

**EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011**

**5:00 P.M.**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole met at the School Board Office at 1050 South Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at 5:00 p.m. on the third day of November 2011 in regular-session convened. The Vice-President called the meeting to order with the following members present: Mrs. Barbara Freiberg, President; Mr. Tarvald A. Smith, Vice-President; Mr. G. Thomas "Jerry" Arbour; Mrs. Connie Bernard; Ms. Jill C. Dyason; Mr. Craig Freeman; Mr. Randy Lamana; Ms. Vereta T. Lee; Mr. David Tatman; and Mrs. Evelyn Ware-Jackson. Dr. Kenyetta Nelson-Smith was absent.

Others present were: Mr. John L. Dilworth, Superintendent; Dr. Herman Brister, Chief Academic Officer; Ms. Diane Atkins, Associate Superintendent for Instructional Support Services; Ms. Catherine Fletcher, Chief Business Operations Officer; Dr. Shirl Gilbert, Executive Director of Turnaround Schools; Ms. Millie Williams, Interim Executive Director of Human Resources; Mr. Chris Trahan, Director of Communications and Community Engagement; and Mr. Domoine Rutledge, General Counsel.

-----

Vice President Smith asked for a moment of silence. School Board Member Jerry Arbour led the Pledge of Allegiance.

-----

**School Operations Items**

**The following items were presented to the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole by the Superintendent and staff:**

**Recommendation of General Counsel**

**By Mr. Lamana**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby favorably recommend the following item: Velma Jackson v. EBRPSB, et al, Docket No.: 580,853, Sec. "24;" 19<sup>th</sup> JDC.

**Seconded by Mr. Arbour**

**The vote on the motion was as follows:**

**Yeas: (8)**

**Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Mrs. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Mr. Smith, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson**

**Nays: (1)            Mr. Tatman**  
**Abstained: (1)     Mrs. Freiberg**  
**Absent: (1)         Dr. Nelson-Smith**

**The motion was favorably recommended.**

-----

**Authorization for Staff to Advertise, Accept Low Bids Meeting Specifications, and Make the Award of Contracts for Istrouma High School Classroom Improvement 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

**By Mr. Lamana**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby favorably recommend the following item: authorization for staff to advertise, accept the low bid meeting specifications and make the award of a contract for the Istrouma High School Classroom Improvement 2nd Floor, or reject any and all bids for just cause in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law; Louisiana Revised Statutes, Title 38; Chapter 10.

**Seconded by Ms. Dyason**

**Discussion followed.**

**The following substitute motion was made:**

**By Mr. Freeman**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby defer the following item until the February 2, 2012, Committee of the Whole meeting: authorization for staff to advertise, accept the low bid meeting specifications, and make the award of a contract for the Istrouma High School Classroom Improvement 2nd Floor, or reject any and all bids for just cause in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law; Louisiana Revised Statutes, Title 38; Chapter 10.

**Seconded by Mrs. Freiberg**

**Discussion followed.**

**The substitute motion was withdrawn by the originator and seconder.**

**Discussion continued.**

**The following substitute motion was made:**

**By Mr. Arbour**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby defer the following item until the February 2, 2012, Committee of the Whole meeting: authorization for staff to advertise, accept the low bid meeting specifications, and make the award of a contract for the Istrouma High School Classroom Improvement 2nd Floor, or reject any and all bids for just cause in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law; Louisiana Revised Statutes, Title 38; Chapter 10.

**Seconded by Mrs. Bernard**

**The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:**

<b>Yeas: (5)</b>	<b>Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Mrs. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, and Mr. Tatman</b>
<b>Nays: (3)</b>	<b>Mr. Lamana, Mr. Smith and Mrs. Ware-Jackson</b>
<b>Abstained: (2)</b>	<b>Mrs. Freiberg and Ms. Lee</b>
<b>Absent: (1)</b>	<b>Dr. Nelson-Smith</b>

**The substitute motion failed.**

**Discussion continued.**

**The following substitute motion was made:**

**By Mr. Lamana**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby defer the following item until the January 5, 2012, Committee of the Whole meeting: authorization for staff to advertise, accept the low bid meeting specifications, and make the award of a contract for the Istrouma High School Classroom Improvement 2nd Floor, or reject any and all bids for just cause in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law; Louisiana Revised Statutes, Title 38; Chapter 10.

