



Board Members Sworn into the New Jersey State Board of Education

For Immediate Release

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609-292-1126

Trenton, NJ – Eleven board members were sworn into the New Jersey State Board of Education over the last two board meetings. The list of new and reappointed members with a brief bio is below, and additional information is available on the [State Board website](#).

Sworn in on August 2

Ronald K. Butcher - Glassboro, Gloucester County

Reappointed in 2017

- Vice President, State Board of Education, 2010-11 and 1999-2003
- President, State Board of Education, 2007-08
- Retired Faculty and Administrator, Rowan University
- Ph.D., Educational Administration and Supervision, University of Michigan; M.A., Education Leadership, Eastern Michigan University;

B.S., Business Education, Western Michigan University

Mary Elizabeth Gazi, Esq. - Bound Brook, Somerset

Appointed in 2017

- Partner, Dughi, Hewit & Domalewski, P.C., 2013-Present
- Counsel, Law Office of John E. Bruder, 2006-13
- Judicial Clerkship, Honorable Herman L. Bretkopf, A.J.S.C., 1989-90
- J.D., Seton Hall School of Law; B.A., English/Economics, Villanova University

Nedd James Johnson, Ed. D. - Pittsgrove, Salem County

Appointed in 2017

- Adjunct Elementary Education Instructor for Field Supervision, Rowan University College of Education, 2017-Present
- Assistant Superintendent, Grades PK-12, Bridgeton Public Schools, 2011-16
- Elementary Principal, Grades K-5, Dane Barse Elementary School, 2006-11
- B.A., Education/History, Glassboro State College; M.A., Student Personnel/Guidance Services, Glassboro State College; M.A., School Administration, Rowan College of New Jersey; Ed. D., Educational Leadership P-12, Rowan University.

Ernest P. Lepore - West New York, Hudson County

Reappointed in 2017

- Director, Rutgers Center for Cognitive Science
- Professor, Rutgers University, Philosophy Department
- Member, American Philosophical Association; Member, Society for Philosophy and Psychology
- Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Minnesota; M.A., Linguistics, University of Minnesota; B.A., Philosophy and Linguistics, University of Massachusetts

Andrew J. Mulvihill - Andover, Sussex County

Reappointed in 2017

- CEO, Crystal Springs and Mountain Creek Real Estate Division
- Owner, Mountain Resort Properties
- Former member, Newark Academy Board of Governors
- B.A., Political Science, Stanford University

Joseph Ricca, Jr., Ed.D. - Morristown, Morris County

Appointed in 2017

- Superintendent of Schools, White Plains City School District, 2017-present
- Member, County College of Morris Board of Trustees, 2011-present, Chair 2015-2017
- Superintendent of Schools, Elmsford Union Free School District, 2013-2017
- Ed.D., Educational Leadership/Educational Administration, Walden University; M.A., Educational Leadership/Educational Administration, Caldwell College; M.Ed., Specialized: Administration, Planning, Social Policy, Human Development and Psychology, Harvard University; B.S., History and Education, Seton Hall University

Sworn in on July 5

Arcelio Aponte - Piscataway, Middlesex County

Reappointed in 2017

- President, State Board of Education, 2010-14
- Vice President, State Board of Education, 2006-10
- Vice Provost for Finance & Administration, Rutgers University, Newark
- M.A., Business Administration, Rutgers University, Graduate School of Management; B.S., Electronic Engineering Technology, The College of New Jersey

Sylvia Sylvia - Ocean, Monmouth County

Appointed in 2017

- President, Township of Ocean Board of Education, 2014-17
- Member, Township of Ocean Board of Adjustment, 2011-13
- President, Wayside Elementary School PTA, 2006-10
- B.A., Psychology, Montclair State University

Kathy Goldenberg - Moorestown, Burlington County

Appointed in 2017

- Legislative Finance Committee and District 7 Legislative Committee member, New Jersey School Board Association, 2016-17
- Voting Member, New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association, 2015-17
- President, Moorestown Township Public Schools Board of Education, 2015-17; Member, Moorestown Township Public Schools Board of Education, 2007-17
- B.A., Business Administration - Finance and International Business, University of Texas at Austin, McCombs School of Business

Mary Beth Berry - Clinton, Hunterdon County

Appointed in 2017

- Transition Services/ Grant Writing, Hunterdon Preparatory School, 2017-Present
- Special Education Teacher, North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional School District, 1989-94
- Career Development Coordinator, North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional School District, 1994-2015
- M.A., Special Education, East Stroudsburg University; B.S., Special Education, Marywood University