as inconclusive or a tie, they may move that the vote be recast. If this motion is seconded, a majority vote is required to order a recount.

## **RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY**

### **GOVERNANCE & OPERATIONS**

**FILE CODE: GO/8151**

1. **Credentials:** (a) The credential cards of all voting delegates shall be kept visibly displayed during the meeting. Voting shall be by electronic device. (b) The delegate to the Delegate Assembly must be either the delegate of record or alternate of record or show proof of designated representation by the local board. A signed statement by the school business administrator on school district letterhead must be provided to show proof of designated representation by the local board. The delegate must show proof of identity at time of registration. (c) The registration desk shall close during the voting process in any contested election and no credentials shall be issued during such period. (d) An official count of all registered delegates shall be prepared and submitted to the President for announcement at the meeting just prior to the distribution of ballots in a contested election.
2. **Parliamentary Procedure:** (a) Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, current edition, shall govern the proceedings unless otherwise inconsistent with these rules. (b) There shall be an official parliamentarian to whom questions may be directed only through the Chair.
3. **Seating:** (a) All voting delegates, officers, members of the Board of Directors, county school board association representatives and staff shall be seated in front sections for easy access to the microphones for speaking privileges. (b) All others shall be seated at the rear of the meeting room.
4. **Recognition by Chair:** (a) An eligible speaker shall use a microphone and gain recognition of the Chair before speaking. (b) They shall give their full name and local board or official capacity. (c) Speakers shall state, at the outset, if they are speaking for or against a motion.
5. **Written Amendments:** (a) All motions to amend a resolution or committee report shall be submitted by the maker in writing to the Chair before or at the time the motion is made. The Chair has discretion to require any other motion to be submitted in writing. A majority vote is needed to pass the motion.
6. **Time Limitations on Speakers:**

- (a) The first presentation of a delegate moving a question shall be limited to three minutes. Subsequent presentations shall be limited to two minutes each. No authorized speaker shall speak a second time on the same question until all persons seeking the floor shall have had an opportunity to speak once.\*
- (b) The first presentation of a delegate moving an amendment to a question shall be limited to two minutes. Subsequent presentations shall be limited to one minute each. No authorized speaker shall speak a second time on the same amendment until all persons seeking the floor shall have had an opportunity to speak once.
- (c) Discussion on a committee report shall be limited to 15 minutes with the provision that, if continuation is desired, a motion may be passed by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting to extend discussion time for a period of not more than five minutes, with a separate motion being required for each such extension.\*
- (d) Discussion on a proposed amendment to the Bylaws shall be limited to 15 minutes with the provision that, if continuation is desired, a motion may be passed by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting to extend discussion time for a period of five minutes, with a separate motion being required for each such extension.\*
- (e) Discussion on a resolution shall be limited to 15 minutes with the provision that, if continuation is desired, a motion may be passed by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting to extend discussion time for a period of not more than five minutes, with a separate motion being required for each such extension.\*
- (f) If a motion to amend the main motion is made, time will be suspended on the main resolution or committee report and five minutes will be allowed for discussion of the proposed amendment with the provision for extension as noted above (d). At the conclusion of a vote on the proposed amendment, time will be resumed on the main resolution or committee report.\*

\* Time clocks will be stopped when questions on parliamentary procedure are discussed and while proposed amendments are being prepared for presentation.



7. Straw Poll: There shall be no straw poll vote while the meeting is in session.
8. A Motion to Call the Question: (a) May not be made by a delegate at the conclusion of their remarks; (b) Will be deemed out of order if there are delegates waiting to speak and if discussion on the matter has not exceeded five minutes. A two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting is needed to pass the motion.
9. Motion to Reconsider: Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, current edition, once a resolution or Bylaws amendment has been voted upon, the delegates may not reconsider the vote on that resolution or Bylaws amendment.
10. Breach of Order: In debate, a member's remarks must be germane to the question before the assembly— that is, their statements must have bearing on whether the pending motion should be adopted. If a member commits only a slight breach of order—such as addressing another member instead of the chair in debate, or in a single instance, failing to confine their remarks to the merits of the pending question, the chair will advise the member to avoid it. They may then continue speaking if no further breaches occur. If the offense is more serious—for example, when a member persists in speaking on completely irrelevant matters in debate—the chair will warn the member; however, with or without such a warning, the president or any delegate may “call the member to order.” If the chair does this, they shall say, ‘The member is out of order and will be seated.’ Another member wishing to call a member to order shall rise and say, without waiting to be recognized, ‘[Chair or Presiding Officer], I call the member to order,’ and then resume their seat. If the chair finds the point of order well taken, they shall declare the offender out of order and direct them to be seated.
11. Suspension of Rules: These rules may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting.

NOTE: These Rules of Conduct for the November 22, 2025 Delegate Assembly will sunset at the adjournment of the Delegate Assembly.





## **NJSBA Annual Delegate Assembly Minutes May 10, 2025**

The Annual Delegate Assembly of the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) was held at the Conference Center at Mercer County Community College on May 10, 2025.

President Karen Cortellino, M.D, and Vice President for Legislation/Resolutions Chanta L. Jackson presided over the meeting. Executive Director Dr. Timothy J. Purnell provided a written report to the members. There were 105 delegates present, representing 18 counties.

President Karen Cortellino, M.D. called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. She reminded everyone in attendance that only certified delegates have the right to speak and vote on pending matters. She indicated that voting tallies and policy amendment language will be visible on the screen.

President Cortellino also reminded the delegates that members of the staff, NJSBA Board of Directors members who are not serving as delegates, past presidents of the Association, and county school board presidents or their designees are afforded speaking privileges but do not have voting privileges. Non-voting board of education members who do not have speaking privileges and guests are viewing this meeting through the NJSBA online conference platform.

President Cortellino announced that adequate notice of the meeting had been provided to three major newspapers and filed with the New Jersey Secretary of State and posting of the notice was in the first-floor lobby of NJSBA headquarters located at 413 West State Street in Trenton. The Association provided notices in the following ways: a preview of the agenda was published on the NJSBA website and a news advisory highlighting agenda items of interest to the news media was sent to all daily newspapers in the state; the Resolutions Subcommittee report was placed on the NJSBA website to allow boards of education time to discuss these items before today's meeting.

She reported that the Delegate Assembly Handbook and other materials related to the May 10 agenda were mailed on April 24 to delegates who requested a Handbook by April 9. An electronic copy was also posted on the NJSBA website.

President Cortellino led the delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance.

She acknowledged the following officers for their contributions to the Association.

### *President*

Karen Cortellino, M.D., Montville Township (Morris)

### *VP for County Activities*

Barry Fitzgerald, Lenape Regional (Burlington)

*VP for Finance*

Dr. Tom Connors, Piscataway (Middlesex)

*VP for Legislation/Resolutions*

Chanta L. Jackson, Neptune Township (Monmouth)

*Immediate Past President*

Irene LeFebvre, Boonton Town (Morris)

Dr. Cortellino also acknowledged the special contributions of those who have chaired the Association's standing and *ad hoc* committees:

*Audit Committee*

Scott Nodes, Greenwich Township (Warren)

*Standards and Assessment Committee*

Eileen Miller, Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional (Salem)

*Special Education Committee*

Irene LeFebvre, Boonton Town (Morris) and Lisa J. Marshall, Warren Hills Regional (Warren)

*Urban Boards Committee*

Marsha Hershman, Lindenwold (Camden)

*School Finance Committee*

Paula Colbath, Fort Lee (Bergen)

*NJSIAA Representatives*

Tammy Wagner, Stafford Township (Ocean)

Barry Fitzgerald, Lenape Regional (Burlington)

Howard Krieger, Upper Freehold Regional (Monmouth)

Steve Shohfi, Lavallette (Ocean)

Barry Walker, Bridgewater-Raritan (Somerset)

*NJSIG Board of Trustees*

Irene LeFebvre, Boonton Town  
(Morris)

Richard Casey, Ocean Gate (Ocean)

Josephine Sharp, Wildwood City  
(Cape May)

### **Special Appointments**

*United State Senate Your Program (USSYP) Selection  
Committee*  
Dr. Tom Connors, Piscataway (Middlesex)

*New Jersey Statewide Student Support Services  
(NJ4S)*  
Irene LeFebvre, Boonton Town  
(Morris)

*School Safety and Security Task  
Force*  
William Hulse, Cranford (Union)

*The Commission on the Effects of Social  
Media*  
Chanta L. Jackson, Neptune Township (Monmouth)

*The Educator Evaluation Work Group*  
Robert Morrison. Watchung Hills Regional, (Somerset)

*The Governor's Task Force for the  
LGBTQIA+*  
JoAnn Groeger, Lawrence Township  
(Mercer)

**President's Report** – President Cortellino highlighted NJSBA's commitment to timely and relevant member programming. She celebrated the success of the 2nd Annual Women's Leadership Conference and shared plans for a joint conference with NJASA in 2026. She recognized the well-received first Equity Expo conference, a first ever panel led by the Board Members of the Year during Workshop 2024, and the updated *Final Report of the NJSBA Committee on Educational Opportunities for the Career-Focused Leader* issued in February 2025. President Cortellino emphasized amplifying member voices through state and federal committee appointments.

Dr. Cortellino announced the extension of Dr. Purnell's contract and expressed gratitude for the talented staff and the collective support of the membership, acknowledging their crucial role in the association's progress.

President Cortellino concluded by wishing all a happy Mother's Day on behalf of the NJSBA Officers and thanked the NJSBA staff for their hard work and assistance. She also thanked the board members attending today for their commitment to the students of New Jersey.

**Executive Director's Report** - In his Executive Director/CEO report, Dr. Timothy J. Purnell outlined the NJSBA's strategic focus on three key pillars: Content, Connection, and Advocacy, all aimed at bolstering member support and engagement. He highlighted the upcoming annual survey to evaluate all programs and services, ensuring they remain relevant and valuable to members, alongside the ongoing revision of interactive training modules.

Dr. Purnell emphasized initiatives to engage former board members and plans to offer executive coaching for current board members, which will foster a stronger network and leadership capacity. He pointed to the continued support offered through PAA-HR and public relations/crisis management resources, empowering districts to navigate challenges effectively. Furthermore, he highlighted the advocacy successes of the past year, which included the elimination of the mandated budget vote in the April school board elections, advancements in student literacy and Type S buses.

Dr. Purnell concluded by inviting open dialogue and emphasizing the strength derived from member voices.

**Rules for Conduct of the Delegate Assembly** - President Cortellino announced participants will be using an electronic voting card for the meeting today. When a call for a vote is announced, members wait for the overhead screen to indicate the polling is open. After the poll is open, members enter their vote. They are to firmly press the corresponding number on the device, then press GO at the lower left of the device. When the little red/green light flashes on their device, their vote has been entered. Once they vote, they cannot vote again. Once the polling is closed, the tally of the vote will be shown on the screen. The procedure for voting will remain the same whether it is for a resolution, amendment, or any other procedure.

