



REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

by

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The Resolutions Subcommittee met virtually on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 via Zoom Workplace, to review the resolutions that will come before the Annual Delegate Assembly on May 16, 2026.

The Association received seven (7) resolutions on or before the official cutoff date of March 5. One resolution from was not properly formatted and was returned to the sponsor with a detailed explanation of the deficiencies. Accordingly, six resolutions were forwarded to the Resolution Subcommittee for action. All six resolutions were adopted by the Resolution Subcommittee and forwarded to the Delegate Assembly for consideration. The actions taken are as follows:

1. R01 – South Orange and Maplewood Bd. of Educ. – Ranked Choice Voting: ADOPTED
2. R02 – Essex County SBA – Immigration: ADOPTED
3. R03 – Egg Harbor Bd of Educ. – PILOT PROGRAMS: ADOPTED
4. R04 – West Milford Bd. of Educ. – School Funding Formula: ADOPTED
5. R05 – Glen Rock Bd. of Educ. – Procurement: ADOPTED
6. R06 – Secaucus Bd. of Educ. – Governance of Vocational-Technical Schools: ADOPTED

It should be noted that the following board members also appeared before the Resolution Subcommittee to advocate for adoption of the respective resolutions:

1. Jeffrey Bennett - South Orange and Maplewood
2. Reginald Bledsoe - Essex County SBA
3. Boaz Cohen - Glen Rock Board, and
4. Mark Toback - Secaucus

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 – R06



RESOLUTION NO. 1

SYNOPSIS

Resolution No. 01 from the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education (Essex County) proposes **additional** language to NJSBA’s *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education* (P&P) supporting the belief that school districts should be allowed, but not required, to use ranked choice voting in school board elections. The resolution asserts that plurality block voting, which is currently used in multi-winner school board elections in New Jersey, may not be representative of community sentiment, and that multi-winner ranked choice voting would more accurately and proportionately reflect community preferences.

STATEMENT OF REASONS

1. Existing NJSBA policy asserts that authority for management of public schools should rest with local boards of education. The resolution, as submitted, would allow boards of education to decide what is best for their individual communities.
2. Existing NJSBA policy states that there should be a uniform system of school elections, but this policy was approved in the context of individual boards conducting and paying for their own elections, rather than commenting specifically on the type of election system being used. Therefore, this existing policy does not apply to the resolution as submitted.
3. Ranked choice voting in multi-winner elections could lead to more proportional representation, improved civility during the campaign process, higher voter turnout, and higher voter satisfaction.

RECOMMENDATION

The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends approval of the proposed resolution, with substitute language, which would create additional policy language to be included in NJSBA’s *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education* File Code 9112 - Elections/Appointment:

The NJSBA believes school districts should be permitted to use Ranked Choice Voting in school board elections.



RESOLUTION NO. 2

SYNOPSIS

Resolution No. 2 from the Essex County School Boards Association (Essex), proposes new policy language for adoption by the Delegate Assembly, and inclusion in the NJSBA’s Manual of Positions and Policies on Education (P&P). The proposed resolution requests that the NJSBA support the inclusion of three separate broad belief statements indicating, in summary, that public schools must carry out the State’s constitutional obligation to provide all students with a thorough and efficient education; public school buildings must be free from civil immigration enforcement activities; and boards of education should adopt policies and procedures that protect the health and safety of all students, while also honoring valid judicial authority.

STATEMENT OF REASONS

1. The resolution submitted by the Essex County SBA seeks to include new policy language stating that: “public school districts - whether comprehensive, regional, or vocational-technical - serve as essential partners of the State in carrying out New Jersey’s constitutional obligation to provide a thorough and efficient education to all students”; “public schools must remain safe, inclusive, and trusted environments, free from civil immigration enforcement activities that interfere with students’ access to education, compromise student privacy or well-being, or undermine the relationship between schools and the communities they serve”; and “boards of education should adopt policies and practices, consistent with State and federal law, that protect student rights, preserve continuity of instruction, and reinforce the role of public schools as places of learning and support - not venues for civil immigration enforcement - while honoring valid judicial authority.”
2. The proposed new language in the Essex County SBA is already embodied in parts/sections of existing P&P language, namely in File Code 1430 (State and National Units); File Code 4119.24 (Staff/Pupil Relations); File Code 5118 (Nonresidents); File Code 5131.5 (Vandalism/Violence); File Code 5141 (Health); File Code 5145.4 (Equal Educational Opportunity); and File Code 5145.12 (Search and Seizure). However, the intent of the Essex County SBA is not presently captured one comprehensive and all-encompassing provision of the P&P.
3. NJSBA staff propose inclusion of new substitute language in File Code 3516 (Safety Issues in Schools), namely, “**The NJSBA believes** that boards of education have a responsibility to ensure that its school buildings are safe havens for all students regardless of their immigration status, and are not to be used as venues for immigration enforcement absent judicial authority.”



4. In alignment with *Plyler v. Doe* and our State’s education laws and regulations, the proposed new substitute language recognizes that all students, irrespective of their immigration status, have the right to access and receive a free public education in New Jersey’s schools.
5. In alignment with the Immigrant Trust Directive, the NJDOE’s guidance and resources, the Safe Communities Act, and Executive Order No. 12, the proposed new substitute language recognizes that school buildings should be safe havens for all who attend, and should not be used as venues for immigration enforcement absent judicial authority.
6. Finally, the proposed new substitute language would satisfy the intent and spirit of the Essex County SBA’s resolution.

