

## Positions Adopted at the 2019 Annual Business Meeting

### BY-LAW AMENDMENT

**Note:** Language struck out (-----) and shaded represents proposed deletions to the existing bylaw and **underlined** language represents proposed additions to the existing bylaw.

**RESOLVED, that Article 9 of the bylaws of the New York State School Boards Association shall be amended to expand membership on the Resolutions Committee to include a representative from the New York State Caucus of Black School Board Members.**

#### ARTICLE 9. COMMITTEES

A. There shall be:

1. An Executive Committee of the board of directors, consisting of not more than eight members of the board of directors established annually by the board at the last meeting of the year of the board. Terms of office for the Executive Committee shall begin on January 1 following the meeting in which such members are chosen and shall continue for one year. The composition of the committee shall be as set forth in board policy. The committee shall have such powers as may be specifically delegated to it by the Board consistent with this paragraph of these Bylaws and the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law. The Board may vest the committee with the authority to:

- a. Approve the Association's participation as amicus in cases of statewide interest to NYSSBA's membership, upon its own initiative or when requested to do so by a member board.
- b. Approve the commencement of litigation on matters of statewide importance in court or before administrative agencies, either upon its own initiative or when requested to do so by any member board, except that lawsuits initiated to collect monies or fees owed to the Association may be authorized by the executive director.
- c. Review matters that are brought to it by the executive director and to act upon such matters as appropriate, except that the committee shall not have the authority to alter or amend any policy established by the Board of Directors.

A majority of the total membership of the committee shall constitute a quorum. Any action taken shall require a majority of the full membership of the committee. It shall meet upon the call of the chair or upon the written request of three members of the committee addressed to the executive director. Such written request shall state the purpose(s) of the meeting and, upon its receipt, the executive director shall issue the call for the meeting. The notices of all meetings shall be sent so as to reach the members of the committee at least five days prior to the proposed meeting.

2. A Resolutions Committee, consisting of one school board member from each Association area, ~~and~~ one member from one of the five large city school boards **and one member from the Caucus of Black School Board Members** appointed by the president at the first meeting of the newly elected board of directors subject to confirmation by the board. The committee shall review, but may not amend, resolutions and Bylaw amendments submitted to it by any member board or the Board of Directors.

Proposed resolutions or bylaw amendments must reach the Association office before the close of business on a date set annually by the board. Such due date shall not be later than August 1 or the Monday following August 1 if this date falls on a Saturday or a Sunday immediately preceding the annual meeting. Each resolution shall consist of a single "resolved" clause without "whereas" clauses, and shall address only one subject. A brief rationale statement may be included with each resolution or proposed Bylaw amendment.

The Resolutions Committee shall present a report of its recommendations to NYSSBA membership in a printed document for action at the annual business meeting. A resolution adopted at an annual meeting shall remain in effect and shall be part of NYSSBA's active program for five years, unless sooner rescinded, reaffirmed, implemented or enacted.

3. Other committees as the Board of Directors determines; the members of such committees to be appointed by the president, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors; and such committees shall report at such times and at such places as the Board of Directors may determine.

B. At the request of the president, any committee appointed by the Board of Directors may meet by means of a telephone conference or similar communication permitted by the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law. Notice of such meeting shall be given to members of the committee at least 24 hours prior to such meeting.

## **POSITION STATEMENTS**

### **Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association take a leadership role in encouraging school boards to develop successful strategies for integrating respect for differences into the educational experience. In carrying out this mission, NYSSBA shall encourage school boards to:

- Ensure that the importance of acceptance of others who are unique and different because of racial, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability status or religious differences is part of the curriculum.
- Invite discussion among students, parents, staff and the community about how hatred and bigotry based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability status and religion endanger the pluralistic and diversity principles for which this nation stands.
- Involve students, parents, staff and the community in developing and supporting educational practices which invite understanding and acceptance of others' differences and which aim to eradicate hatred and bigotry.

### **Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support the full restoration of state and local tax (SALT) deductibility

### **Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support proposals to require the state to fund all state-mandated school meal programs and practices.

### **Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support proposals to allow boards of education to determine if their buildings will be used as polling places for all elections.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association shall create a task force to study current requirements, costs, trends and other aspects of the special education system and make recommendations for the future of special education delivery in New York.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support legislation that would require the independent hearing officer in a 3020-a hearing to accept the penalty sought by the district if there is a finding of guilt.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association oppose legislative curriculum mandates

**Resolution – Adopted as Amended**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support legislation authorizing municipalities to install speed zone cameras in school zones.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support legislation to eliminate the limit on BOCES District Superintendent compensation.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support requiring notification to districts by the courts of restraining orders prohibiting contact with or between students enrolled in the district and the parents, or those in parental relation to students.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support legislation that will expand the definition of Child Safety Zones in the Education Law of New York State by adding criteria that pertains to neighborhoods with high crime rates or with deteriorating vacant buildings that create safety hazards.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support legislative action in the regulation of vapor products including consumption, manufacturing, distribution and advertisement.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support federal and state legislative and regulatory action in addressing the educational and fiscal needs attendant to the increase of unaccompanied minors into New York State.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association urge the Commissioner of Education to increase the maximum age of participation in inclusion sports for alternately assessed students.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support reducing the flexibility provided to charter schools for hiring teachers without a valid New York State teaching certificate.

**Resolution – Adopted as Amended**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support legislation that would increase the penalties against any business that sells vaping products to any person who is under age or against an adult purchasing vaping products for any person who is under age.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED that the New York State School Boards Association produce, and widely recommend the adoption of a sample board policy stating that members who have been newly elected to serve as officers will participate in at least one accredited officer training.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association produce, and widely recommend the adoption of a sample board policy stating that all Board of Education members will, each year, participate in at least one new training which has been approved by that Board.

**Resolution – Adopted**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association oppose lowering the age of eligibility for a commercial driver license, required to be a school bus driver, from 21 to 18.

**Resolution – Adopted as Amended**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association recommend appropriate parameters for social media and electronic communications between students and school district employees

**Resolution – Adopted As Amended**

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association advocate for action that recommends school districts to provide a professional development program related to the ethical practices and protocols employees should follow when using social media and electronic communications.