



New Jersey School Boards Association

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Michael R. McClure
President

June 28, 2019

Peter J. Calvo, President
Glassboro Board of Education
560 Bowe Boulevard
Glassboro, NJ 08028

Dear Mr. Calvo:

I am pleased to announce that, for 2019-2020, there will be no increase in NJSBA membership dues. This marks the 10th consecutive year that the Association's Board of Directors, in recognition of the financial demands facing our members, has determined that there will be no dues increase. (Your school district's NJSBA dues invoice is being mailed to your business administrator this week.)

For 2019-2020, NJSBA will maintain its full schedule of consultative and support services and professional development programs, while introducing new services. This has been accomplished through sound financial planning, including a concerted effort to increase non-dues revenue.

During my 20 years of school board membership, the challenges facing local school districts have become increasingly complex. I've consistently found the training, consultation and support available from the New Jersey School Boards Association to be invaluable in performing my responsibilities.

Let me review some of NJSBA's services.

Cooperative Energy Purchasing

During the nine-year period ending June 2018, NJSBA's Alliance for Competitive Energy Services (ACES), our cooperative energy-buying program, saved school districts statewide more than \$225 million in electricity and/or natural gas charges. Local school boards have been able to apply these savings to their education programs and property-tax control.

ACES is a service created for NJSBA members. The Glassboro Board of Education is a current participant. Since 2014, ACES has saved your school district over \$230,628.00 in electricity and natural gas costs.

Consultative and Support Services

Each year, NJSBA provides school boards and their administrators with high-quality direct and support services valued at more than \$5 million. These services include teacher contract analyses, negotiations consultation, the Critical Policy Reference Manual, policy updates and assistance, and on-demand telephone information from our staff attorneys. Our field service representatives go onsite to local school boards over 1,200 times each year to deliver training and consultation on school ethics, superintendent evaluation, and effective school board governance.

Local school boards pay no additional fees for these services. Their long-term benefit comes in the form of *controlling costs, avoiding litigation, attaining educational goals and building community support.*

Training and Professional Development

Throughout the year, NJSBA develops and delivers a wide range of professional development opportunities to local school board members at no additional cost to their districts.

- Annually, over half of the state's local school board members participate in the Governance training required by the New Jersey School Ethics and School District Accountability Acts. These programs include online, one-day in-person, evening and weekend programs.
- In-person sessions on STEAM education, sustainable practices and technology are offered at no cost to local school boards and their administrative staff members, enabling districts to secure certification through our partners, Sustainable Jersey for Schools and Future Ready Schools–NJ.
- NJSBA's New Board Member Orientation weekend is considered one of the nation's premier training programs. The Association has also instituted a successful weekend training program for school board leaders. Both of these programs are offered at no cost to local school districts.

County-Based Training

On an annual basis, NJSBA provides over 100 training, information and student-focused programs through the state's 21 county school boards associations. NJSBA covers all costs of county association training programs, including meals and facilities, thereby enabling local school board members to attend these meetings at no charge. In the past year, county-based training programs have addressed topics such as school funding, mental health services, social-emotion learning, advocacy/legislation, school security, and student testing.

Advocacy

NJSBA is committed to enabling the state's 5,000 dedicated—and unpaid—local board of education members fulfill their responsibilities to the public school students and citizens of their communities. Toward this goal, NJSBA continues to advocate the interests of local school boards at the state and federal levels, with a strong emphasis on preserving local decision-making and control.

I urge your school board to take full advantage of NJSBA's services. To learn more, download our Membership Guide at www.njsba.org/Services-Guide or contact your district's Field Service Representative by visiting www.njsba.org/field-services and selecting the "Find Your FSR" tool.

If you have suggestions on how NJSBA can better serve you, do not hesitate to contact me at mmcclure@msemail.org.

Sincerely,



Michael R. McClure
President

c.c.: Board Members
Superintendent