RECOMMENDATION

The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends approval of the proposed resolution with, substitute language, which would create new policy language to be included in NJSBA’s *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education* File Code 3516 - Safety Issues in Schools:

The NJSBA believes that boards of education have a responsibility to ensure that its school buildings are safe havens for all students regardless of their immigration status and are not to be used as venues for immigration enforcement absent judicial authority.



RESOLUTON NO. 3

SYNOPSIS

Resolution No. 3 from the Egg Harbor Township Board of Education (Atlantic) proposes new policy language supporting the belief that school districts should be involved in discussions pertaining to Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreements and be able to share the funds in an effort to offset the expenses related to potential increases in student enrollment and potential increases in various services needed to support the additional students.

STATEMENT OF REASONS

The above policies notwithstanding, language exists in the proposed resolution that is not currently addressed in existing policy or pending legislation.

RECOMMENDATION

The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends adoption of the proposed resolution with, substitute language, which would create new policy language to be included in NJSBA’s *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education* File Code 3210 – Local Funds:

The NJSBA believes that in circumstances where direct allocation of PILOT revenues to school districts is not provided, municipalities and school districts should consider negotiated community benefit agreements, or other legally permissible fiscal arrangements to offset educational costs attributable to development.



RESOLUTON NO. 4

SYNOPSIS

Resolution No. 4 from the West Milford Public School District Board of Education proposes **new** policy language supporting the belief that New Jersey’s school funding system should recognize structural limitations on local revenue capacity caused by state-imposed land-use and environmental restrictions and should ensure equitable consideration for affected school districts in state aid calculations.

STATEMENT OF REASONS

1. NJSBA Policy 3220 addresses, among other things, the “State School Finance System” and “State Aid to School Districts.”
2. The “State School Finance System” section of Policy 3220 promotes the recognition of the unique circumstances of each school district and the goal of enabling all school districts to provide a thorough and efficient education to its students.
3. The “State Aid to School Districts” section of Policy 3220 supports the belief that there should be an “equitable distribution of education and related support payments.”
4. To highlight the district’s circumstances, while not excluding the circumstances of other districts, and for consistency with the “State School Finance System” section of Policy 3220, the below amendments to the “State Aid to School Districts” section in Policy 3220 are proposed.

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 3220:

The NJSBA believes in an equitable distribution of education aid and related support payments which ensure that all school districts have an opportunity to benefit from government financial assistance, and which considers a school district’s unique circumstances, including, but not limited to, circumstances that impact a school district’s capacity to raise revenue locally.



RESOLUTON NO. 5

SYNOPSIS

Resolution No. 5 from the Glen Rock Board of Education (Bergen) proposes **additional** policy language to NJSBA’s *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education (P&P)* that supports equitable pricing, transparency, and cooperative purchasing opportunities for instructional materials and digital educational resources, while preserving local board authority over curriculum decisions.

STATEMENT OF REASONS

1. Districts collectively spend millions of dollars each year purchasing textbooks and other curricular supplies.
2. There are many statutes and regulations that encourage joint purchasing and other strategies to achieve savings when purchasing textbooks and other curricular materials.
3. NJSBA’s policies encourage joint purchasing and the sharing of resources among districts and other governmental units.
4. NJSBA’s policies should amplify these purchasing opportunities, specifically with respect to curricular materials, to promote savings for districts and the families that they serve.

RECOMMENDATION

The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends approval of the proposed resolution, with substitute language, which would create additional policy language in File Code 6160 - Instructional Services and Resources:

The NJSBA believes that purchasers of textbooks and other curricular materials should be provided with a wide array of consumer information on available programs and products to assist them in making informed selections. When purchasing such materials, districts should employ strategies that promote the efficient use of taxpayer resources, where it is practical to do so.



RESOLUTON NO. 6

SYNOPSIS

Resolution No.6 from the Secaucus School District Board of Education (Hudson) proposes **new** language to NJSBA’s *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education (P&P)* expressing the belief that county vocational school district boards of school estimate “should provide meaningful representation for sending school districts that contribute tuition funding” while preserving appropriate county oversight. More broadly, the resolution advocates generally for “statutory and regulatory changes that promote greater transparency, fiscal accountability, and collaboration” between county vocation school districts and their sending districts, citing shared interests in tuition rates, capital planning, enrollment, and program expansion. Focused particularly on county vocational school district tuition, the resolution goes on to state that “policies governing tuition increases...should include mechanisms to promote fiscal predictability and public transparency consistent with the principles of responsible budgeting applied to other public school districts in New Jersey.” These proposals are rooted in Secaucus’ belief that greater collaboration, representation, and transparency between vocational schools and their sending districts “would strengthen fiscal accountability and promote regional alignment with workforce needs.”

STATEMENT OF REASONS

It is consistent with existing NJSA policy to promote greater collaboration and transparency between CVSDs and their sending districts, so long as that policy cannot be read to imply that sending districts should have formal voting power on CVSD boards of school estimate or boards of education.

RECOMMENDATION

The Resolutions Subcommittee recommends approval of the proposed resolution, with substitute language, which would create **additional** policy language to be included in NJSBA’s *Manual of Positions and Policies on Education* in File Code 9300 - Governance.

The NJSBA believes that governance and advisory structures for County Vocational- Technical School Districts should reflect the shared financial and educational responsibility between counties and local sending school districts. The Association supports statutory and regulatory changes that promote greater transparency, fiscal accountability, and collaboration in decisions related to tuition rates, capital planning, enrollment capacity, and program expansion.