President Cortellino pointed out that there are two stationary microphones stationed in the aisles and are numbered. If a member wishes to speak at any time, they are to walk to the nearest microphone and they will be recognized in the order they come to the microphone. Once a member is recognized, they must identify themselves by name, board, and state if they are the voting delegate and if they are speaking for or against the motion so that the official reporter can keep accurate minutes. In order to facilitate the smooth running of the meeting, the member must position themselves at a microphone to make a motion. Seconders must also position themselves at a microphone to second a motion.

Three time clocks are going to be used to time the deliberations. One clock will time discussion on the main motion; another will time discussion on proposed amendments; and

the third clock will time speakers.

Proposed amendments from the floor will be shown on the overhead screen. All deletions will be highlighted and [bracketed] and additional language will be underlined. It is required that amendments be submitted in writing when the motion is made. Amendments must be written before being presented at the microphone. After the amendment is proposed, the person making the motion will retain a copy – and give the other copies to a staff member who will collect and deliver one copy to the amendment typist and the other to the parliamentarian.

President Cortellino introduced the Delegate Assembly's parliamentarian, David White, whose role is not to issue decisions or rulings but to advise the Association on parliamentary procedure and address any questions on the rules. Mr. White stated that the *Rules and Procedures for the Delegate Assembly*, which are included in the handbook, and the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* will be adhered to. All decisions, whether it is a majority vote or 2/3 vote – are determined by those present and voting. Abstentions do not count as affirmative votes. Only the delegates can vote. A quorum constitutes 50 delegates from 11 counties. There were 105 delegates present, representing 18 counties, which represented a quorum. When the parliamentarian issues a decision, it will prevail, and the meeting continues.

*Adoption of the rules for the conduct of the DA was moved by Holly Morell, Fort Lee Bd. of Ed. (Bergen) and duly seconded.*

*With no further discussion, the motion to adopt the rules for the conduct of the May 10, 2025, Delegate Assembly was **APPROVED** (vote of 99/1)*

**Minutes of the December 7, 2024, Delegate Assembly** - Hearing no correction to the minutes of the December 7, 2024, Delegate Assembly, *President Cortellino declared the minutes approved as amended.*

**Committee Reports** - President Cortellino announced that the following reports were published in the delegate handbook and do not require any action: Finance and Legislative Committees.

**Report of the Vice President for Legislation/Resolutions** – Chanta L. Jackson, Neptune Township (Monmouth) presented the Emergency Resolutions Subcommittee report. The cutoff for Emergency Resolutions was April 30, 2025. The Association received no Emergency Resolutions.

Ms. Jackson presented the report of the Resolutions Subcommittee. The Association received six resolutions prior to the March 6 cutoff date. Two resolutions were not accepted for filing as they were not consistent with NJSBA formatting requirements. One resolution was voluntarily withdrawn by the sponsoring district. Accordingly, the Resolution Subcommittee recommended support of the remaining three resolutions.

## Discussion of the Three Resolutions

### **Resolution No. 1 – Woodbury Board of Education (Gloucester)**

The Woodbury Board of Education (Gloucester) proposes new policy language to NJSBA's Manual of Positions and Policies on Education (P&P). The resolution seeks to promote student participation in interscholastic esports activities and encourages local boards to award varsity letters for such participation.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends approval of this resolution with the following substitute language which would create new policy language to be included in NJSBA's Manual of Positions and Policies on Education in File Code 6145.2 – Interscholastic Competition.

The NJSBA believes that local boards of education should exercise existing statutory authority to revise existing interscholastic competition policies to support the inclusion of esports as a valuable interscholastic competition and to award varsity letters to esports high school participants to the extent they deem appropriate.

*A motion was made by Jo Ann Groeger, Lawrence Township (Mercer) to move the resolution. Motion was duly seconded by Nancy Barna, West Deptford Township (Gloucester).*

Before discussion on the recommendation, staff discussed the background and research that was involved in the write-up, and the subsequent recommendation from the Committee.

Discussion by Delegates ensued.

### Proposed Resolution as Originally Amended – Passes (vote of 90/10)

### No. 2 – Franklin Township (Warren)

The Franklin Township resolution proposes new policy language supporting the belief that the State should modify the criteria for the school nurse (non-instructional) endorsement to eliminate the requirements of holding a bachelor's degree and completing a New Jersey Department of Education ("NJDOE") approved college curriculum for the preparation of school nurses, with a minimum of 21 semester hour credits. In lieu of the 21 semester hour credits in an NJDOE approved college curriculum, Franklin Township proposes requiring a candidate to complete three classes related to school specific operations within the first eighteen months of beginning employment in a school district.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends approval of this resolution with the following substitute language that would create additional policy language to be included in NJSBA's Manual of Positions and Policies on Education in File Code 4111:

The NJSBA believes that all necessary and appropriate steps should be pursued to address the school nurse



shortage and to increase the number of candidates who are eligible for the school nurse/non-instructional endorsement from the NJDOE.

*A motion was made by Jasmine Francisco, Washington Township (Warren), to move the resolution. Motion was duly seconded by Kathy Winecoff, Millstone (Monmouth).*

Before discussion, staff discussed the background and research that was involved in the write-up, and the subsequent recommendation from the Committee. There is pending legislation that attempt/seek to address this issue.

Discussion by Delegates ensued.

Proposed Resolution as Originally Amended – Passes (vote of 51/49)

#### **Resolution No. 4 – Kittatinny Regional (Sussex)**

The Kittatinny resolution proposes new language for addition to NJSBA's Manual of Positions and Policies on Education (P&P) supporting the belief that attendance regulations should include state-excused absence(s) for students who are completing steps necessary to enter the skilled trades profession/union.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends approval of this resolution with the following substitute language which would create additional policy language to be included in NJSBA's Manual of Positions and Policies on Education in File Code 5113:

The NJSBA believes students should be permitted a limited number of state-excused absences for participation in activities related to pursuing a skilled trade post-graduation.

*A motion was made by Louis Sylvester, Kittatinny Regional Board of Education (Sussex), to move the resolution. Motion was duly seconded by Robert Waskis, Washington Township (Morris).*

Before discussion, staff discussed the background and research that was involved in the write-up, and the subsequent recommendation from the Committee.

Discussion by Delegates ensued.

Proposed Resolution as Originally Amended – Passes (vote of 96/4)

#### **Report of the Nominating Committee**

Irene LeFebvre, Immediate Past President, Boonton Town (Morris) provided the report of the Nominating Committee procedures for nominating officers are set forth in the NJSBA *Bylaws*. According to those

*Bylaws*, there shall be a standing committee of the Association called the Nominating Committee. It is established at least 170 days prior to the annual meeting at which the regular is held by selecting volunteers to serve on the committee. The membership must consist of the following persons:

4 members of the Board of Directors, one from each of the geographical areas of the state Northeast, Northwest, Central, and South, elected by the Board of Directors;

4 persons, one from each of the geographical areas of the state, elected by the County School Boards Association presidents;

4 persons, appointed at-large by the President, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors;

The Immediate Past President; and

The President as a non-voting member.

Committee members serve for a 2-year term and hold office until their respective successors have been elected or appointed.

No two members of the Nominating Committee, excluding the President and Immediate Past President, may represent boards of education in the same county. Committee members shall be eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee for one 2-year term. They would be eligible to serve again after a 2-year break.

No person who serves on the Nominating Committee may be nominated as a candidate for office at the forthcoming election.

Vacancies among the members of the committee shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

Pursuant to Association *Bylaws*, the report of the Association's Nominating Committee was published in *School Board Notes* and posted on the NJSBA website, on February 14, 2025.

Noting the choice of candidates for office is never easy, Ms. LeFebvre thanked the members of the Nominating Committee for the many hours spent in deliberation.

- Irene LeFebvre, Chair, Immediate Past President, Boonton Town (Morris)
- Diane Morris, Mine Hill (Morris)
- Michael Sprague, Norwood (Bergen)
- Victoria Pakala, Brick (Ocean)
- Marcha Hershman, Lindenwold (Camden)

- Jennifer Knittel, Washington Township (Warren)
- Dr. Courtney Washington, Roselle (Union)
- Donna Iacone, Cinnaminson (Burlington)
- Patrick Ireland, Egg Harbor Township (Atlantic)
- Ray Morris, Newton (Sussex)
- Alan Paris, Clifton (Passaic)
- JoAnn Groeger, Lawrence Township (Mercer)
- Jacqueline McAlister, Ocean City (Cape May)
- Karen Cortellino, M.D., President, Montville Township (Morris) (non-voting member)

Immediate Past President LeFebvre referred the Delegates to page 45 of the Delegate Assembly Handbook for the names and biographical information of the nominees selected by the Nominating Committee.

Eight applications were received: five for president, one for vice president for county activities, one for vice president for finance and one for vice president for legislation/resolutions.

During early February, the committee interviewed all eight candidates and prepared a report naming a candidate for president, vice president for county activities, vice president for finance and vice president for legislation/resolutions. All candidates nominated by the Committee are qualified and willing to serve pursuant to NJSBA Bylaws.

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Ms. LeFebvre placed the following individuals in nomination:

President – Tammeisha Smith, Knowlton Township (Warren)  
 Vice President for County Activities – Barry Walker, Bridgewater-Raritan Regional (Somerset)  
 Vice President for Finance – Dr. Tom Connors, Piscataway Township (Middlesex)  
 Vice President for Legislation/resolutions – Chanta L. Jackson, Neptune Township (Monmouth)

As seen in the Nominating Committee report, there is one person nominated for each office. Because there is only one candidate that has qualified for each office, there is no decision for the body to make. Accordingly, the named candidates are hereby elected by acclamation to serve in their respective offices until the annual meeting in 2027 and until their successors are elected and qualified.

Ms. LeFebvre concluded by thanking the members of the Nominating Committee, all of the candidates that applied and participated in the process, whether they were the final candidates or not, for their participation and cooperation in the election today.

### Installation of Officers

The next order of business is installing the officers of the Association who will hold office from the conclusion of today's Delegate Assembly until the annual meeting in the year 2027.

Officers were asked to present themselves and stand to the right of the podium when their name is called.

President, Tammeisha Smith  
Vice President for County Activities, Barry Walker  
Vice President for Finance, Dr. Tom Connors  
Vice President for Legislation/Resolutions, Chanta L. Jackson  
Immediate Past President, Karen Cortellino, M.D.

Ms. LeFebvre addressed the Assembly body. Delegates to the New Jersey School Boards Association, friends and guests, these candidates for office have been chosen in accordance with NJSBA Bylaws. They are to carry on the trust and office of the Association, and to further the betterment of public education in New Jersey, in accordance with established ethics, bylaws, and policy.

### Oath of Office

Do you elected officers of the association, declare yourselves ready to be installed in?

Collective “Yes.”

If you understand and are willing to accept the following charges, please signify by saying “I do” after each charge.

Raise your right hands.

Do you solemnly promise to faithfully and impartially perform the duties incumbent upon these offices to the best of your ability for the ensuing two years, and until your successors have been elected and installed?

Collective, “I do.”

