



WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE NJ STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION?

❗ **“It is unfortunate that the State Board of Education doesn’t coordinate with policymakers before they take actions that may affect school districts throughout our state. We expected better communication with them.**

We believe that families should have a voice in what is taught to their children, and as long as we have a say over the matter, they will continue to. And as always, all children deserve subject matter that is age appropriate, posted clearly and transparently for families to review, and free from any politics.”

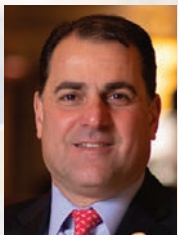


Joint Statement, Speaker of the Assembly, **Assemblyman Craig Coughlin** (D-Woodbridge) and Senate President, **Senator Nick Scutari** (D-Clark) August 3, 2023

❗ **“We are going to introduce legislation to repeal the shortsighted policies recently adopted by the State Board of Education. Decisions of this magnitude should include input and guidance from the Legislature. A board of unelected government bureaucrats should not have sole authority over our children’s curriculum. Parents are rightfully concerned about their voices being dismissed while controversial curriculum gets pushed into the classroom with little to no oversight.”**



Senate Minority Leader, **Senator Tony Bucco** (R-Denville), August 7, 2023



❗ **“This legislature should look at the State Board of Education as a whole and look how to revamp the State Board of Education, because I think they have gone completely astray about what their duties and mission are.”**

Senator Paul Sarlo (D-Woodridge), December 18, 2023, Senate Judiciary Committee

❗ **Both Democrats and Republicans are disappointed with the actions and the decisions of the State Board of Education. They have adopted policies and approved standards that outraged parents and inflamed tension between parents, teachers, and local school boards.**

YET these controversial decisions were not unanimous. Not every member of the State Board of Education voted for them. There are a small number of State Board of Education members who are not the ones responsible for frustrating legislators and parents.

YET these four board members – Andy Mulvihill, Mary Beth Gazi, Mary Bennett, and Jack Fornaro, are the very ones that are being removed!

Governor Murphy is punishing the members who tried to keep the State Board of Education focused on their mission, and rewarding the board members who voted for the very policies that have undermined trust in NJ schools and created a credibility crisis for the state board of education.

If these members are replaced, it will send a chilling message to the remaining State Board of Education members that if they only focus on improving the academic performances and outcomes of students – they too will be replaced!



Age-Inappropriate Sex Ed Learning Standards

By 2nd GRADE students must learn the following:

- 2.1.2.PGD.5 — List medically accurate names for bodyparts, including the genitals. (i.e. penis, vulva, anus)
- 2.1.2.SSH.2 — Discuss the range of ways people express their gender and how gender-role stereotypes may limit behavior.

By 5th GRADE students must learn the following:

- 2.1.5.PGD.4 — Explain common human sexual development and the role of hormones (e.g., romantic and sexual feelings, masturbation, mood swings, timing of pubertal onset)

By 8th GRADE students must learn the following:

- 2.1.8.SSH.9 — Define vaginal, oral, and anal sex

WHO SAID NO?

Andy Mulvihill – NO!

Mary Beth Berry – NO!

Mary Elizabeth Gazi – NO!

Jack Fornaro – NO!

*Learning Standards Passed
8-4 vote on June 3, 2020*

N.J.A.C. 6A:7, Managing for Equality and Equity in Education

- 1) Eliminate gendered nouns and pronouns
- 2) Eliminate language indicating only two genders/sexes
- 3) Mandate schools that separate classes dealing with human sexuality do so based on gender identity
- 4) Require all students to be taught curriculum concerning gender and gender identity as defined by the Board
- 5) Prohibits parents from attending teacher training sessions

WHO SAID NO?

Andy Mulvihill – NO!

Mary Beth Berry – NO!

Mary Elizabeth Gazi – NO!

Jack Fornaro – NO!

State Regulation Passed

GOVERNOR MURPHY IS USING HIS EXECUTIVE POWER TO RETALIATE AGAINST THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS WHO INSISTED THE CONCERNS OF PARENTS BE HEARD, RESPECTED, AND ADDRESSED.

He is **ONLY** replacing the members who voted **AGAINST** these extreme standards and policies.

GOVERNOR MURPHY SAYS THESE FOUR HAVE TO GO!

Andy Mulvihill – OUT!

Mary Beth Berry – OUT!

Mary Elizabeth Gazi* – OUT!

Jack Fornaro – OUT!

**Replaced on 12/21/23 by Senate Confirmation vote of Mary Bennett*



Such an outright censure of parental voices must not be allowed. Use our Action Center at www.NJFPC.org to contact your State Senator and tell them to **VOTE NO on State Board of Education Nominees.**

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NJ FAMILY
POLICY CENTER