**Discussion continued.**

**Mr. Freeman offered a second with a friendly amendment.**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby defer the following item until the January 5, 2012, Committee of the Whole meeting: authorization for staff to advertise, accept the low bid meeting specifications, and make the award of a contract for the Istrouma High School Classroom Improvement 2nd Floor, or reject any and all bids for just cause in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law; Louisiana Revised Statutes, Title 38; Chapter 10. The Superintendent, Board Leadership, and staff will formalize a process to start working with the State to get an extension of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

**Seconded by Mr. Freeman**

**The amendment was accepted by the originator.**

**The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:**

<b>Yeas: (9)</b>	<b>Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Mrs. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Lamana, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson</b>
<b>Nays: (1)</b>	<b>Ms. Lee</b>
<b>Abstained: (0)</b>	<b>None</b>

**Absent: (1) Dr. Nelson-Smith**

**The substitute motion was favorably recommended.**

-----

**Authorization for Staff to Advertise, Accept Low Bids Meeting Specifications, and Make the Award of Contracts for Delmont Elementary School Classroom Improvement**

**By Mrs. Bernard**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby favorably recommend the following item: authorization for staff to advertise, accept the low bid meeting specifications and make the award of a contract for the Delmont Elementary School Classroom Improvement, or reject any and all bids for just cause in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law; Louisiana Revised Statutes, Title 38; Chapter 10.

**Seconded by Mrs. Freiberg**

**Favorably recommended by a vote of the members present. (Dr. Nelson-Smith was absent.)**

-----

**Board Policy Changes**

**By Mr. Tatman**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby favorably recommend the following item: approval of board policy changes.

**Seconded by Mrs. Bernard**

**Favorably recommended by a vote of the members present. (Dr. Nelson-Smith was absent.)**

-----

**Finance**

**The following items were presented to the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole by the Superintendent and staff:**

**EBRPSS Financial Audit Results**

**By Mr. Lamana**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby favorably recommend the following item: approval of the East Baton Rouge Parish School System financial audit results for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011.

**Seconded by Mr. Tatman**

**Favorably recommended by a vote of the members present. (Dr. Nelson-Smith was absent.)**

-----

**Empower Charter Academy by the National Heritage Academies**

**By Mr. Arbour**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby deny the following item: approval to deny a request from Empower Charter Academy by the National Heritage Academies to serve students in the East Baton Rouge Parish School System.

**Seconded by Mr. Lamana**

**Discussion followed.**

**The following substitute motion was made.**

**By Mr. Tatman**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby refer the following item to the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board without recommendation: approval of a request from Empower Charter Academy by the National Heritage Academies to serve students in the East Baton Rouge Parish School System.

**Seconded by Mrs. Freiberg**

**Call the Question**

A motion was made to limit debate by "calling the question" by Mr. Freeman. No second was made and no vote was taken on limiting the debate.

**Approved for referral to the Board without recommendation by a vote of the members present. (Dr. Nelson-Smith absent.)**

-----

**Partnership Agreement**

**By Mrs. Freiberg**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby favorably recommend the following item: approval of a collaborative partnership agreement between the

Louisiana Board of Regents and the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board to provide LA GEAR UP services from September 1, 2011, through May 15, 2012.

**Seconded by Ms. Dyason**

**Favorably recommended by a vote of the members present. (Dr. Nelson-Smith was absent.)**

-----

**Preliminary Actual Semi-Annual Financial Tax Plan Update and Proposed 2011-2012 Tax Plan Budgets for Propositions 1, 2, and 3**

**By Mr. Arbour**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby favorably recommend the following item: approval of the Preliminary Actual Semi-Annual Financial Tax Plan update and the Proposed 2011-2012 Tax Plan Budgets for Propositions 1, 2, and 3.

**Seconded by Ms. Lee**

**Favorably recommended by a vote of the members present. (Dr. Nelson-Smith was absent.)**

-----

**Instructional/Pupil Services Items**

**The following items were presented to the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole by the Superintendent and staff:**

**Grant**

**By Mr. Tatman**

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Committee of the Whole does hereby favorably recommend the following item: acceptance of the following grant under \$50,000.00: Kinder Morgan Foundation Grant in the amount of \$2,150.00. (Recipient: Ms. Susan Chernetz, Vocal Music Teacher – Forest Heights Academy of Excellence).

**Seconded by Mrs. Bernard**

**Favorably recommended by a vote of the members present. (Dr. Nelson-Smith was absent.)**

-----

**There being no further business, the Committee of the Whole adjourned by acclamation.**

---

**John L. Dilworth**  
**Secretary/Treasurer to the East Baton**  
**Rouge Parish School Board**  
**Committee of the Whole**