And, do you solemnly promise that you will do everything in your power at all times, to uphold and advance the dignity, the honor, and the service of the Association and assist its members in encouraging and promoting all movements for the betterment of public education in New Jersey.

Collective, “I do.”

Ms. LeFebvre congratulates each and every one of the officer and then states, “to you my friends, as witness to this ceremony, I declare, in the responsibility and privilege granted me for performing this installation, that these officers have been duly installed in accordance with the Bylaws and concepts of the Association, and, therefore, will preside over the New Jersey School Boards association beginning at the

conclusion of this Delegate Assembly”.

#### Presentation by President Tammeisha Smith

Incoming President Tammeisha Smith expressed her enthusiasm for her new role, emphasizing her dedication to ensuring that the voices of all members are heard and valued as the Association moves forward. She conveyed a commitment to collaborative leadership and a focus on the diverse needs and aspirations of all member districts within the NJSBA.

#### Adjournment

The Annual Delegate Assembly was brought to adjournment jointly by outgoing President Karen Cortellino, M.D., and incoming President Tammeisha Smith, who together thanked everyone for taking the time to attend the Delegate Assembly.

Having no further business, *A motion was made by Irene LeFebvre, Boonton Town (Morris) to adjourn. Motion was duly seconded and carried.*

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Tanksley, Jr., Esq.  
General Counsel



# **REPORT OF THE NJSBA NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**Irene LeFebvre, CHAIR**

**Prepared for the Semi-Annual Delegate Assembly**

**November 22, 2025**

The NJSBA Nominating Committee met pursuant to Article VII, Section 5 of the *Bylaws* of the Association to interview candidates for NJSBA offices. Seven applications were received. Seven (7) candidates interviewed for the office of NJSBA president while three (3) applicants applied for the unexpired term of Vice President Legislation/Resolutions.

**The Nominating Committee submits the following candidates to serve as Association Officers for the balance of the unexpired 2025-2027 term:**

## **President**

Michael Jacobs – Ridgefield Board of Education (Bergen)

### **Candidate's Statement**

Michael A. Jacobs is a distinguished New Jersey community leader, and businessman whose career bridges global enterprise and public education. A graduate of Queen's College and a United States Navy veteran, Mr. Jacobs built an accomplished career in international trade and apparel manufacturing, serving as National Treasurer of the U.S./Mexico Chamber of Commerce. His leadership advanced cross-border commerce and earned recognition from the U.S., foreign governments and global organizations. Among his notable achievements, he secured the contract to produce the uniforms for the 1992 U.S. Olympic Team—unofficially hailed as the best in the world at the Barcelona Games—and played a key humanitarian role following the September 11 attacks. As a member of the Wheelchair Foundation's International Board of Advisors, he was instrumental in obtaining a five-million-dollar U.S. Congressional appropriation to expand global mobility initiatives.

Drawing on decades of executive experience in strategy, finance, and crisis management, Mr. Jacobs has brought a results-driven, globally informed perspective to public education leadership. Since 2020, he has served as Trustee and former President of the Ridgefield Board of Education, guiding the district through the COVID-19 pandemic with steady fiscal and operational oversight. As President of the Bergen County School Boards Association, representing 76 districts and approximately 136,000 students, he has championed advocacy and innovation. During his presidency, BCSBA advocated for funding for school-based mentoring programs—efforts that have resulted in a one-million-dollar bill currently before both Senate and Assembly Education Committees. Jacobs also serves on the Board of Directors of the New Jersey School Boards Association, continuing his mission to strengthen schools and empower future leaders.

## **Vice President for Legislation/Resolutions**

Bernadette Dalesandro, Netcong Board of Education (Morris)

### **Candidate's Statement**

It is with profound humility and an unyielding sense of purpose that I accept this nomination for NJSBA Vice President for Legislation/Resolutions. I stand ready—my heart and experience aligned—to join the 2025-2027 leadership team and serve as a strong, determined, and resonant voice for every dedicated member across our state.

I am prepared to immerse myself fully: to represent our tireless advocates and to expertly chair both the critical Legislation Committee and the Resolutions Sub-Committee. My journey has taught me that true leadership is forged through genuine collaboration, active listening, and building a powerful consensus that crosses district lines.

My vision centers on three non-negotiable core values that define our mission: unlimited student success, innovative learning, and dynamic community engagement. If elected, I will tirelessly ensure that our legislative and resolutions efforts are not merely paperwork, but direct, impactful strategies that translate into tangible, life-changing differences for our students and schools.

My purpose is to build an unshakable unity within the NJSBA so that our collective, authoritative voice is heard powerfully and consistently in Trenton and throughout New Jersey. I am ready to lead, advocate, and use our combined, formidable strength to champion a brighter future for our students, schools, and communities.

***Additional Information for Filling Officer Positions*** According to NJSBA bylaws, candidates for all positions may also be nominated by petition, signed by at least ten members from at least five different boards of education, filed with the NJSBA Executive Director, on or before October 17, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. for the office of Vice President Legislation/Resolutions and on or before October 30, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. for the office of President.

No petitions for the office of the Vice President for Legislation/Resolutions were received by the filing deadline. At the time of publication, no petitions for President had been received.

The following Nominating Committee members were present at meetings for selection of candidates for office:

- Irene LeFebvre, Chair, Immediate Past President, NJSBA
- Karen Cortellino, M.D., Interim President, Montville Township Board of Education, Morris County (Ex Officio)
- Diane Morris, Mine Hill Board of Education, Morris County
- Michael Sprague, Norwood Board of Education, Bergen County
- Marsha Hershman, Lindenwold Board of Education, Camden County
- Jennifer Knittel, Washington Township Board of Education, Warren County
- Donna Iacone, Cinnaminson Board of Education, Burlington County
- Patrick Ireland, Egg Harbor Twp. Board of Education, Atlantic County
- Ray Morris, Newton Board of Education, Sussex County
- Alan Paris, Clifton Board of Education, Passaic County



- JoAnn Groeger, Lawrence Township Board of Education, Mercer County
- Jacqueline McAlister, Ocean City Board of Education, Cape May County





## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

**To: NJSBA DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**

**From: KAREN CORTELLINO, M.D. INTERIM PRESIDENT**

**Date: NOVEMBER 22, 2025**

**Re: REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

As Interim President, I would like to report the Legislative Committee's activities since the May 10, 2025 Delegate Assembly.

### **CHARGE:**

1. The Committee shall encourage, promote and assist in the development of local, county and Statewide legislative networks.
2. The Committee may initiate legislative policy recommendations for consideration by the Board of Directors or the Delegate Assembly.
3. The Committee shall review issues and NJSBA's advocacy agenda and offer input on these matters.
4. The Committee shall clarify existing positions on legislation by analyzing bills pending in the Legislature.
5. The Committee shall recommend a biannual legislative agenda.
6. The Committee members may be called upon to testify at meetings and hearings of the State Legislature on issues.
7. The Committee shall serve as a membership base for the Resolutions Subcommittee.
8. The Committee members may participate in NJSBA's legislative training activities.
9. The Committee shall review federal legislation and other initiatives that affect local school boards and offer input on these matters.
10. The Committee shall serve as a united voice for the needs of all children by testifying, initiating local resolutions, writing/meeting/telephoning legislators, and communicating with local board members at county functions.

At the heart of the Committee's charge is its crucial service as a link between local boards of education and the New Jersey School Boards Association on current legislative and administrative code issues. Committee members encourage, promote and assist in the development of local, county and Statewide legislative networks.

The Legislative Committee consists of 80 members and alternates who represent their respective legislative districts. Having members from all legislative districts ensures that each legislator is contacted on a regular basis by board members who advocate and champion the needs of 1.4 million public school children. Having active Committee members and alternates ensures a stronger and more consistent message to ALL legislators. Please look at the vacancy list below. If you know of any board members in your district who would be great in our advocacy efforts, let us know.

**Legislative Committee Vacancies** (as of October 30, 2025)

**LD # County**

4-alt Atlantic, Camden and Gloucester

13-alt Monmouth

19-alt Middlesex

22-alt Somerset and Union

33-alt Hudson

Since the last report, the Committee met on May 31, 2025 and September 27, 2025; during which, it heard from invited guest speakers, received updates from the governmental relations staff, and held discussions on various timely educational and legislative issues.

## **May 31, 2025**

### **OPENING REMARKS**

Due to a vacancy for the Vice President of Legislation/Resolution position, Dr. Timothy Purnell, Executive Director/CEO was appointed Vice President Pro Tem. and presided over the meeting. Dr. Purnell called the meeting to order and delivered opening remarks. He stated his sincere appreciation to the committee for their in-person participation on a Saturday morning. Dr. Purnell stated that guest speaker Daniel R. Harris would be speaking later.

Dr. Nicholas Diaz, Deputy Director, also thanked the members by acknowledging their contributions as committee members. Mr. Barry Walker, Vice President for County Activities, provided opening remarks on behalf of former NJSBA President Ms. Tammeisha D. Smith.

A quorum count, and recognition of committee appointments that were approved by the NJSBA Board of Directors at its most recent meeting, took place. In addition, members who will be departing the committee were also recognized for their service. The NJPTA was also represented.

### **GUEST SPEAKER**

Dr. Purnell welcomed and provided an introduction of the meeting's guest speaker, Daniel R. Harris. Mr. Harris was then given a warm welcome by the Officers and committee members. Mr. Harris served 12 years on his local school board in Woodbridge Township, where he now serves as a member of the township council. During his board service, he was a long-time member of the NJSBA Legislative Committee representing the 19<sup>th</sup> legislative district. Mr. Harris provided opening remarks to the members and explained how his time working alongside the Association and his board has been instrumental with his many legislative accomplishments. Mr. Harris spent well over an hour sharing his background in education, as well as discussing his plans for future legislative priorities as Speaker Coughlin's chief of staff.

The discussion included:

- S-3247/A-4496, the school construction bill aimed at streamlining the Schools Development Authority (SDA) and the Department of Education (DOE) processes. This bill, currently navigating regulatory procedures, seeks to enhance the efficiency of school construction projects and establish new financing mechanisms for school infrastructure improvements.
- Provisions in the law concerning PILOT (Payments in Lieu of Taxes) agreements, which has been consistently discussed at recent committee meetings.
- Discussion on the state budget and its impact on education funding. Mr. Harris acknowledged the ongoing conversation about re-evaluating the state funding formula to provide greater transparency and predictability, particularly for districts experiencing significant aid changes.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Mr. Jonathan Pushman, Senior Director of Advocacy, referred to the agenda and various meeting materials that were sent to attendees in advance of the meeting that highlighted some of the most significant legislative developments and advocacy activities of the Association since the last committee meeting. The materials included:

- A Governmental Relations Update that provides a detailed summary of recent legislative and Murphy administration activity.
- Bio for Daniel R. Harris, Chief of Staff to New Jersey General Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin, Deputy Executive Director, NJ General Assembly Majority Office
- 2024-2025 Legislative Advocacy Agenda and Action Plan

The Governmental Relations staff of Mr. Jonathan Pushman, Mr. John Burns, Esq., Senior Legislative and Policy Counsel, and Mr. Harrison Silver, Legislative Advocate, then led a PowerPoint presentation and discussed various new education-related laws, pending legislation, and various actions taken by the Murphy Administration since the last committee meeting. The PowerPoint included:

- Recently signed education laws.
- Education-related legislation that has been considered by the Legislature since the March 2025 committee meeting.
- Updates on the proposed FY2026 state budget.
- Promotion of the NJSBA Capitol Watch newsletter (<https://www.njsba.org/capitol-watch/>).

