

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

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2013

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 this the sixteenth day of May 2013, in regular-session convened. The President called the meeting to order with the following members present: Mr. David Tatman, President; Mr. Tarvald A. Smith, Vice-President; Mr. G. Thomas "Jerry" Arbour; Mrs. Connie Bernard; Ms. Jill C. Dyason; Mr. Craig Freeman; Mrs. Barbara Freiberg; Mr. Randy Lamana; Ms. Vereta T. Lee; Dr. Kenyetta Nelson-Smith; and Mrs. Evelyn Ware-Jackson.

Others present were: Dr. Bernard Taylor, Jr., Superintendent; Mr. Marvin Trotter, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent for Parent/Community Engagement; Mr. Michael Haggen, Deputy Superintendent for Innovation and Reform; Ms. Diane Atkins, Associate Superintendent for Instructional Support and Pupil Services; Mr. Carlos Sam, Associate Superintendent for School Leadership and Instruction; Dr. Herman Brister, Associate Superintendent for Student Support Services; Ms. Catherine Fletcher, Chief Business Operations Officer; Mr. Jesse Noble, Chief Technology Officer; Ms. Millie Williams, Interim Executive Director of Human Resources; Ms. Lizabeth Frischhertz, Chief Officer of Accountability, Assessment and Evaluation; Ms. Susan Nelson, Interim Executive Director of Communications/External Affairs; and Mr. Domoine Rutledge, General Counsel.

School Board Member, Randy Lamana, gave the invocation. Cadet Captain Ariel Battley, Glen Oaks High School accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Ronald Mahomes, Senior Army Instructor, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of School Board Minutes of the April 18, 2013, School Board meeting, May 2, 2013, Committee of the Whole meeting, and May 2, 2013, Special School Board meetings

By Ms. Ware-Jackson

Resolved, that, the reading of the minutes of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board meetings of April 18, 2013, School Board meeting, May 2, 2013, Committee of the Whole meeting, and the May 2, 2013, Special School Board meeting, be dispensed with and that they be approved as published in the Official Journal.

Seconded Mr. Lamana

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Ms. Dyason was absent.)

Approval of Consent Agenda Items, Excluding Items #11 and #15

By Mrs. Bernard

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the Consent Agenda items, excluding items #11 and #15.

Seconded by Mrs. Freiberg

Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.

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

Authorization to allow the Community School for Apprenticeship Learning (CSAL) to renovate the current school auditorium and add two classrooms to this space at the old Northdale Academy school site.

Approval of the 2013 East Baton Rouge Parish prison budget for Adult Education Services.

Adopt the Resolution, as required by law for the Office of the Assessor no later than June 1, 2013, for the purpose of levying millages effective on the 2013 Assessment Roll.

Approval of a partnership between the East Baton Rouge Parish School System and the Children’s Defense Fund (Peak Grant).

Approval of a contract for professional development services from ABC,123, LLC, for the Diocese of Baton Rouge using Title II allocations.

Acceptance of the recommendation of Mr. Domoine Rutledge, General Counsel, East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, in the matter of: Jerrold McLaurin v. EBRPSB; Docket No. 565,116; Section “22;” 19th JDC, Parish of EBR.

Acceptance of the recommendation of Mr. Domoine Rutledge, General Counsel, East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, in the matter of: Arnold Rogers v. Carole Whitesell and EBRPSS; Suit No. 589,435; Section “25;” 19th JDC, Parish of EBR.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Approval of Proposed Contract for External Auditing

By Vice President Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the proposed contract for External Auditing Services performed by Postlethwaite& Netterville for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, 2014, and 2015 for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System.

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: (9) Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (2) Mr. Arbour and Mr. Lamana

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The motion was declared adopted.

Approval of Proposed Attendance Zone Changes for LaBelle Aire Elementary School and Other Affected Schools

By Vice President Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the proposed attendance zone changes for LaBelle Aire Elementary School and other affected schools for the 2013-2014 school year.

Seconded by Mr. Freeman

Discussion followed.

“Call the Question”

By Mrs. Freiberg

Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: (8) Mr. Arbour, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (1) Mr. Lamana

Abstained: (1) Mrs. Bernard

Absent: (1) Mr. Smith

The motion was declared adopted.

Authorization to Negotiate and Execute an Agreement

By Mrs. Freiberg

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give authorization to negotiate and execute an agreement to provide a Medicare Advantage plan to Medicare-eligible retirees that would contain a "No Co-Pay" clause.

Died for lack of a second.

Discussion followed.

The following motion was made.

By Mr. Freeman

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give authorization to negotiate and execute an agreement to provide a Medicare Advantage plan to Medicare-eligible retirees.

Seconded by Ms. Ware-Jackson

Discussion continued.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give approval for all Medicare-eligible retirees to remain with the East Baton Rouge Parish School System medical insurance. There will be a ten percent (10%) across the board increase in medical insurance premium for all participants.

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:

Yeas: (4) Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Mr. Lamana, and Ms. Lee

Nays: (7) Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The substitute motion failed.

Discussion continued.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Ms. Dyason

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give authorization to administration to negotiate and execute an agreement with Humana for a Medicare Advantage plan to Medicare-eligible retirees.

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

Discussion continued.

The following "friendly amendment" was offered by Mr. Arbour.

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give authorization to administration to negotiate and execute an agreement with Humana for a Medicare Advantage plan to Medicare-eligible retirees. The Superintendent shall limit the negotiation to maintaining the "slice option" and no "co-pay option" clause.

The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:

Yeas: (6) Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Mrs. Freiberg, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Lamana, and Ms. Lee

Nays: (5) Mr. Freeman, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The substitute motion was declared adopted.

Approval of Proposed Premium Contributions for Active and non-Medicare Eligible Retirees

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the proposed recommendation of Mercer and the Superintendent that premium contributions for health insurance for active employees will be a zero (0) amount and non-Medicare eligible retirees will pay ten percent (10%) of the budget amount.

Seconded by Mr. Lamana

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: (8) Mr. Arbour, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (2) Mrs. Bernard and Mr. Lamana

Abstained: (1) Mrs. Freiberg

Absent: (0) None

The motion was declared adopted.

Approval of School Board Meeting Schedule for 2013-2014

By Vice President Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board meeting schedule for 2013-2014.

Seconded by Mr. Arbour

Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.

Executive Session:

By Vice President Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby go into Executive Session under the provisions of L.R.S.42:17(A)(2) to discuss pending litigation regarding Baton Rouge Magnet High School.

Seconded by Mr. Arbour

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: (9) Mr. Arbour, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (1) Dr. Nelson-Smith

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (1) Mrs. Bernard

The motion was declared adopted.

The Board came out of Executive Session and reconvened. No action was taken in or after the Executive Session.

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

**Dr. Bernard Taylor, Jr.,
Secretary/Treasurer to the Board**