

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2011

5:00 P.M.

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board met at the School Board Office at 1050 South Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at 5:00 p.m. on the seventeenth day of February, 2011 in regular-session convened. The 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; Mrs. Kenyetta Nelson-Smith; Mr. David Tatman, and Mrs. Evelyn Ware-Jackson.

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; Mr. James Crochet, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Mary Nell Dominique, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, Area I; Mr. David Phillips, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, Area III; Ms. Kathleen Smith, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, Area IV; Ms. Millie Williams, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Lizabeth Frischhertz, Chief Officer of Accountability, Assessment and Evaluation; Mr. Jesse Noble, Chief Technology Officer; Mr. Carlos Sam, Director of Magnet Programs; Mr. Lee Dixon, Director of Exceptional Student Services; Mr. Richard Capps, Administrative Director of Federal Programs; Mr. Chris Trahan, Director of Communications and Community Engagement; and Mr. Domoine Rutledge, General Counsel.

Reverend Larry O'Dell, St. Andrew United Methodist Church, gave the invocation. Cadet/Lieutenant Colonel Bryan Hamilton, Tara High School, and Colonel Fulton Johnson, Senior Army Instructor, led the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of School Board Minutes of January 2, 2011, Special School Board meeting, January 6, 2011, Committee of the Whole meeting, January 6, 2011, Special Board meeting, January 20, 2011, School Board meeting, and the February 3, 2011, Committee of the Whole meeting

By Mr. Lamana

Resolved, that, the reading of the minutes of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board meetings of January 2, 2011, Special School Board meeting, January 6, 2011, Committee of the Whole meeting, January 6, 2011, Special Board meeting, January 20, 2011, School Board meeting, and the February 3, 2011, Committee of the Whole meeting, be dispensed with and that they be approved as published in the Official Journal.

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Mr. Arbour was absent.)

Approval of Personnel Changes Since School Board Meeting of January 20, 2011

By Mr. Lamana

Resolved, that, the changes in personnel since the School Board Meeting of January 20, 2011, be, and they are, hereby approved. **(A copy of the Changes has been marked "Official Copy" and placed in the files of the Board.)**

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Mr. Arbour, Ms. Lee, and Mr. Smith were absent.)

Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming March 2, 2011, as the "NEA Read Across America" Day

By Mrs. Bernard

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby adopt a resolution proclaiming March 2, 2011, as the "NEA Read Across America" Day. **(A copy of the Resolution has been marked "Official Copy" and placed in the files of the Board.)**

Seconded by Mr. Freeman

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Mr. Arbour and Mr. Smith were absent.)

Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming March 6-12, 2011, as "National School Social Work" Week

By Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby adopt a resolution proclaiming March 6-12, 2011, as "National School Social Work" Week. **(A copy of the Resolution has been marked "Official Copy" and placed in the files of the Board.)**

Seconded by Mr. Freeman

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Mr. Arbour and Mr. Smith were absent.)

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

By Ms. Dyason

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the Consent Agenda items.

Seconded by Mr. Smith

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: (10) Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Mrs. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (1) Mr. Freeman

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The motion was declared adopted.

The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

Items approved by the Committee of the Whole for recommendation to the Board:

Authorization for staff to advertise, accept the low bid meeting specifications, and make the award of a contract for the Howell Park 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.

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, or reject any and all bids for just cause in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law; Louisiana Revised Statutes, Title 38; Chapter 10.

Approval of the Education Jobs Fund Budget for 2010-2011, Fiscal Assurances Form, Statement of Affirmation Form, and Budget Form.

Acceptance of the following grants under \$50,000.00: a) Lowe’s Toolbox for Education Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00. (Recipient: Ellen Floyd – Jefferson Terrace Elementary School); b) Good Sports Equipment Grant in the amount of \$9,382.04. (Recipient: Coach Paul Jackson – EBR Lab Academy); c) KaBoom Community Partner Playground Project. (Recipient: Dawn Hayward – Sharon Hills Elementary School); and d) Target Field Trip Grants in the amount of \$2,100.00 (\$700/each). (Recipients: Ellen Floyd – Jefferson Terrace Elementary School, Melissa Morrissey, Audubon Elementary School, and Genedi Shamburger – Woodlawn High School).

Approval of the 2010-2011 LA 4 Early Childhood Program budget in the amount of \$5,190,045.00.

Approval of the district calendar for the 2011-2012 school year.

Approval of the proposed contract for the Career Education Center.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Authorization for Staff to Review the Strategic Plan Consultant Proposals, and Negotiate a Contract

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve hiring Synesi Associates as a consultant regarding the development of a Strategic Plan with a cap of fifteen thousand (\$15,000) to be paid by any third party donations. In the event there are not enough funds donated, the balance will come from the monies on deposit with the Baton Rouge Area Foundation, which are not taxpayers monies.

Seconded by Ms. Lee

Discussion followed. The following friendly amendment was made.

By Mrs. Bernard

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby authorize staff to review the strategic plan consultant proposals received, and to negotiate the most effective contract relating to East Baton Rouge Parish School System's continuation of its strategic plan process, and to bring the negotiated contract back to the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board for final approval.

The originator and seconder accepted the friendly amendment.

Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.

Approval of Changes to the Travel Policy/Guide

By Mr. Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve changes to the East Baton Rouge Parish School System's Travel Policy/Guide by accepting a recommended travel allotment of five thousand (\$5,000) per Board Member, per fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011.

An additional amount of five thousand (\$5,000) will be allotted for Board Leadership or designee to attend special events.

Seconded by Mr. Tatman

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: (10) Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Lamana, Mrs. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (0) None

Abstained: (1) Ms. Lee

Absent: (0) None

The motion was declared adopted.

Approval of an Arts Education Program Agreement

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve an Arts Education Program Agreement between the East Baton Rouge Parish School System, and the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge in the amount of \$35,000.00.

Seconded by Mr. Lamana

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Mr. Smith was absent.)

Review of Superintendent’s Recommendation for Expulsion of two (2) Students

The President asked the Board members to indicate whether or not they had the opportunity to review the two (2) cases. Upon affirmation by the Members, the President inquired as to whether or not any Member wished to request a hearing of the cases.

A motion was made by Mrs. Nelson-Smith with a second by Ms. Lee to schedule a hearing before the Board at the next regularly-scheduled School Board meeting as it relates to the student at Istrouma High School.

A motion was made by Mr. Freeman with a second by Ms. Lee to schedule a hearing before the Board at the next regularly-scheduled School Board meeting as it relates to the student at Capitol Middle School.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned by acclamation.

John L. Dilworth
Secretary/Treasurer to the Board