Throughout and after the presentation, the Governmental Relations staff responded to member inquiries. A copy of the presentation and a summary of the meeting have been provided to committee members.

A meeting summary can also be found in the June 10, 2025 edition of School Board Notes: <https://www.njsba.org/news-information/school-board-notes/legislative-committee-tackles-key-education-issues-in-may-31-meeting/>

## DISCUSSION AND COMMITTEE SHARING

Mr. Pushman announced the approval of the 2025-2026 Legislative Committee meeting dates by the NJSBA Board of Directors at its most recent meeting in May. The September and May meetings are planned as in-person, with December and March meetings as virtual events. This will allow utilizing online meeting platforms for higher-profile guest speakers and adding convenience for participants.

The 2025-2026 Legislative Committee meeting dates are:

- Saturday, September 27, 2025 (In-person, NJSBA Headquarters)
- Saturday, December 6, 2025 (Virtual)
- Saturday, March 14, 2026 (Virtual)
- Saturday, May 30, 2026 (In-person, NJSBA Headquarters)

Committee meetings will take place Saturdays at 9 a.m.

Mr. Pushman explained the NJSBA Bylaws concerning the Association’s Legislative Advocacy Agenda/Action Plan. The committee develops an advocacy agenda every two years that coincides with the two-year legislative session. The next legislative session begins in January 2026. The current 2024-2025 Advocacy Agenda was reviewed, and members were asked to bring their feedback to the next committee meeting in drafting the Advocacy Agenda for 2026-2027.

Several members discussed their challenges with free lunch applications, as many families are hesitant to complete the forms due to privacy concerns and fear of disclosing their immigration status.

## **September 27, 2025**

### OPENING REMARKS

Ms. Tammeisha D. Smith, former NJSBA President, called the virtual meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance. Ms. Smith thanked the members for their commitment to serving on the committee. Ms. Smith stated guest speakers Assemblyman Christopher P. DePhillips and Assemblyman Al Barlas, both from the 40th legislative district, would be speaking later.

Dr. Timothy Purnell, Executive Director/CEO also provided welcome remarks and expressed his appreciation to the committee members for their continued efforts in promoting public education advocacy for board members and students across the state.

A quorum count and announcements of newly appointed committee members that were approved by the NJSBA Board of Directors at its most recent meeting took place. Recognition of members who departed the committee followed.

### GUEST SPEAKERS

Ms. Smith welcomed and provided an introduction of the meeting’s guest speakers from the NJ Legislature:

- Assemblyman Christopher P. DePhillips, Legislative District #40
- Assemblyman Al Barlas, Legislative District #40

Mr. Jonathan Pushman, Senior Director of Advocacy, then moderated a very robust and lively discussion. The legislators engaged with the committee for over an hour outlining their legislative priorities and responded to questions from committee members. Some of the issues and legislation discussed included:

- Their positions on public education, mainly focusing on improvements that the Legislature can make to both school funding and the budgeting process. They highlighted issues with the timing and transparency of the state budget process and weighed in on the opportunities to reprioritize state funding so that schools have the tools to serve the state’s students.
- The pros and cons of relaxing the two percent tax levy cap and the rising costs of special education and health care for districts. They also discussed a consistent topic at the

- committee meetings, namely concerns over municipal PILOT agreements, stating school districts should be able to share some of the revenue generated from these agreements.
- The importance of civility in today's political environment, and why respectful dialogue is essential for democracy.

### LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Mr. Pushman referred to the agenda and various meeting materials that were sent to attendees in advance of the meeting that highlighted some of the most significant legislative developments and advocacy activities of the Association since the last committee meeting. The materials included:

- A Governmental Relations Update that provides a detailed summary of recent legislative and Murphy administration activity.
- Bios for Assemblyman Christopher P. DePhillips, Legislative District #40 and Assemblyman Al Barlas, Legislative District #40
- 2024-2025 Legislative Advocacy Agenda and Action Plan

The Governmental Relations staff of Mr. Pushman, Mr. John Burns, Esq., Senior Legislative and Policy Counsel and Mr. Harrison Silver, Legislative Advocate, then led a PowerPoint presentation. Highlights of the presentation included the following:

- Updates on the proposed FY2026 state budget.
- Promotion of the NJSBA Capitol Watch newsletter (<https://www.njsba.org/capitol-watch/>).
- Education-related legislation that has been considered by the Legislature since the May 2025 committee meeting.
- Laws that have recently been enacted, including those concerning expanding early childhood education (S-3910/A-5717), public notice reform (S-4654/A-5878), IEP meeting guidelines (A-5492/S-3982), and labor movement instruction (A-1682/S-1054).
- Noteworthy bill movement, including those concerning SFRA reform (S-3917 and A-5966), pension re-enrollment changes (A-1675/S-2078), and other instructional mandates (S-2335/S-3096/A-3871 and S-2818).
- Upcoming issues including the upcoming gubernatorial and Assembly elections and the issue of cell phones in schools, highlighting recent guidance issued by the NJ DOE and recommendations released by the NJ Commission on the Effects of Social Media Usage on Adolescents.
- A preview of the Legislative Panel and State Board Panel discussions and scheduled panelists at NJSBA's upcoming Workshop 2025 event in Atlantic City. The Panel discussions will be led by the Governmental Relations team, and this year's State Board Panel includes the current student representative.

In addition, Mr. Pushman provided a comprehensive update on NJSBA's 2024-2025 Legislative Advocacy Agenda and explained the NJSBA Bylaws concerning it. The committee develops an advocacy agenda every two years that coincides with the two-year legislative session, to be recommended to the Board of Directors for adoption. As the current legislative session is nearing



its end, the committee has begun the process of reviewing the current agenda to make updates ahead of the 2026-2027 legislative session. Mr. Pushman highlighted the progress made in each of the six key advocacy areas outlined in the agenda, including student achievement, school funding and finance, special education, staffing and labor relations, student health and well-being, and facilities and construction. He emphasized the importance of the advocacy work committee members complete in their own communities and on behalf of boards across the state and encouraged feedback as the Association will prepare to make draft updates ahead of the committee's next meeting in December.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation and a meeting summary were provided to the committee members. The Governmental Relations staff responded to member inquiries and questions that were submitted via the Zoom chat and Q&A function during the meeting, and an unedited copy of the public chat was provided as well to the members.

A meeting summary can also be found in the September 30, 2025 edition of School Board Notes:

<https://www.njsba.org/news-information/school-board-notes/assemblymen-share-insights-at-njsbas-legislative-committee-meeting/>

#### DISCUSSION AND COMMITTEE SHARING

The 2025-2026 Legislative Committee meeting dates were approved by the NJSBA Board of Directors in early 2025. The December and March dates are scheduled as virtual in consideration of weather, while the May 2026 meeting will be in-person at NJSBA headquarters.

- Saturday, December 6, 2025, 9:00 am (Virtual)
- Saturday, March 14, 2026, 9:00 am (Virtual)
- Saturday, May 30, 2026, 9:00 am (In-person only, NJSBA Headquarters)

Committee meetings will take place Saturdays at 9 a.m.

#### Staff

Jonathan Pushman, Senior Director of Advocacy  
Carl Tanksley, Jr., Esq., General Counsel  
Raymond Pinney, Chief Membership Engagement Officer  
Charles Muller, Business Administrator in Residence  
John Burns, Esq., Senior Legislative and Policy Counsel  
Harrison Silver, Legislative Advocate  
Anette Airey, Administrative Assistant





## **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROSTER**

**11-22-25 \***

<b>State District</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Board of Education</b>
1	Michele Barbieri	Member	Upper Township (Cape May)
	Josephine Sharpe	Alternate	Wildwood City (Cape May)
2	Patrick Ireland	Member	Egg Harbor Township (Atlantic)
	Amy Hassa	Alternate	Greater Egg Harbor Reg. (Atlantic)
3	Carolyn Kegler	Member	Logan Township (Gloucester)
	Cheryl Potter	Alternate	Elk Township (Gloucester)
4	John Shaw	Member	Winslow Township (Camden)
	<b>Vacancy</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	
	Maryjo Dintino	Resource	Gloucester Township (Camden)
5	Naomi Davidson	Member	Runnemede (Camden)
	Matthew McDevitt	Alternate	Pennsauken (Camden)
6	Joyce Miller	Member	Gibbsboro (Camden)
	Randall Freiling	Alternate	Pine Hill (Camden)
7	Lester Holley	Member	Edgewater Park (Burlington)
	Sean Toner	Alternate	Palmyra (Burlington)
8	Janet DiFolco	Member	Mount Holly (Burlington)
	Janis Knoll	Alternate	Evesham (Burlington)
9	Richard Casey	Member	Ocean Gate (Ocean)
	Regina Tarnowski	Alternate	Barnegat (Ocean)
10	Steve Shohfi	Member	Lavallette (Ocean)
	John Henry	Alternate	Brick (Ocean)
11	Giuseppe Grillo	Member	Asbury Park (Monmouth)
	Paul Savoia	Alternate	Red Bank (Monmouth)
12	Tara Rivera	Member	Jackson (Ocean)
	Jesse Tossetti	Alternate	Manalapan/Englishtown (Monmouth)

13	Dr. Paul Christopher	Member	West Long Branch (Monmouth)
	<b>Vacancy</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	
14	Kate Rattner	Member	Monroe (Middlesex)
	Stacy Morgan Santo	Alternate	Mercer County Spc Svcs (Mercer)
15	Jo Ann Groeger	Member	Lawrence Township (Mercer)
	Larry Traylor	Alternate	Trenton (Mercer)
16	Karyn Gove	Member	High Bridge (Hunterdon)
	Mike Mitchell	Alternate	South Brunswick (Middlesex)
17	Shantell Cherry	Member	Piscataway (Middlesex)
	Hayley Toth	Alternate	North Brunswick (Middlesex)
18	Sharon Miller	Member	South Plainfield (Middlesex)
	Laurie Herrick	Alternate	East Brunswick (Middlesex)
19	Paula Taggart	Member	South Amboy (Middlesex)
	<b>Vacancy</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	
20	Jerry Jacobs	Member	Elizabeth (Union)
	Dr. Courtney Washington	Alternate	Roselle (Union)
21	Robin McKeon	Member	Bernards Township (Somerset)
	Sharon Schueler	Alternate	Middlesex Borough (Middlesex)
22	Bernard Robson	Member	Rahway (Union)
	<b>Vacancy</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	
23	Teresa Kane	Member	Milford (Hunterdon)
	Lisa Marshall	Alternate	Warren Hills (Warren)
24	Robert Carlson	Member	Wallkill Valley Regional (Sussex)
	Raymond Morris	Alternate	Newton (Sussex)
25	Michael Bertram	Member	Morris Hills Regional (Morris)
	Christopher Natale	Alternate	Jefferson Township (Morris)
26	Alison Cogan	Member	Parsippany Troy (Morris)
	Dino Cappello	Alternate	Denville (Morris)
	Charles Caraballo	Resource	Bloomingtondale (Passaic)

