

PUBLIC NOTICE

EDUCATION

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Notice of Action on Petition for Rulemaking

State Board of Examiners and Certification

**Persons Employed to Coach or Serving as Coach for Interscholastic Swimming and/or Diving
Programs; Swimming and Water Safety**

N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-5.17 and 10.12

Petitioner: Meghan Vaccarelli.

Take notice that on August 7, 2015, the New Jersey State Board of Education (State Board) received a petition for rulemaking from the above petitioner requesting that the State Board of Education adopt amendments to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-5.17 and 10.12. The proposed amendments would alter the certification requirements for individuals who coach interscholastic swimming and/or diving.

A notice acknowledging receipt of the petition was published in the September 8, 2015 New Jersey Register at 47 N.J.R. 2311(a). In accordance with applicable law, the Department reviewed the petition and has determined that additional time is needed to deliberate about this petition. Time is needed to consult with the Commissioner of the Department of Health, as is required by N.J.S.A. 18A:26-2.3, which states that the State Board of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health shall promulgate rules and regulations to provide for the certification of persons employed by boards of education to teach swimming in the public schools. With the Commissioner of the Department of Health, the Department will determine the impact of these changes and whether, as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:26-2.3, the proposed

requirements ensure that candidates for certification have the appropriate swimming and first aid skills necessary to protect the health and safety of students. Also, the Department will conduct further review of national industry standards and to confirm whether the current rules are hindering the hiring and retaining qualified swim coaches.

Accordingly, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.2(a)3 and 6A:6-4.2(b)3, this matter will be referred for further deliberation for a period not to exceed 90 days.

A copy of this public notice is being mailed to the petitioners.