

Panel Says State Can Limit Payouts to School Admin.

TRENTON—A state appeals court has ruled that New Jersey's Education Commissioner Lucile Davy has the authority to enact regulations that set standards for payments in lieu of unused sick and vacation leave to school business administrators. The court also ruled the commissioner has the power to require school districts to adopt nepotism policies as a condition to receive state aid.

Ms. Davy called the appellate panel's ruling a "welcome affirmation of the Corzine administration's efforts to bring transparency and efficiency to school district spending." "The court considered the legislative and administrative genesis of these regulations and agreed that we have the responsibility to establish rules to effectuate the purposes of the school district accountability laws that the legislature approved and that Governor strongly supported and signed," Commissioner Davy said. "As Governor Corzine has said repeatedly, we have an obligation to the taxpayers of New Jersey to ensure that public dollars are not wasted on excessive administrative costs but actually get into the classrooms, where

they are most needed," the Commissioner said. "It is gratifying to see that the appellate court agreed."

Upon filing the lawsuit Marie Bilik, NJSBA executive director, said the NJSBA "believes that many lawmakers and policymakers in Trenton are focused so heavily on the cost of education that they have lost sight of its true value. Their overreactions to the rare improprieties come at the expense of successful school board governance."

County to Hold POW/MIA Day

ELIZABETH — The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will remember and honor the personal sacrifices of our nation's prisoners-of-war and military personnel missing in action at the Union County POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony.

The event will take place Friday, September 18, at 11:15 a.m. in front of the Courthouse at 2 Board Street in Elizabeth. In case of rain, the ceremony will be moved indoors in the first floor rotunda of the Courthouse.

Westfield Health Department Announces Flu Inoculation Dates

WESTFIELD - Please be advised that the Westfield Regional Health Department has scheduled the following dates for seasonal Flu Inoculation Programs. These programs are open only to residents of Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, New Providence, Roselle Park, Springfield, Summit and Westfield. Proof of residency may be required. Participants will be taken on a first come/first serve basis.

Thursday, September 17, 2009 Westfield Municipal Building (6:00 PM - 7:30 PM) 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, NJ (Court Room).

Tuesday, September 29, 2009 Springfield Municipal Building (6:00 PM - 7:30 PM) 100 Mountain Ave., Springfield, NJ (Court Room)

Wednesday, October 7, 2009 Mountainside Municipal Building (6:00 PM - 7:30 PM) 1385 Rt. #22 East, Mountainside, NJ (Court Room)

Friday, October 9, 2009 Summit - Senior Housing Center (1:00 PM - 3:00 PM) 12 Chestnut Avenue, Summit, NJ.

Tuesday, October 13, 2009 New Providence - Senior Citizens Center (9:00 AM - 11:00 AM) 15 E. 4th Street, New Providence, NJ.

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Fanwood Recreation Center (6:00 PM - 7:30 PM) Forest Road, Fanwood, NJ.

Wednesday, October 21, 2009 Garwood Municipal Building (6:00 PM - 7:30 PM) 403 South Avenue, Garwood, NJ (Court Room).

Saturday, November 14, 2009 Roselle Park High School (9:00 AM - 11:30 AM) 185 W. Webster Ave., Roselle Park, NJ (Cafeteria).

Anyone that is Medicare Part B eligible must please bring their card to the program. The following are groups recommended to receive influenza vaccine (i.e., the flu shot):

Persons aged 65 years and older, with and without chronic health conditions.

Residents of long-term care facilities - persons aged 2-64 years with chronic health conditions.

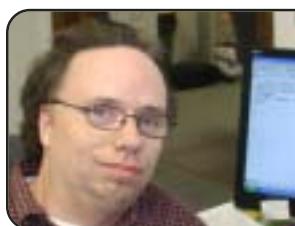
Children aged 6-59 months, who attend any licensed child care center or pre-school activity.

Pregnant women - health-care personnel who provide direct patient care.

Household contacts and out-of-home caregivers of children aged less than 6 months.

For additional information, contact the Westfield Health Department at (908) 789-4070.

Paid Bulletin
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Peyton's Peek at the Week In Politics

By Paul Peyton of The Leader/Times

Assembly Speaker Roberts Not to Seek Re-election

State Assembly Speaker Joseph Roberts (D-Camden) has announced that he will not seek re-election this fall. His successor on the fall ballot is expected to be Donald Norcross, co-chairman of the Camden County Democratic Committee and brother of South Jersey political boss George Norcross.

Mr. Roberts became speaker in 2006, after serving as majority leader since 2002. Here replaced Albio Sires of Hudson County after Mr. Sires was elected to Senator Robert Menendez' (D-N.J.) former congressional seat. Donald Norcross is employed as president of the Southern New Jersey AFL-CIO.

