



# New Jersey School Boards Association

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## Take-Away Points

### NJSBA Board of Directors Meeting

May 10, 2019

1. **Rutgers University Division of Continuing Studies Partnership** – NJSBA is entering into a partnership with the Rutgers University Division of Continuing Studies. This agreement marks the beginning of the NJSBA Online University, an activity that is directly related to three goals areas of the NJSBA Strategic Plan: Building a “Future Ready” Association; enhancing direct services, and making training more accessible. Rutgers will provide in-kind services to develop 14 courses. The online programs will cover mandated training and other professional development areas. Our goals are to expand course offerings for board members and make training available to a larger audience, including school district IT directors, facility managers and personnel administrators.
2. **Donation to Sustainable Jersey for Schools** - The Board of Directors approved a \$50,000 donation to Sustainable Jersey for Schools. Sustainable Jersey for Schools is one of NJSBA’s long-standing and most successful collaborations. Today, more than 56 percent, or 328 of the state’s operating school districts are members of the free program. In fiscal year 2018 alone, Sustainable Jersey awarded over \$330,000 in grants to local school districts. Since its founding, the program has provided \$1.8 million in grants. Thanks to Sustainable Jersey, our state’s public schools have implemented over 3,900 actions in areas such as energy efficiency, waste management, healthy school environment, student and staff wellness, and student learning.
3. **County School Board Association’s Student Programs** – In May of each year, several of the county associations conduct student focused programs. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade dialog programs focus on listening to our future leaders about their experience and recommendations for improvement in their respective schools. The Unsung Heroes program focusses on students who model good citizenship or who have achieved academic success despite disabilities, language barriers, or other significant challenges. This year, NJSBA is featuring a series of videos that profile four of our unsung heroes. The results are heartwarming and serve as a reminder of why all of us in this room are involved in public education. The videos are available for viewing on the NJSBA web site home page under “News.”
4. **NJSBA Legislative Day, May 16, 2019** – the NJSBA and the NJPTA are teaming up to present the 2019 annual Legislative Day in Trenton on Thursday, May 16, at the Patriots Theater at the War Memorial in Trenton. Legislative Day provides information on issues impacting public school districts and an opportunity for school board members and PTA members to network with other school officials and the NJ legislature. Keynote speaker this year is Cary Booker, Governor Phil Murphy’s senior policy adviser for education.