27	Judy Bassford	Member	Clifton (Essex)
	Pamela Chirls	Alternate	Livingston (Essex)
28	Hasani Council	Member	Newark (Essex)
	William Meyer	Alternate	South Orange/Maplewood (Essex)
29	Reginald Bledsoe	Member	Essex Cty Voc Bd of Ed (Essex)
	Arthur Pettigrew	Alternate	Harrison (Hudson)
30	Denise Lowe	Member	Howell (Monmouth)
	Cherie Adams	Alternate	Belmar (Monmouth)
31	Dr. Christopher Tisdale	Member	Jersey City (Hudson)
	Sam Maggio	Alternate	Bayonne (Hudson)
32	Antonio Grana	Member	Hoboken (Hudson)
	Afaf Muhammad	Alternate	Jersey City (Hudson)
33	Adam Parkinson	Member	Hudson Co. Schools of Tech (Hudson)
	<b>Vacancy</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	
34	Jill Fischman	Member	Bloomfield (Essex)
	Jeffrey Wingfield	Alternate	Orange (Essex)
35	Lucia DeNova	Member	North Haledon (Passaic)
	Liliana Baez-Molena	Alternate	Manchester Reg (Passaic)
36	Lori Hoffman	Member	Ridgefield (Bergen)
	Dr. Letizia Pantoliano	Alternate	Cliffside Park (Bergen)
37	Paula Colbath	Member	Fort Lee (Bergen)
	Clara Williams	Alternate	Teaneck (Bergen)
38	John Walsh	Member	Oradell (Bergen)
	Alan Feigenson	Alternate	River Dell Regional (Bergen)
39	Dr. Jeffrey Pollack	Member	Dumont (Bergen)
	Mary Ellen Nye	Alternate	Ho-Ho-Kus (Bergen)
40	Pamela Priscoe	Member	Verona (Essex)
	Alexander Clavijo	Alternate	Hawthorne (Passaic)

**\*\*Note: Roster is current as of October 30, 2025. It may not include any changes or new appointments approved by the Board of Directors at its November 14, 2025 meeting.**





## REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**Irene LeFebvre & Lisa J. Marshall, Co-Chairs**  
**Prepared for the Semi-Annual Delegate Assembly**  
**November 22, 2025**

As Co-Chairs of the Special Education Committee, we would like to report on the Special Education Committee's activities since the May 2025 Delegate Assembly.

### **CHARGE:**

The Special Education Committee shall prepare and present appropriate testimony on special education issues affecting the delivery of special education services to children in New Jersey and in support of Association policies. The Committee shall report periodically to the Delegate Assembly and may recommend positions on special education issues for consideration by the Board of Directors.

### **MEETINGS:**

The Special Education Committee met on May 1, June 5, and August 27, 2025. The agendas of those meetings included the following topics:

**Special Education Training** — The Committee discussed the importance of board members having more training in special education. The Committee felt that special education is such a significant part of local districts' budgets that the committee felt that if board members had a better understanding of special education, they would be more effective board members. Committee staff were directed to send a letter to the NJSBA concerning the committee's sentiment on the importance of special education in the board member training regimen.

**Special Education Funding** — NJSBA staff gave a presentation to the committee on special education funding in New Jersey. The presentation included an overview of federal and state funding, including proposed state funding for special education in the budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Staff highlighted that, for the current fiscal year, state special education funding would be based, in part, on actual special education student counts and not on a census basis as required by the state School Funding Reform Act.

**Presentation from NJDOE** — Kimberly A. Murray, Ed.D., Director, Office of Special Education, NJ Department of Education, presented to the committee about the activities of her office. Dr. Murray spoke about the priorities of her office for the current year. These included Inclusive Practices, Differentiation, Universal Design for Learning, High Leverage Practices and Tiered Systems of Support. Dr. Murray also covered the requirements of P.L. 2025, c. 107 which requires that not less than two business days prior to the annual team meeting concerning the review of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) the district must mail and email the

following to parents: A statement of items to be discussed at the meeting and the student's current levels of academic and functional performance. Further, a list of required IEP members who are requesting excusal must also be provided. As part of that law, an IEP working group was established. The working group, which includes school board members, will examine current practices related to IEP development and implementation, focus on procedural consistency and meaningful parental involvement. The working group will issue a report with recommendations by December 2025.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2025-2026**

<b><i>Member Name</i></b>	<b><i>District Name</i></b>
Cherie L. Adams	Belmar Board of Education
Erica Campbell	Palmyra Board of Education
Laurie Herrick	East Brunswick Board of Education
Parul Aneja Khemka	Livingston Board of Education
Irene LeFebvre, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Boonton Town Board of Education
Lisa J. Marshall, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Warren Hills Regional Board of Education
Cathy A. Moncrief	Lindenwold Board of Education
Holly Morell	Fort Lee Board of Education
Nickolas Moustakas	Holland Board of Education
 <b><i><u>Staff</u></i></b>	
Jonathan Pushman	Senior Director of Advocacy
John J. Burns, Esq.	Senior Legislative and Policy Counsel
Harrison Silver	Legislative Advocate





## REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

by

**Karen Cortellino, M.D.**

**Interim President**

**Prepared for the Annual Delegate Assembly**

**November 22, 2025**

The Resolutions Subcommittee met virtually on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, via Zoom Workplace, to review the resolutions that will come before the Annual Delegate Assembly on November 22, 2025.

The Association received five (5) resolutions on or before the official cutoff date of October 3, for the Annual Delegate Assembly. One of the resolutions from the Bridgewater-Raritan Regional Board of Education was not properly formatted and was promptly returned to the sponsor with a detailed explanation of the deficiencies. Accordingly, four resolutions were forwarded to the Resolution Subcommittee for action. Of these, three resolutions were adopted by the Resolution Subcommittee and forwarded to the Delegate Assembly for consideration, while one resolution was removed from the agenda pursuant to Art. V §5(f) and (e). The actions taken are as follows:

1. R01 – Delran Bd. of Educ. – Criminal History Review: ADOPTED
2. R02 – Clifton Bd. of Educ. – Special Education Funding: REMOVED FROM AGENDA
3. R03 – Clifton Bd. of Educ. – Universal Free School Meals: ADOPTED
4. R04 – Bridgewater-Raritan – STEM: ADOPTED
5. R05 – Bridgewater-Raritan – Nonpartisan Schools: NOT ACCEPTED FOR FILING

It should be noted that Lucy Li, of the Bridgewater-Raritan Regional Board of Education appeared before the Committee to advocate in favor of Bridgewater-Raritan’s STEM resolution.

Pursuant to Article V, Section 6, action taken by the Resolutions Subcommittee may be overridden by the delegates in attendance at the Delegate Assembly upon prior notice, a motion, and simple majority vote. The motion to override must state specifically the remedy sought by

the moving party. The motion to override shall not be subject to debate except that both the maker of the motion and the chair of the Resolutions subcommittee shall be given three minutes to address the delegates concerning the motion.

Enclosed are the resolutions admitted to the Annual Delegate Assembly agenda by the Resolutions Subcommittee.

Enclosures: Summaries of Resolutions R01-R04

## RESOLUTION NO. 1

### SYNOPSIS

Resolution No. 1 from the Delran Board of Education, Burlington County (Delran), proposes **new** policy language for adoption by the Delegate Assembly, and for inclusion in the NJSBA's *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education* (P&P). The proposed resolution requests that the NJSBA support a limitation on the period of time for which a board member and charter school trustee's criminal history can be reviewed, and that it support language that would consider the nature of the crime committed before a board member or charter school trustee could be permanently disqualified from service.

### BACKGROUND

Ensuring the health and safety of students is one of the most critically important responsibilities of boards of education and charter school boards of trustees. In recognition of this fact, *N.J.S.A.* 18A:6-7.1, which was enacted following the passage of *P.L.* 1986, c. 116, prohibits boards of education and charter school boards of trustees from employing or paying for the services of "any teaching staff member ...or any other person serving in a position which ***involves regular contact with pupils*** unless" it has first determined "that no criminal history record information exists on file in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Identification Division, or the State Bureau of Identification which would disqualify that individual from being employed or utilized in such capacity or position" (emphasis added). *N.J.S.A.* 18A:6-7.1 then delineates the specific criminal offenses for which a conviction(s) results in disqualification from employment or service. Importantly, *N.J.S.A.* 18A:6-7.1 does ***not*** require board members or charter school trustees to submit to a criminal history background check, ostensibly because their positions do not require them to have "regular contact" with students.

*N.J.S.A.* 18A:6-7.1 initially contained a provision which permitted individuals who were otherwise disqualified from employment or service to show evidence of rehabilitation for their crimes. In this regard, the statute stated, in relevant part:

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, an individual shall not be disqualified from employment or service ... if the individual has affirmatively demonstrated to the Commissioner of Education clear and convincing evidence of his or her rehabilitation.

In determining whether rehabilitation had been affirmatively demonstrated, the following factors were to be reviewed, among others: the nature and seriousness of the offense; the circumstances under which the offense occurred; the date of the offense; the age of the individual when the offense was committed; and whether the offense was an isolated or repeated incident.

However, when *P.L. 1998, c.31* was signed into law in 1998, the foregoing “rehabilitation” language was deleted from the statute and replaced with, “Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, an individual shall not be disqualified from employment or service without an opportunity to ***challenge the accuracy of the disqualifying criminal history record***” (emphasis added). The impetus for the passage of *P.L. 1998, c. 31* was that individuals who have regular contact with students and were convicted of certain criminal offenses, regardless of subsequent rehabilitation, posed a risk to the health and safety of students, and should not be employed in school districts or charter schools.

More than a decade later, *P.L. 2011, c. 72* was signed into law on May 26, 2011, and began requiring all board members and charter school trustees, despite not having “regular contact” with students, to submit to a criminal history background check. *See N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1.2; N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-11.1. P.L. 2011, c. 72* also amended *N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1* – the statute which addresses the qualifications for individuals to serve as board members – to state that any person elected or appointed to any board of education would be disqualified from service because of a current or past conviction for any of the specific criminal offenses enumerated therein. Of note, the included criminal offenses were the same as those that permanently disqualify an individual from employment or service in a public or charter school. *See N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1.* In addition, the statute concerning the appointment of charter school trustees, *N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-11.1*, contains similar limiting language. Although board members and charter school trustees, like individuals who wish to be employed in a public school or charter school, are permitted to challenge the accuracy of the results of a criminal background check, there is no opportunity to affirmatively demonstrate “rehabilitation” following a conviction for a disqualifying offense, or a limitation on the period of time for which their criminal history is reviewed. *See N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1.2; N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-11.1.*

## **RELEVANT NJSBA POLICY**

File Code 5141 (Health)

### **Student Health and Safety**

- A. **The NJSBA believes** that local boards of education should provide conditions and establish policies that will ensure the health and safety of students.

