

CHAPTER 115

AN ACT concerning the New Jersey School of the Arts, amending P.L.1969, c.95 and repealing section 5 of P.L.1969, c.95.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Section 1 of P.L.1969, c.95 (C.18A:61A-1) is amended to read as follows:

C.18A:61A-1 Declaration of policy.

1. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to foster, encourage and promote, and to provide assistance for, the cultural development of the citizens of New Jersey, and to this end the State Legislature hereby establishes a school for the workplace readiness skills of students in the performing, literary and visual arts which shall be defined as an educational institution of the State under the supervision and direction of the State Board of Education, to serve the students of New Jersey and to supplement and provide instruction to fulfill the Core Curriculum Content Standards for the Visual and Performing Arts adopted by the State Board of Education, to be known as the New Jersey School of the Arts, hereinafter referred to as "the school."

2. Section 2 of P.L.1969, c.95 (C.18A:61A-2) is amended to read as follows:

C.18A:61A-2 Purpose of school.

2. The primary purpose of the school shall be the professional training of students in the fields of art, music, drama, dance, and creative writing at the secondary level of instruction, with emphasis placed upon performance of the arts and academic studies of the arts. The school will provide such courses to any secondary school within the State and such other programs as are deemed necessary to meet the needs of its students and of the State, consistent with appropriations made and gifts received or solicited therefor, and may co-operate with other secondary schools and institutions which provide such courses of instruction.

3. Section 3 of P.L.1969, c.95 (C.18A:61A-3) is amended to read as follows:

C.18A:61A-3 Board of trustees.

3. The school shall be governed by a board of trustees consisting of 11 members, appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, who will serve terms of six years and until the appointment and qualification of their successors; except that, of the first appointees to the board, four members shall be appointed for terms of six years, four members for terms of four years, and three members for terms of two years, with all terms to commence on July 1 of the year in which the members shall be appointed. Members of the board shall serve without remuneration but shall be entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The Secretary of State or a designee shall be an ex-officio member of the board of trustees. A vacancy in the membership of the board shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term.

4. Section 4 of P.L.1969, c.95 (C.18A:61A-4) is amended to read as follows:

C.18A:61A-4 Organization, operation of board; coordinators.

4. The board of trustees shall organize at a meeting to be called by the Commissioner of Education and annually thereafter by election from their number of a chairman and a vice chairman and appointment of a secretary, who may but need not be a member of the board of trustees, and such other officers as the board shall determine. The meeting for the election and appointment of officers shall be held not earlier than July 1 and not later than October 1 of each year. Officers shall serve for terms of one year, and until their successors are selected and qualified. The board of trustees shall be known as "The Trustees of the New Jersey School of the Arts" and shall be a body corporate, with all the powers usually conferred upon such bodies and necessary to enable it to make contracts, and to exercise such other rights and privileges as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions and purposes of this act. The school shall employ northern, central and southern coordinators and hire appropriate professional staff to implement programs in music, dance, visual arts and creative writing in each of the 21 counties

of the State.

5. Section 6 of P.L.1969, c.95 (C.18A:61A-6) is amended to read as follows:

C.18A:61A-6 Board supervision; powers, duties.

6. The board of trustees of the school shall, within the general policies and guidelines set by the State Board of Education, have general supervision over, and shall be vested with the conduct of, the school. It shall, within the general policies and guidelines set by the State Board of Education, have the power and duty to:

a. Determine the educational curriculum and program of the school in accordance with the arts standards, frameworks and assessments;

b. Determine policies for the organization, administration and development of the school;

c. Study the educational and financial needs of the school; annually acquaint the Governor and Legislature with the condition of the school; and prepare, and after concurrence by and jointly with the State Board of Education, present the annual budget to the Governor and Legislature, in accordance with law;

d. Subject to the provisions of P.L.1944, c.112 (C.52:27B-1 et seq.), direct and control the expenditures of the school in accordance with the provisions of the budget and the appropriations acts of the Legislature, except that with respect to transfers of funds pursuant to P.L.1944, c.112 (C.52:27B-1 et seq.), the school shall be deemed a spending agency, and as to funds received or solicited from other sources, in accordance with the terms of any applicable trusts, gifts, bequests, or other special provisions, the counsel, advice and assistance of the Division of Investment in the Department of the Treasury shall be available to the board of trustees in the establishment and maintenance of endowment and trust funds;

e. With the approval of the State Board of Education appoint and fix the compensation of a director of the school who shall be its executive officer and shall serve at the pleasure of the board of trustees;

f. Appoint members of the academic, administrative and teaching staffs as shall be required and fix their compensation and terms of employment in accordance with salary policies adopted by the State Board of Education, which salary policies shall prescribe qualifications for the education staff that may be in any given classification;

g. Appoint, remove, promote and transfer such other officers, agents or employees as may be required for carrying out the purposes of the school and assign their duties, determine their salaries and prescribe qualifications for all positions, all in accordance with the provisions of Title 11A, Civil Service, of the New Jersey Statutes;

h. Subject to the provisions of P.L.1954, c.48 (C.52:34-6 et seq.), to enter into contracts and agreements with the State or any of its political subdivisions or with the United States, or with any public body, department or other agency of the State or the United States or with any individual, firm, or corporation which are deemed necessary or advisable by the board for carrying out the purposes of the school;

i. Adopt bylaws and make and promulgate such rules, regulations and orders, not inconsistent with the provisions of this act that are necessary and proper for the administration and operation of the school and the carrying out of its purposes;

j. Receive and accept private and corporate contributions for such purposes and upon such terms as the donor may prescribe consistent with the purposes of the school and general policies and guidelines set by the State Board of Education.

6. Section 8 of P.L.1969, c.95 (C.18A:61A-8) is amended to read as follows:

C.18A:61A-8 Advisory board.

8. As advisors to the board of trustees there may be an advisory board to consist of not less than 10 members who shall have achieved national or international distinction in the performing or visual arts as performers, playwrights, composers, or otherwise, to be selected by the board of trustees to assist in carrying out the provisions of this act. The members of the advisory board shall be notified of all meetings of the board of trustees, and shall be invited to attend such

meetings and to advise and counsel with the board of trustees, but the members of the advisory board shall not be entitled to vote. Members of the advisory board shall serve without remuneration at the pleasure of the board of trustees.

Repealer.

7. Section 5 of P.L.1969, c.95 (C.18A:61A-5) is repealed.

8. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved September 8, 2000.