

## State school boards convention opens in Atlantic City today

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ATLANTIC CITY - About 10,000 school board members from around the state will travel to the Convention Center here today through Friday for the annual New Jersey School Boards Association workshop.

Federal and state policies are on the agenda as members learn how the No Child Left Behind law will affect their district.

About 160 workshops will cover every topic from bullying to budgets, drug testing, school choice, security and rethinking the senior year of high school.

About 800 exhibitors will display services and products.

Among the guest speakers :

- Ron Clark, Disney American Teacher of the Year, who worked with children in North Carolina and Harlem and wrote a book, "The Essential 55: An Award-Winning Educator's Rules for Discovering the Successful Student in Every Child."
- State Education Commissioner William Librera will speak on business and industry's role in education at the Vocational-Technical Education Program.
- Willa Spicer, project director for the New Jersey Performance Assessment Alliance, will discuss the pilot testing project in nine state school districts.
- Curtis Sliwa, president and founder of the Guardian Angels will speak on bullying and methods to prevent it.
- Jack Canfield, author of "Chicken Soup for the Soul" books and founder of Self-Esteem Seminars, will be the closing speaker Friday.