File Code 9111 (Qualifications)

### **Criminal Background Checks**

**The NJSBA believes** that board members and charter school trustee members should have the opportunity to demonstrate affirmatively to the Commissioner of Education evidence of rehabilitation upon finding of a criminal offense that would disqualify them from membership. [*Authority: DA 11/11-1, DA 5/13-SR, DA 5/18-SR, DA 5/23- SR*]

## **DISCUSSION**

Following the enactment of *P.L.* 2011, c. 72, the City of Burlington Board of Education submitted a proposed resolution for consideration at the November 19, 2011, Delegate Assembly. More specifically, the City of Burlington Board of Education requested inclusion of the following language in the P&P, “[t]he NJSBA recommends support of limitation of the law in regards to *a specific length of time* for an individual’s background and consideration of *the nature of the crime committed*” (emphasis added).

At the time of the City of Burlington Board of Education’s submission, the only relevant language in the P&P was set forth in File Code 9112 (“[t]he **NJSBA believes** that, to ensure an informed electorate, those candidates that file petitions must disclose any past criminal convictions as defined by Title 2C of the NJ Criminal code on the date of filing their petition. [Authority: DA 5/05-1, DA 5/03-SR, DA 5/08-SR]).

Recognizing that the City of Burlington Board of Education was seeking “reasonable limits” on criminal history background checks for board members and charter school trustees because they, unlike employees or volunteers, do not have “regular contact” with students, the following revised language was approved by the voting delegates, and memorialized in File Code 9111: “**The NJSBA believes** that board members and charter school trustee members should have the opportunity to demonstrate affirmatively to the Commissioner of Education evidence of rehabilitation upon finding of a criminal offense that would disqualify them from membership.”

In recommending the foregoing language over the time limitation and nature of the crime language proposed by the City of Burlington Board of Education, the NJSBA determined that such policy language would not weaken “the intent to keep students and staff safe”; would be consistent with existing language in File Code 5141; and would satisfy the intent of the City of Burlington Board of Education’s resolution.

Delran’s proposed resolution seeks language in the P&P stating, “[t]he **NJSBA believes** in *limiting the period reviewed* in an individual’s criminal [b]ackground and consideration should be *given to the nature of the crime committed*” (emphasis added). Just like the resolution submitted by the City of Burlington Board of Education in 2011, Delran submits that the period of time for which a board member or charter school trustee’s criminal history record should be reviewed should be limited, and that “the nature of the crime” committed should additionally be considered before a board member or charter school trustee is permanently disqualified from service.

Continuing to safeguard the health and safety of all students must remain one of the topmost priorities of boards of education and charter school trustees. Because board members and charter school trustees do not have “regular contact” with students, they should not necessarily be subject to the same disqualification standard as employees. Although the language in File Code 9111 expresses the belief that board members and charter school trustees, unlike employees or volunteers, should be afforded the opportunity to provide evidence of rehabilitation, there is no existing P&P language which explicitly requires consideration to be given to the date the

conviction occurred. Inclusion of such additional language to File Code 9111, like the amended language adopted by the voting delegates following submission of a similar resolution from the City of Burlington Board of Education, would not, weaken “the intent to keep students and staff safe”; would be consistent with existing language in File Code 5141; and would satisfy, in part, the intent of Delran’s resolution.

In terms of the “nature of the crime committed,” *N.J.S.A.* 18A:12-1 and *N.J.S.A.* 18A:36A-11.1 expressly limit the crimes for which a conviction can result in the disqualification of a board member or charter school trustee. More specifically, a board member or charter school trustee is disqualified only if convicted of: any crime of the first or second degree; an offense set forth in chapter 14 of Title 2C, in *N.J.S.A.* 2C:24-4, *N.J.S.A.* 2C:24-7, *N.J.S.A.* 9:6-1 *et seq.*, or *N.J.S.A.* 2C:29-2; an offense involving the manufacture, transportation, sale, possession, distribution or habitual use of a “controlled dangerous substance” or “drug paraphernalia”; a crime involving the use of force or the threat of force to or upon a person or property including, but not limited to, robbery, aggravated assault, stalking, kidnapping, arson, manslaughter and murder; a crime as set forth in chapter 39 of Title 2C; a third degree crime as set forth in chapter 20 of Title 2C; recklessly endangering another person in violation of *N.J.S.A.* 2C:12-2; terroristic threats in violation of *N.J.S.A.* 2C:12-3; criminal restraint in violation of *N.J.S.A.* 2C:13-2; luring, enticing child into motor vehicle, structure or isolated area; causing or risking widespread injury or damage in violation of *N.J.S.A.* 2C:17-2; criminal mischief in violation of *N.J.S.A.* 2C:17-3; burglary in violation of *N.J.S.A.* 2C:18-2; usury in violation of *N.J.S.A.* 2C:21-19; threats and other improper influence in violation of *N.J.S.A.* 2C:27-3; perjury and false swearing in violation of *N.J.S.A.* 2C:28-3; resisting arrest in violation of *N.J.S.A.* 2C:29-2; escape in violation of *N.J.S.A.* 2C:29-5; bias intimidation in violation of *N.J.S.A.* 2C:16-1; any crime of the fourth degree involving a victim who is a minor; or conspiracy to commit or an attempt to commit any of the aforesaid crimes.

By limiting the crimes for which a conviction can result in disqualification, *N.J.S.A.* 18A:12-1 and *N.J.S.A.* 18A:36A-11.1 already consider the “nature of the crime committed.” Because this clause of Delran’s resolution does not effectively advocate for a change in law or policy, the proposal in the resolution seeking to adopt language giving consideration to nature of the crime committed should not be supported.

### **STATEMENT OF REASONS**

1. The resolution submitted by Delran seeks to limit the period of time for which a board member or charter school trustee’s criminal history record can be reviewed for conviction of a disqualifying criminal offense and also seeks to consider the nature of the crime committed before an individual can be disqualified from service due to a conviction(s).
2. The existing language in File Code 9111 was adopted on November 19, 2011, in direct response to a resolution from the City of Burlington Board of Education which sought to limit the “specific length of time” for which an individual’s background could be reviewed and additionally sought “consideration of the nature of the crime committed.”

3. Including additional language in File Code 9111 regarding the period of time for which a board member or charter school trustee's criminal history can be reviewed, like the existing language regarding rehabilitation, does not weaken the intent to keep students and staff safe, and is consistent with the existing language in File Code 5141.
4. However, including additional language in File Code 9111 regarding the "nature of the crime committed" does not effectively advocate for a change in law or policy.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends approval of the following additional language in File Code 9111: **The NJSBA believes** that board members and charter school trustee members should have the opportunity to demonstrate affirmatively to the Commissioner of Education evidence of rehabilitation upon finding of a criminal offense that would disqualify them from membership, and consideration shall be given to the date of the offense.

**NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION**

**413 West State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08618**

**1-888-886-5722**

**SEMIANNUAL DELEGATE ASSEMBLY  
November 22, 2025**

**The following resolution was received from the  
Delran Board of Education (Burlington):**

WHEREAS, On May 26, 2011, Governor Chris Christie signed into law Assembly Bill A-444, which requires school board members and charter school trustees to undergo criminal background checks and disqualifies individuals who have been convicted of certain crimes; and

WHEREAS, The Delran Board of Education requests that reasonable limitations be developed regarding the number of years to be reviewed in criminal background checks; and

WHEREAS, The Delran Board of Education acknowledges that the conviction of certain minor crimes may negatively impact an individual's employment or volunteer eligibility for many years after the conviction, thereby impeding that person's ability to fully reintegrate into society; and

WHEREAS, The Delegate Assembly serves as the official policy-making body of the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA); and

WHEREAS, Education-related policies resulting from prior Delegate Assembly and Board of Directors actions are codified in the NJSBA's *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education*; now, therefore, be it f


RESOLVED That the Delran Board of Education proposes the following new policy language for adoption by the Delegate Assembly and inclusion in the NJSBA's *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education*:

**The NJSBA believes** that limitations should be established regarding the time period reviewed in an individual's criminal background check, and that consideration should be given to the nature and severity of the crime committed; and, be it further



RESOLVED, That this resolution be placed on the agenda for consideration at the November 22, 2025 Delegate Assembly.

Adopted at a business meeting of the  
Delran Board of Education on  
September 15, 2025

  
do J

Ricardo Jones  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary



## RESOLUTION NO. 2

### **SYNOPSIS**

Resolution No. 2 from the Clifton Public School District Board of Education proposes **new** policy language supporting the belief that there should be universal free school meals for all Pre-K through 12 students in New Jersey.

### **BACKGROUND**

Under current federal law, there is “income” eligibility and “categorical” eligibility for free and reduced-price meals. Pursuant to the National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. §1751, *et seq.*, the Department of Agriculture annually issues the Income Eligibility Guidelines for free and reduced price meals that are applicable to several federal programs including, but not limited to, the National School Lunch Program (7 C.F.R. Part 210) and the School Breakfast Program (7 C.F.R. Part 220). Under these guidelines, a student’s household must have an annual income that is equal to or less than 185% of the federal poverty level (“FPL”)<sup>1</sup>. For “categorical” eligibility, the following students are eligible for free meals: students in foster care; migrant and homeless students; students enrolled in Head Start; and students whose families participate in certain public benefits programs, such as SNAP and TANF). *See* 7 C.F.R. Part 245.2; 245.6.

New Jersey statutes regarding free and reduced-price meals are based on the federal eligibility requirements noted above. Specifically, *N.J.S.A.* 18A:33-4(a)(3) provides that school lunches “shall be made available, free of charge, to all students enrolled in the district...who are determined to be federally eligible for free or reduced meals...[and] the unreimbursed costs of free lunches being made available...to students who are eligible for reduced price lunch, shall be born by the State.”

New Jersey recently enacted legislation, the “Working Class Families Anti-Hunger Act” (P.L. 2022, c. 104) and P.L. 2023, c. 336, both of which expanded income-based eligibility for free and reduced price meals (first to an annual household income between 186% and 199% of the FPL and then to an annual household income between 186% and 224% of the FPL). *See N.J.S.A.* 18A:33-4(a)(4). The State is required to “provide funding to each participating school district and nonpublic school, as may be necessary to reimburse the cost of free lunches being served thereby to federally ineligible students.” *N.J.S.A.* 18A:33-4(b).

