

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014

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 eighteenth day of December 2014, 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; Mrs. Barbara Freiberg; Mrs. Mary Lynch; Ms. Vereta T. Lee; Dr. Kenyetta Nelson-Smith; and Ms. Evelyn Ware-Jackson. Mr. Craig Freeman was absent.

Others present were: Dr. Bernard Taylor, Jr., Superintendent; Mr. Michael Hagen, Deputy Superintendent for Innovation and Reform; Mr. Carlos Sam, Associate Superintendent; Dr. Herman Brister, Associate Superintendent for Student Support Services; Ms. Catherine Fletcher, Chief Business Operations Officer; Ms. Millie Williams, Interim Executive Director of Human Resources; Ms. Lizabeth Frischhertz, Chief Officer of Accountability, Assessment and Evaluation; and Mr. Domoine Rutledge, General Counsel.

School Board Member, Vereta Lee, gave the invocation. Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Amaris Bridgewater, Tara High School, accompanied by Colonel Fulton Johnson, Senior Army Instructor, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

School Board Member, Mary Lynch, requested that Item #21 be pulled from the agenda per the request of Dr. Bernard Taylor, Superintendent of Schools. School Board Member, Vereta Lee, objected.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: (7)	Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mrs. Freiberg, Mrs. Lynch, Dr. Nelson-Smith, and President Tatman
Nays: (2)	Ms. Lee and Vice-President Smith
Abstained: (0)	None
Absent: (2)	Mr. Freeman and Ms. Ware-Jackson

The motion passed.

Recognition of School Board Members Jerry Arbour, Craig Freeman, and Mary Lynch for their service to the children of East Baton Rouge Parish School System during their tenure as a School Board Member.

Approval of Minutes of the November 20, 2014, School Board Meeting, and the December 4, 2014, Committee of the Whole Meeting

By Ms. Dyason

Resolved, that, the reading of the minutes of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board meetings of November 20, 2014, and the December 4, 2014, Committee of the Whole, be dispensed with and that they be approved as published in the Official Journal.

Seconded by Mrs. Lynch

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

Authorization for Staff to Advertise, Accept the Low Bid Meeting Specifications, and Make the Award of a Contract for Classroom Improvements

By Mrs. Lynch

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give authorization for staff to advertise, accept the low bid meeting specifications, and make the award of a contract for the classroom improvements at Riveroaks Elementary School and Wedgewood Elementary School, 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 Vice-President Smith

Discussion followed.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Mrs. Freiberg

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give authorization for staff to advertise, accept the low bid meeting specifications, and make the award of a contract for the improvements at Riveroaks Elementary School and Wedgewood Elementary School, excluding new classroom additions – four (4) plex or six (6) plex, 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

Discussion continued.

The substitute motion was withdrawn by the originator and seconder.

The vote on the original motion was as follows:

Yeas: (7) Mr. Arbour, Ms. Lee, Mrs. Lynch, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Vice-President Smith, President Tatman, and Ms. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (0) None

Abstained: (2) Ms. Dyason and Mrs. Freiberg

Absent: (2) Mrs. Bernard and Mr. Freeman

The original motion was approved.

Approval of a Contract

By Mrs. Freiberg

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve a contract for Professional Services between the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board and Fusion Architecture, APC for Insurance Statement of Values for properties owned by East Baton Rouge Parish School Board for an amount not to exceed \$5,000 per facility.

Seconded by Ms. Lee

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

Approval of Consent Agenda Items, Excluding Item #14

By Dr. Nelson-Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the Consent Agenda items, excluding item #14.

Seconded by Ms. Ware-Jackson

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

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

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

Approval of the Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy (SRCL) Program Grant in the amount of \$1,193,800.00.

Approval of a professional services agreement between the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board and Discovery Education Assessment in the amount of \$17,500.00 to provide professional development. (Funding Source: Curriculum and Instruction)

Approval to negotiate a contract with Grade Results to provide professional services as it relates to the Moving Forward initiative in an amount not to exceed \$360,000.00.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Approval of Settlement of a Lawsuit

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby accept the recommendation of Mr. Domoine Rutledge, General Counsel, East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, in the matter of: Karen R. Crawford v. EBRPSB, et al, Docket No.: 600,558, Section 22; 19th JDC.

Seconded by Vice-President Smith

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: (9) Mr. Arbour, Ms. Dyason, Mrs. Freiberg, Ms. Lee, Mrs. Lynch, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Vice-President Smith, President Tatman, and Ms. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (0) None

Abstained: (1) Mrs. Bernard

Absent: (1) Mr. Freeman

The motion was declared adopted.

Approval of an Addendum to Contract with Pediatric Services of America, Inc.

By Vice-President Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give approval of an addendum to the professional services contract between the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board and Pediatric Services of America, Inc., in the amount of \$58,240.00 to include LPN nursing services for a student at Southdowns Elementary School. (Funding Source: IDEA – Part B Funds).

Seconded by Ms. Lee

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: (9) Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Mrs. Freiberg, Ms. Lee, Mrs. Lynch, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Vice-President Smith, President Tatman, and Ms. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (0) None

Abstained: (1) Ms. Dyason

Absent: (1) Mr. Freeman

The motion was declared adopted.

Approval of Grant

By Dr. Nelson-Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the Dow Promise Grant in the amount of \$15,200.00.

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

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

Authorization for Staff to Advertise, Accept the Low Bid Meeting Specifications, and Make the Award of a Contract for Classroom Improvements

By Vice-President Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give authorization for staff to advertise, accept the low bid meeting specifications, and make the award of a contract for the classroom improvements or replacement at University Terrace Pre-K, 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 Dr. Nelson-Smith

Discussion followed.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Mrs. Freiberg

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give authorization for the building to be demolished and a new building be built.

Seconded by Mr. Arbour

The substitute motion was unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Mr. Freeman was absent.)

Approval to Restating 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan Document

By Mrs. Bernard

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the restated 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan document between the East Baton Rouge Parish School System and the Variable Annuity Insurance Company (VALIC) for the "cash-out" provision due to legislative changes.

Seconded by Mrs. Freiberg

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

Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement

By Ms. Dyason

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the East Baton Rouge Parish School System and the Louisiana Department of Education regarding ACT testing and related matters.

Seconded by Mrs. Freiberg

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

Approval to Defer Electing Board Leadership Annually

By Ms. Lee

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the election of Board Leadership annually instead of every two (2) years.

Seconded by Dr. Nelson-Smith

Discussion followed.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Ms. Ware-Jackson

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby defer the election of Board Leadership and the discussion/consideration of Board Policy BBA to a Special meeting on January 15, 2015 when the newly elected Board is placed.

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:

Yeas: (7) Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mrs. Freiberg, Mrs. Lynch, President Tatman, and Ms. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (3) Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, and Vice-President Smith

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (1) Mr. Freeman

The substitute motion was declared adopted.

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

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