

**New Jersey State Board of Education
Minutes of the Public Work Session
in the Conference Room on the First Floor,
100 River View Executive Plaza
Trenton, NJ**

May 17, 2006

Presiding: Debra Casha., Vice President

Secretary: Lucille E. Davy, Acting Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM:

Dr. Ronald K. Butcher
Ms. Maud Dahme
Ms. Kathleen A. Dietz
Ms. Josephine E. Figueras
Mr. John A. Griffith
Rev. Frederick LaGarde Jr.
Dr. Thelma Napoleon-Smith
Mr. Edward M. Taylor

ABSENT:

Mr. Arcelio Aponte
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Dr. Arnold G. Hyndman

CONVENING

Debra Casha, vice president, State Board of Education, convened the public meeting with the reading of the resolution pertaining to the public session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the Open Public Meetings Act.

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of this act, the State Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Department of Education, Secretary of State's Office and notice also having been given to the State House press corps, the Governor's Office and the State Board agenda subscribers, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that by adopting this resolution the State Board of Education states its intention to convene a public meeting to conduct the state's business on Wednesday, May 17, 2006.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

On motions duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education took the following action:

***A. NJ Assessment of Skills and Knowledge**

- Adopted as amended the resolution approving the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK) Standard Setting Scores for the Interim Assessments for Grades 5-7.

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH SCORE STANDARDS
FOR GRADES FIVE, SIX, AND SEVEN
NEW JERSEY ASSESSMENT OF SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE (NJ ASK 5-7)
LANGUAGE ARTS LITERACY AND MATHEMATICS**

WHEREAS, the goal of public schools is to provide all students with a thorough and efficient education as defined by the *Core Curriculum Content Standards* so they may function politically, economically, and socially in our democratic society; and

WHEREAS, the grades five, six, and seven New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK 5-7) are provided for assessing student progress toward mastery of the essential knowledge and skills; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(b) requires State Board of Education approval of student performance levels for statewide assessments in those grades as specified for district certification; and

WHEREAS, the established levels of proficiency are partially proficient, proficient and advanced proficient; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the score standards of 200 for the proficient level and 250 for the advanced proficient level, where the range is 100 to 300, recommended by the Acting Commissioner of Education for the Language Arts Literacy and Mathematics components of the grades five, six, and seven New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK 5-7), shall apply to the April 2006 and Spring 2007, if necessary, administrations [and future administrations] of the tests.

ITEM FOR DISCUSSION:

B. Englewood

Penelope Lattimer, chief of staff and Rochelle Hendricks, director, Office of Vocational-Technical Career and Innovative Programs presented an interim report to update the State Board of Education on the degree of progress made by the Englewood School District since the Commissioner's November 2005 report. The report was required as a part of the result of the State Board's legal decision of June 1, 2005 decision on motions brought in the instant matter, in which the State Board directed the Commissioner to develop

benchmarks to measure the progress being made toward “achieving a racial balance in the composite student body at Dwight Morrow High School.”

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried the State Board of Education adjourned its May 17, 2006 public work session at 3:00 p.m.

Lucille E. Davy, Acting Commissioner
Acting Secretary, NJ State Board of Education