

MINUTES

New Jersey Council of Education

General Membership Meeting – April 11, 2025

Forsgate Country Club

- 1. Call to Order** – Kenneth Figgs
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance** – Membership
- 3. Presentation** – Past President's Clock presented to Dr. Dolores Szymanski. Dr. Szymanski was thanked for her dedication to the organization and her leadership.
- 4. Introduction of Sponsor** – Melindo Persi introduced Ms. Jeannie Oliver from Rubicon West. Ms. Oliver addressed the membership and shared their company mission and asked how they can meet the needs of our schools.
- 5. Report of the Treasurer** - Michael Gorman provided a copy of the current treasury report and reviewed the document with the membership. As of March 20, 2025 there is a balance of \$45,237.33.
- 6. Report of the Secretary** – Christine Vespe provided copies and reviewed the Minutes from the General Membership Meeting of October 4, 2024 and the Executive Meetings of November 14, 2024 and January 15, 2025. There was a motion to accept the minutes by Michael Gorman and Second by Ken King. Unanimously approved.
- 7. Necrology Report** – Melindo Persi shared and recognized the passing of William Mancuso and George Snow.
- 8. Social Media Report** – Vincent Przybylinski thanked Pat Hollenstein for keeping the website up to date with the latest membership information, meeting agendas and minutes. Vincent encouraged all members to visit the website and to also join the LinkedIn site for the NJCOE.
- 9. Report of the Historian** – Alease Griffith – No Report

10. Introduction and Vote on 2025-2026 Officers – Laurie Newell announced the proposed slate of officers for the 2025-2026 Membership Year. Josue Falaise made the motion to accept the slate of officer, seconded by Cheryl Simone. Approved Unanimously.

11. Induction of New Members – Cheryl Simone

- Glashebra Jones, sponsored by Monica Burton and Ken King
- Craig Smith, sponsored by Monica Burton and Ken King

12. Presentation of the NJCOE Distinguished Educator of the Year Award

-Presented by Dr. Ken King

-Award Recipient - **Dr. Alease Griffith**

Dr. Griffith was praised for her many years of service in education and congratulated by the membership and her family and friends who were in attendance.

13. Introduction of Speaker – Cheryl Simone

-Presenter: Dr. Charles B. Simone, MD

-Presentation: Ten Point Plan to Decrease your Risk of Cancer and Heart Disease and a discussion of GLP-1 Prescription Drugs and How They Affect You

14. President Ken Figs thanked Dr. Simone for his very informative presentation and announced the future meeting dates:

-General Membership Dates – October 10, 2025, April 17, 2026

-Executive Meeting Date – May 12, 2025

Open Forum/Adjournment/Lunch

Recorded and Submitted by: Dr. Christine Vespe, Secretary