

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2017

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 twelfth day of January 2017, in special-session convened. The Vice-President called the meeting to order with the following members present: Vice President Evelyn Ware-Jackson, Vice-President; Mr. Mark Bellue; Mrs. Connie Bernard; Ms. Dawn Collins; Ms. Jill C. Dyason; Ms. Vereta Lee; Dr. Kenyetta Nelson-Smith; and Mr. David Tatman.

Others present were: Warren Drake, Superintendent; Dr. Michelle Clayton, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Adonica Pelichet-Duggan, Chief of Communication and Public Relations; Ms. Millie Williams, Chief Officer of Human Resources; Mr. Gary Reese, Chief of Student Support Services; Mr. Adam Smith, Associate Superintendent; and Mrs. Andrea O’Konski, Chief of Academic Programs.

Pastor Montrell Henderson of St. Joseph Baptist Church gave the invocation. School Board Member Jill Dyason led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Appointment to Temporarily Fill Vacancy in District 7

Candidates Brian Adams, Belinda Creel Davis, Karen Duffy, Michael Gaudet, and William Minton addressed the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board.

Ms. Collins nominated Ms. Belinda Creel Davis

Mr. Bellue nominated Mr. Michael Gaudet

A Motion was made to close the nomination.

By Mr. Tatman

Seconded by Ms. Collins

Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.

The votes on the nominees were as follows:

Ms. Belinda Creel Davis 4

Mr. Michael Gaudet 4

There was a tie and Vice President Ware Jackson called for another vote.

The votes on the nominees were as follows:

Ms. Belinda Creel Davis 4

Mr. Michael Gaudet 4

There was another tie vote.

A motion was offered to suspend the voting.

By Ms. Collins

Seconded by Dr. Nelson-Smith

Discussion followed.

A substitute motion was made to call for an additional vote before suspending to a date certain.

By Mr. Tatman

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:

**Yeas: (6) Mr. Bellue, Ms. Lee, Ms. Ware-Jackson, Ms. Dyason,
Mrs. Bernard, Mr. Tatman**

Nays: (2) Dr. Nelson-Smith and Ms. Collins

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The Substitute motion passed.

The Board voted again.

The votes on the nominees were as follows:

Ms. Belinda Creel Davis 4

Mr. Michael Gaudet 4

A motion was made to defer the entire matter until the next Board Meeting on January 19, 2017.

By Ms. Collins

Seconded by Dr. Nelson-Smith

Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.

Election of School Board Leadership

Mr. Warren Drake, Superintendent of Schools, Chair, opened the floor for nominations for President of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board.

Mr. Tatman nominated Vice President Ware-Jackson

Ms. Collins nominated Dr. Nelson-Smith

A Motion was made to close the floor for nominations.

By Mr. Tatman

Seconded by Dr. Nelson-Smith

A motion was made to defer the election of Board Leadership until the January 19, 2017 Regular Meeting.

By Ms. Lee

Seconded by Dr. Nelson-Smith

Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.

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

**Warren Drake,
Secretary/Treasurer to the Board**