NJSBA’s 2024-2025 Advocacy Agenda includes the following item, “advocate for universal free school meals fully funded by the state and/or federal government.”<sup>2</sup> In line with this agenda item, there is pending legislation, A4680, which would require school districts “to universally provide free meals to all students, regardless of whether students are federally eligible for free or

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<sup>1</sup> *See* 2025-2026 Income Eligibility Guidelines: [2025-03821.pdf](#)

<sup>2</sup> *See* [2024-2025 Legislative Advocacy Agenda and Action Plan - New Jersey School Boards Association | New Jersey School Boards Association](#)

reduced price meals.<sup>3</sup>” Under A4680, any student who is neither income nor categorically eligible to receive free school meals subsidized by the federal government would be eligible for free school meals fully subsidized by the State. *See Id.* The State would be required to provide funding to each school or school district participating in the National School Lunch Program or federal School Breakfast Program, as may be necessary to reimburse the costs associated with the provision of subsidized school meals to students who are federally ineligible for free or reduced-price school meals. *See Id.*

Although A4680 does not have a fiscal impact estimate, the Office of Legislative Services completed a fiscal impact estimate for similar legislation that was proposed in June 2023, A5573. Under A5573, school districts that participate in federal lunch programs would be required to provide free lunch gradually to increasing numbers of income-eligible students, and, after a five-year phase-in period, to provide free lunch to all students, regardless of income or federal eligibility. Following the phase-in period (i.e., when lunch would be free to all students regardless of income or federal eligibility), the estimated annual cost was \$518.9 million<sup>4</sup>.

NJSBA has also advocated for proposed federal legislation related to the provision of free meals to students through its support of Assembly Concurrent Resolution (“ACR”) No. 115, which urges the United States Congress to pass the “Universal School Meals Program Act of 2023.”<sup>5</sup> As stated in ACR No. 115, this federal legislation “would provide free breakfast, lunch, dinner, and a snack to all school children regardless of their socioeconomic background.” *Id.* The legislation “also eliminates school food debt and reimburses schools for all delinquent school meal debt.” *Id.*

In speaking with Clifton, they explained that, despite multiple opportunities, many parents in the district do not complete the required applications for free and reduced-price meals, although their families are most likely eligible based on income. Clifton’s annual school lunch debt averages between \$200,000 and \$250,000.

### **RELEVANT NJSBA POLICY**

The proposed resolution seeks to add position and policy language to File Code 3542, Food Service, that is not currently contained within *NJSBA’s Positions and Policies (P&P) on Education*. There are several relevant P&P file codes which relate generally to the substantive content of the proposed resolution.

For example, P&P File Code No. 3542 provides:

#### **School Lunch Program**

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<sup>3</sup> See [https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A5000/4680\\_I1.PDF](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A5000/4680_I1.PDF)

<sup>4</sup> See [https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2022/A6000/5573\\_E1.PDF](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2022/A6000/5573_E1.PDF)

<sup>5</sup> See [https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/ACR/115\\_I1.PDF](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/ACR/115_I1.PDF)

- A. **The NJSBA believes** that a school lunch program should be offered to all students. [Authority: DA 6/85-CR (Nutrition), DA 11-01-SR, DA 11/06-SR, DA 11/11-SR, DA 12/16-SR, DA 11/21-SR]

#### Federal Food Program

**The NJSBA believes** the federally subsidized food program, bringing proper nutrition and diet within easy reach of families, makes it possible for all American children to be guaranteed a meal or a half-pint of milk at free or reduced cost, and that federal food programs should be funded at adequate levels of financial support. [Authority: DA 5/66-4, DA 6/85-CR (Nutrition), DA 11-01-SR, DA 11/06-SR, DA 11/11-SR, DA 12/16-SR, DA 11/21-SR]

P&P File Code No. 5141 also provides:

#### Student Health and Safety

- B. **The NJSBA believes** that the state or federal governments must provide funding for mandated programs. Further, such funding should not be furnished by the Department of Education, when it would result in the diversion of school aid from educational purposes. Funding for health and safety programs should be received from the State department that has responsibility for the health and safety of the general population of the state. [Authority: BD 4/94; DA 5/97-SR]

### **DISCUSSION**

Based upon current P&P File Code No. 3542, NJSBA is already advocating for school meals that would be funded at adequate levels of support. NJSBA's 2024-2025 Advocacy Agenda further advances this position by recommending support for state and federal legislation that would provide universal free meals, funded by the state or federal government.

Therefore, although Clifton's *exact* proposed language is not in NJSBA's P&P, the language proposed is not a new belief and is supported by more general language in the P&P. Broad belief statements are typically preferred for NJSBA's advocacy efforts because they provide NJSBA with more flexibility when faced with a variety of proposed solutions to an issue and/or an unanticipated approach by the legislature. However, here, updating P&P File Code No. 3542 with Clifton's recommended language would provide NJSBA with the opportunity to ensure that our policy is consistent with our advocacy efforts.

### **STATEMENT OF REASONS**

1. Current NJSBA policy professes a belief that a school lunch program should be offered to all students and that federal food programs should be funded at adequate levels of

financial support. However, the current belief statement does not explicitly support free school meals for all students.

2. NJSBA's current Advocacy Agenda supports universal free school meals that would be fully funded by the state and/or federal government.
3. Accordingly, the below amendments to current P&P language are proposed to ensure consistency with NJSBA's advocacy efforts.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends approval of the proposed resolution with the following substitute language that would amend current policy language to be included in NJSBA's *Manual of Positions and Policies* in File Code 3542:

**The NJSBA believes** that a free school meal program should be offered to all students at the expense of the state and/or federal government.

**NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION**

**413 West State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08618**

**1-888-886-5722**

**SEMIANNUAL DELEGATE ASSEMBLY  
November 22, 2025**

**The following resolution was received from the  
Clifton Board of Education (Passaic):**

- WHEREAS, Adequate nutrition is fundamental to the physical and cognitive development of children, directly influencing their academic performance, behavior, and overall well-being; and
- WHEREAS, Students who participate in school meal programs are more likely to consume balanced diets that include healthy carbohydrates and fats, sufficient protein, and essential vitamins and minerals found in fruits, vegetables, and milk, thereby contributing to healthier body weight and reduced obesity rates; and
- WHEREAS, Food insecurity remains a significant concern, with many families struggling to provide nutritious meals for their children, adversely affecting students' ability to concentrate and succeed academically; and
- WHEREAS, The stigma associated with free or reduced-price meals can deter eligible students from participating, leading to increased hunger and decreased academic performance; and
- WHEREAS, Universal free school meal programs have been shown to improve student attendance, academic outcomes, and overall health, while reducing food insecurity and eliminating the stigma associated with means-tested meal programs; and
- WHEREAS, The administrative burden of processing meal applications and managing unpaid meal debt can be significantly reduced through the implementation of universal free meal programs; and

WHEREAS, The New Jersey Assembly has introduced Bill A4680, which requires schools to universally provide free meals to all students, regardless of federal eligibility for free or reduced-price meals; and

WHEREAS, Other districts and states have successfully implemented universal free school meal programs, resulting in positive outcomes in student health and academic performance; and

WHEREAS, The Delegate Assembly serves as the official policy-making body of the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA); and

WHEREAS, Education-related policies resulting from prior Delegate Assembly and Board of Directors actions are codified in the NJSBA's *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education* ("P&P"); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED That the Clifton Board of Education proposes the following revised policy language regarding Policy File Code 3542 — *Food Service*, for adoption by the Delegate Assembly and inclusion in the NJSBA's *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education*, as follows:

**The NJSBA believes** that the Clifton Board of Education strongly advocates for the adoption and implementation of universal free school meals for all Pre-K through Grade 12 students in New Jersey; and

**The NJSBA believes** that the Association urges the New Jersey Legislature to pass Bill A4680 and allocate appropriate, recurring annual funding in the State budget sufficient to fully support the implementation and sustainability of this program statewide; and

**The NJSBA believes** that the Association and local boards of education should collaborate with State and local agencies, as well as community organizations, to promote the health and academic success of all students through access to nutritious school meals; and, therefore, be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution be placed on the agenda for consideration at the November 22, 2025 Delegate Assembly.



Adopted at a business meeting of the  
Clifton Board of Education on  
February 27, 2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and strokes, positioned above a horizontal line.

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Ahmed Shehata  
Assistant Superintendent for Business/Board Secretary



## **RESOLUTION NO. 3**

### **SYNOPSIS**

Resolution No. 3 from the Bridgewater-Raritan School District proposes new policy language supporting the belief that Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education should be integrated into aspects of pre-K through 12 curricula for all New Jersey students.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Bridgewater-Raritan Regional School District (“BRRSD”) has presented a resolution designed to address the lack of rigor in STEM education in the primary and middle school grades. In reviewing the curricula for primary and middle school students, the district concluded that STEM education was deserving of more sufficiently supported in those grades in order to allow student preparation and mastery of STEM -related content in high school.

A lack of rigor in early grades fails to harness a child’s natural curiosity and build the necessary cognitive foundation for future success. Science/STEM instruction makes content more meaningful by requiring students to think critically, analyze, synthesize, and problem-solve, which moves students beyond mere memorization into an environment where they can engage in authentic hands-on/minds-on investigations, formulate questions, and build models. The challenges Science/STEM instruction provide fosters resilience, persistence, and a growth mindset. As a result, the challenges encountered spur students to become motivated and develop coping mechanisms that will appropriately prepare them for when they face genuine academic difficulty in later grades.

In education, we understand the importance of the formative years between infancy to third grade because these are the years that a child’s brain undergoes its most rapid development, which lays the foundation for all future learning. These same years are crucial for cultivating curiosity, inquiry, assessment, and analysis, which are achieved through exposure experienced in Science/STEM education. As a result, the exposure can be directly linked to enhanced problem-solving skills, creativity, and a positive attitude toward learning.

School districts understand the importance of preparing our students to be ready for college and career. A deficient K-8 curriculum, which would be one that does not provide equitable instructional time for Science/STEM in comparison to other subject areas, creates a gap that high schools, colleges, and trade schools struggle to fill. The deficit directly impacts a student’s long-term academic and career trajectory and may hinder our students from being adequately prepared to allow the United States to remain competitive in the global marketplace.

## **DISCUSSION**

NJSBA recognizes that the benefits of teaching science in elementary and middle school grades in New Jersey are extensive because of the focus on developing critical thinking, real-world problem-solving, and scientific literacy, which are essential for college, careers, and life.

These benefits are fundamentally linked to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Science, which are based on the Next Generation Science Standards. These standards emphasize a three-dimensional approach to learning that integrates:

1. Science and Engineering Practices, which is what scientists and engineers *do*.
2. Crosscutting Concepts, which is connecting themes across scientific disciplines.
3. Disciplinary Core Ideas, which is the content.

The Key Benefits of K-8 Science Education in NJ are to develop essential 21st Century Skills, promote scientific and civic literacy, foster curiosity and engagement, build a solid foundation for STEM or STEAM careers, and reinforce learning in other subjects.

These are achieved through the analysis of data, development of explanations based on evidence, experience through hands-on investigations and projects, defining problems and developing and testing solutions, and collaboration and communication with peers. Science education in these grades focuses on nurturing core skills that are vital across all subjects and future professions.

New Jersey requires school districts to deliver a curriculum based on the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) for all subjects. New Jersey does not set statewide hourly or minute-based mandates for every subject for students in elementary and middle schools except for 150 minutes per week in Health, Safety, and Physical Education for students in grades 1-12 (**N.J.S.A 18A:35-5,7, and 8**). For each subject area in high school grades, New Jersey Administrative Code specifies minimum graduation credit requirements (**N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1**). Each credit is equal to 40 minutes of instruction per week (**N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.3**).