Watson-Coleman, Cryan In Line to Succeed Roberts

Assembly Majority Leader Bonnie Watson Coleman (LD-15, Camden and Assemblyman Joe Cryan (LD-20, Union), state Democratic Party chairman, are the top likely legislators to replace Joseph Roberts as assembly speaker, according to politicriver.com.

The Reverend DeForest "Buster" Soaries, a Republican turned Democrat, has called on other African-American leaders to support Assemblywoman Watson Coleman's quest for speaker, and has threatened to pull his support for Governor Jon Corzine unless the Governor supports her as well.

Sen. Presidency Battle Between Codey, Sweeney

Assembly Speaker Joseph Roberts (D-Camden) announcement also off a battle for the presidency of the Senate between Senator Richard Codey (D-Essex) and Senator Stephen Sweeney (D-3, Gloucester), senate majority leader, according to *The Star Ledger* as Democrats look to split the top leadership of the two houses of the legislature between North and South Jersey lawmakers.

Mass. AG First to Pick Papers for Kennedy Seat

Massachusetts Attorney General State Attorney General Martha Coakley has picked up nomination papers for the vacant United States Senate seat left by the death of Senator Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.). Other possible contenders include U.S. Representatives Stephen Lynch, Michael Capuano and Edward Markey; and former U.S. Rep. Martin Meehan, chancellor University of Massachusetts at Lowell. Republicans include former Lieutenant Governor Kerry Healey, state Senator Scott Brown and former U.S. Attorney Michael

Sullivan. Mr. Kennedy's nephew, the former U.S. Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy 2nd, announced offer the weekend that he would not be a candidate for the seat.

Under current state law a Primary Election will be held December 8 followed by the final election on January 19. Massachusetts lawmakers were scheduled to debate proposed legislation yesterday that would change state law to let the governor make an interim appointment to the seat until the election. The law was changed to the current special election format five years by Democrats to prevent than Republican Governor Mitt Romney from appointing a Republican should Senator John Kerry (D-Mass.) have won the Presidency.

Coniglio Gets Two Years For Accepting Bribes

Former state Sen. Joseph Coniglio of Paramus has been sentenced to 30 months in jail for accepting more than \$100,000 in bribes, disguised as consulting fees, to steer more than \$1 million in state grants to Hackensack University Medical Center, *The Record* has reported.

AC Councilman, 13 Others Indicted for Election Fraud

Atlantic City Councilman Marty Small, who ran unsuccessfully for mayor in the June Democratic Primary Election, and 13 of his campaign workers were indicted last week on charges of election fraud, according to a *Star Ledger* report. They are charged with filling out and submitting absentee ballots without the voters' knowledge.



STATE OF THE COUNTY...Recently, Union County Freeholder Candidates, Councilman Anthony Sytko and Nicole Cole met with Assemblyman Jon Bramnick and Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz (both LD-21, Westfield and Summit). Topics discussed included creating "green jobs" in Union County and pedestrian safety. If elected Mr. Sytko and Ms. Cole propose to work closely with the state and municipalities in order to share services.

Assemblyman Bramnick to Hold 2nd Hearing on Impact of N.J. Corruption

TRENTON — The Assembly Republican Policy Committee's second hearing on corruption is scheduled for Wednesday, September 16. As chairman of the committee, Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (LD-21, Westfield) is inviting the public to present testimony.

The hearings will examine the economic impact of corruption on New Jersey taxpayers and listen to real people about solutions to this problem.

The committee's hearings began August 17 in Trenton. Mr. Bramnick said the goal of the hearings is to expose the cause of public corruption and draft legislation to prevent it in the future. The hearings follow the

arrests of 44 persons including mayors, state assemblymen and rabbis in a major corruption probe over the summer.

Along with Assemblyman Bramnick, the committee includes: Assemblywoman Dawn Marie Addiego (LD-8, Burlington), Assemblywoman Denise Coyle (LD-16, Somerset), Assemblyman David Rible (LD-11, Monmouth), Assemblyman Scott Rumana (LD-40, Passaic), Assemblywoman Charlotte Vandervalk (LD-39, Bergen) and Assemblyman David Wolfe (LD-10, Monmouth).

Anyone wishing to testify should contact Mr. Bramnick's chief of staff, Diane Walsh, at (908) 232-2073.

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Project Graduation - BASH celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2009

Over the past 20 years, approximately 85% of the graduating class students have attended Project Graduation - BASH, the substance-free celebration sponsored by the OPTIMIST Club of Westfield.

The OPTIMIST Club would like to thank the many individuals and businesses for their support and contributions to help provide a safe environment for the 2009 senior class to celebrate graduation.

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For more information about the OPTIMIST Club and Project Graduation contact:
OPTIMIST Club of Westfield: P.O. Box 2213 Westfield, N.J. 07091
http://westfieldnj.com/optimist

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