Therefore, since there are no set minimum number of minutes of instruction for any subject in elementary and middle schools, this results in districts allocating varied amounts of weekly instructional time for science education when comparing one district to another. A statement, as contained in the proposed resolution that calls for “increasing weekly instructional time dedicated to science education in elementary and middle schools” lacks a baseline amount of time from which districts will increase.

## **RELEVANT NJSBA POLICY**

1. P&P File Code No. 6000, *Concepts and Roles in Instruction* provides:

### **Commitment to Quality Education**

- A. **The NJSBA believes** all children should receive the highest quality education.
  - B. **The NJSBA believes** that the federal and state governments and local school boards should provide the resources necessary to advance student academic success and close achievement gaps.
  - C. **The NJSBA believes** that local boards of education should adopt policies that promote the success of all students by supporting effective practices in curriculum, school culture, management, and organization. [Authority: DA 6/79-32, DA 6/93 SR, DA 11/02-SR, DA 11/07- SR, DA 11/12-SR, DA 5/17-CR (Task Force on Student Achievement), DA 11/17-SR, DA 11/22-SR]
2. P&P File Code No. 6140, *Curriculum Adoption* provides:

### **Mandated Curriculum and Programs**

- A. **The NJSBA believes** that neither the state nor federal government should mandate any new or expanded school curricula, activity, or program unless a compelling need, including its educational value, has been demonstrated. [Authority: DA 1/80-A; DA 1/80-1; DA 6/83-2; DA 12/83-4; BD 11/84 CR (Extended School Year); BD 4/94; DA 6/88-19 & 19A; BD 10/91; DA 11/98-CR (School Finance); DA 12/91-CR QEA; DA 11/97-SR, DA 11/02-SR, DA 11/07-SR, DA 11/12-SR, DA 11/17-SR, DA 11/22-SR]
3. P&P File Code No. 6141, *Curriculum Design/Development* provides:

### **Study Skills and Classroom Behavior Curriculum**

**The NJSBA believes** that study skills, critical thinking and problem solving should be stressed at all levels of the curriculum. [Authority: DA 12/82-CR Urban Education, DA 12/83-1, DA 11/97 SR, DA 11/02-SR, DA 11/07-SR, DA 11/12-SR, DA 11/17-SR, DA 11/22-SR]

4. P&P File Code 6142, *Subject Fields*, provides as follows:

### **Elementary/Middle School Curriculum**

**The NJSBA believes** that the elementary/middle school curriculum should foster an enthusiasm for learning and the development of the individual's abilities. The curriculum should provide a sound base for study in high school and later years in such areas as English language development and writing, computational and problem-solving skills, science, social studies, foreign language, and the arts. [Authority: DA 12/83-1, DA 11/97-SR, DA 11/02-SR, DA 11/07-SR, DA 11/12-SR, DA 11/17-SR, DA 11/22-SR]

5. P&P File Code 6142.12, *Career Education*, provides as follows:

Career Education and Awareness

- A. **The NJSBA believes** that local boards of education should place emphasis on career awareness and supports integrating career education throughout the curriculum. [Authority: DA 12/86- ER(C), DA 11/97- SR]
- B. **The NJSBA believes** collaborative initiatives at the local and state level by business, labor and educational agencies will enhance career counseling and benefit youth. [Authority: DA 6/81-CR (Vocational Education), DA 12/82-CR Urban Education, DA 11/97-SR, DA 11/02-SR, DA 11/07-SR, DA 11/12-SR, DA 11/17-SR, DA 11/22-SR]

6. P&P File Code No. 4112.2, *Certification*, provides as follows:

Teaching Endorsement

- B. **The NJSBA believes** that the New Jersey Department of Education should develop an appropriate, separate endorsement category in the technology area. [Authority: DA 11/00-5, DA 5/02-SR, DA 11/06- SR, DA 11/11-SR, DA 12/16-SR, DA 11/21-SR]

7. P&P File Code No. 4112.2, *Certification*, provides:

Teacher Certification and Ongoing Professional Development

- B. **The NJSBA believes** that the state's criteria for certification should include mentoring of new teachers and a requirement that all teachers engage in ongoing professional growth during their careers. This continuing education requirement should be designed to promote continued competency, development of teaching skills and increased breadth of knowledge and should be consistent with local professional development plans and individual professional improvement plans.

**STATEMENT OF REASONS**

- 1. In the elementary and middle school setting, Science/STEM instruction generally receives significantly less instructional time compared to Math and Language Arts with a

notable amount of variation across districts as cited in a report from the [National Center for Education Statistics \(NCES\)](#).

2. The discrepancy in the allocation of instructional time for Science/STEM is consistent with national trends where Science/STEM receives less focus, particularly in the early elementary grades as cited in the [TIMSS.867 International Results in Mathematics and Science - Instructional Time](#) report.
3. In elementary schools, subjects like Science and Social Studies are consistently marginalized in terms of instructional time in favor of the more frequently tested subjects of Reading (Language Arts) and Math as cited in the 2012 paper, [What Is the Impact of Decline in Science Instructional Time in Elementary School?](#).

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends adoption of the proposed resolution with the following **substitute** language that would revise the language in policy file code No. 6142, **NJSBA believes** that local boards of education should dedicate an equitable amount of instructional time to science education in elementary and middle schools relative to the amount of instructional time allocated to other subject areas.

NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

413 West State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08618

1-888-886-5722

SEMIANNUAL DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

November 22, 2025

**The following resolution was received from the  
Bridgewater - Raritan Board of Education (Somerset):**

- WHEREAS A strong foundation in basic science education is essential for fostering critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and scientific literacy among students; and
- WHEREAS Early exposure to rigorous science concepts at the lower grade levels can inspire curiosity and prepare students for advanced STEM studies; and
- WHEREAS, Increasing instructional time for science education will ensure that students gain a deeper understanding of fundamental scientific principles; and
- WHEREAS The upcoming review and update of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards present an opportunity to emphasize the importance of robust science education; and
- WHEREAS The Delegate Assembly serves as the official policy-making body of the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA); and
- WHEREAS Education-related policies resulting from prior Delegate Assembly and Board of Directors actions are codified in the NJSBA's *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education*; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED That the Bridgewater–Raritan Regional School District Board of Education proposes the following new policy language for adoption by the Delegate Assembly and inclusion in the NJSBA's *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education*:

**The NJSBA believes** that this resolution advances STEM education by reviewing and updating state educational standards and by promoting STEM and basic science education across all districts through the following actions:



Reviewing and updating curricula to introduce rigorous, age-appropriate basic science courses starting in earlier grades to ensure early exposure to foundational scientific concepts, in consideration of the update of New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

Increasing weekly instructional time dedicated to science education in elementary and middle schools.

Providing professional development for teachers to effectively deliver engaging and rigorous science instruction aligned with updated curricula.

Encouraging partnerships with local STEM organizations to enrich science programs and provide real-world applications

RESOLVED, That this resolution be placed on the agenda for consideration at the November 22, 2025 Delegate Assembly.

Adopted at a business meeting of the  
Bridgewater-Raritan Board of Education on  
September 30, 2025

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Levin Lomski  
Board Secretary



## RESOLUTIONS REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA

Sponsor	Objective Sought/NJSBA Policy #	Status Report/Activities
Clifton (Passaic) Special Education Funding	Proposed additional policy language at File Code 3220 supporting its belief that the state should provide more funding that covers the cost of providing special education because the current level of funding strains district budgets.	The Resolutions Subcommittee, pursuant to Article V Sec. 5(e) and (f) of Association Bylaws, removed R02 from the Delegate Assembly agenda as the resolution constitutes a reaffirmation of existing Association policy and seeks to address a matter which is moot.





## RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

### JANUARY-DECEMBER 2025

**CHAIR**      *Karen Cortellino, M.D.*, Interim NJSBA President

#### ***REGION A - MEMBERS***

District 1 **Michele Barbieri**, Upper Twp. BOE (Cape May)

District 6 **Joyce Miller**, Gibbsboro BOE (Camden)

District 7 **Lester Holley**, Edgewater Park BOE (Burlington)

District 10 **Steve Shohfi**, Lavalette BOE (Ocean)

#### ***REGION B – MEMBERS***

District 11 **Giuseppe Grillo**, Asbury Park BOE (Monmouth)

District 13 **Dr. Paul Christopher**, West Long Branch BOE (Monmouth)

District 15 **Jo Ann Groeger**, Lawrence Twp. BOE (Mercer)

District 20 **Jerry Jacobs**, Elizabeth BOE (Union)

#### ***REGION C – MEMBERS***

District 21 **Sharon Schueler**, Middlesex Borough BOE (Middlesex)

District 23 **Lisa Marshall**, Warren Hills BOE (Warren)

District 24 **Robert Carlson**, Wallkill Valley Regional BOE (Sussex)

District 28 **Judith Bassford**, Clifton BOE (Passaic)

#### ***REGION D – MEMBERS***

District 34 **Jill Fischman**, Bloomfield BOE (Essex)

District 36 **Dr. Letizia Pantoliano**, Cliffside Park BOE (Bergen) **NEW**

District 37 **Paula Colbath**, Fort Lee BOE (Bergen)

District 39 **Mary Ellen Nye**, Ho-Ho-Kus BOE (Bergen)

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***REGION A – ALTERNATES***

District 2 **Patrick Ireland**, Egg Harbor Twp. BOE (Atlantic)

District 3 **Carolyn Kegler**, Logan Twp. BOE (Gloucester)

District 8 **Janet DiFolco**, Mount Holly BOE (Burlington)

District 9 **Richard Casey**, Ocean Gate BOE (Ocean)

***REGION B – ALTERNATES***

District 14 **Kate Rattner**, Monroe Twp BOE (Middlesex)

District 16 **Mike Mitchell**, South Brunswick BOE (Middlesex) **NEW**

District 17 **Shantell Cherry**, Piscataway BOE (Middlesex) **NEW**

District 18 **Sharon Miller**, So. Plainfield BOE (Middlesex)

***REGION C – ALTERNATES***

District 22 **Bernard Robson**, Rahway BOE (Union) **NEW**

District 24 **Raymond Morris**, Newton BOE (Sussex)

District 25 **Michael Bertram**, Morris Hills Regional BOE (Morris)

District 27 **Pamela Chirls**, Livingston BOE (Essex)

***REGION D – ALTERNATES***

District 35 **Lucia DeNova**, North Haledon BOE (Passaic)

District 37 **Clara Williams**, Teaneck BOE (Bergen)

District 38 **John Walsh**, Oradell BOE (Bergen)

District 39 **Dr. Jeffrey Pollack**, Dumont BOE (Bergen)

**EX-OFFICIO: Karen Cortellino, M.D.**, NJSBA Interim President, Montville Twp. BOE (Morris)

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## **INSTALLATION OF NJSBA OFFICERS**