

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2012

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 twenty-fifth day of January, 2012, in special-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; Dr. Kenyetta Nelson-Smith; Mr. David Tatman; and Mrs. Evelyn Ware-Jackson.

Others present were: Ms. Diane Atkins, Associate Superintendent for Instructional Support Services; Ms. Catherine Fletcher, Chief Business Operations Officer; Ms. Millie Williams, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Lizabeth Frischhertz, Chief Officer of Accountability, Assessment and Evaluation; Mr. Chris Trahan, Director of Communications and Community Engagement; and Mr. Domoine Rutledge, General Counsel.

School Board Member Randy Lamana gave the invocation. School Board Member David Tatman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Freiberg informed the School Board that Tisha S. Edwards had removed her name from the list of potential finalists for the Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System.

Executive Session:

By Mr. Lamana

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby go into Executive Session to discuss the professional performance of a candidate for the position of Superintendent of Schools under the provisions of L.R.S. 42:17 (A)(1).

Seconded by Mr. Tatman

Discussion followed.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby name the following candidates as finalists for the position of Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System: Samuel L. King, Maria Pitre-Martin, and Herman Brister.

Seconded by Dr. Nelson-Smith

The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:

Yeas: (5) Mr. Arbour, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, and Mr. Smith

Nays: (6) Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The substitute motion failed.

The vote on the original motion was as follows:

Yeas: (5) Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (5) Mr. Arbour, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, and Mr. Smith

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (1) Dr. Nelson-Smith

The original motion failed.

Discussion continued.

The following motion was made.

By Mr. Freeman

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby reject all candidates presented to the East Baton Rouge Parish School System for Superintendent of Schools.

The motion failed due to a lack of a second.

Discussion continued.

The following motion was made.

By Mrs. Bernard

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby name the following candidates as finalists for the position of Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System: Elliot L. Smalley, Samuel T. King, and Maria Pitre-Martin.

Seconded by Mr. Tatman

Discussion continued.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Mr. Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby go into Executive Session to discuss the professional performance of candidates for the position of Superintendent of Schools under the provisions of L.R.S. 42:17 (A)(1).

Seconded by Ms. Dyason

The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:

- Yeas: (8)** **Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Lamana, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson**
- Nays: (2)** **Mr. Arbour and Mr. Freeman**
- Abstained: (1)** **Ms. Lee**
- Absent: (0)** **None**

The substitute motion passed.

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

President Freiberg informed the School Board that Kelt L. Cooper had removed his name from the list of potential finalists for the Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System.

Naming of Finalists

By Mr. Tatman

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby name the following candidates as finalists for the position of Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System: Samuel T. King and Maria Pitre-Martin.

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

Discussion followed.

A friendly amendment was offered by Ms. Dyason.

The School Board will re-open the search for Superintendent of Schools again for three (3) days only.

Mr. Tatman rejected the friendly amendment.

Discussion continued.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby name Samuel T. King as the only finalist.

Seconded by Mr. Lamana

Discussion continued.

The following friendly amendment was offered by Mr. Freeman.

Mr. King would return for further interview and deliberation by the School Board and the public.

The friendly amendment was accepted by Mr. Arbour and Mr. Lamana.

The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:

Yeas: (5) Mr. Arbour, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, and Mr. Smith

Nays: (6) Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The substitute motion failed.

The vote on the original motion was as follows:

Yeas: (5) Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (6) Mr. Arbour, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, and Mr. Smith

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The original motion failed.

Discussion continued.

The following motion was made.

By Mr. Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby name the following candidates as finalists for the position of Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System: Herman Brister, Samuel T. King and Maria Pitre-Martin.

Seconded by Mr. Arbour

This motion was ruled out of order by the president.

The motion was withdrawn by Mr. Smith and Mr. Arbour

Discussion continued.

The following motion was made.

By Mr. Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby name the following candidates as finalists for the position of Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System: Herman Brister, Samuel T. King, Maria Pitre-Martin, and Elliot L. Smalley.

Seconded by Mr. Arbour

Discussion continued.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Ms. Dyason

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby name the following candidates as finalists for the position of Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System: Samuel T. King and Maria Pitre-Martin. The School Board will immediately re-open the search for Superintendent of Schools for three (3) days only.

Seconded by Mr. Tatman

Discussion continued.

Call the Question

By Mr. Arbour

The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:

Yeas: (3) Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, and Mr. Tatman

Nays: (8) **Mr. Arbour, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Smith, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson**

Abstained: (0) **None**

Absent: (0) **None**

The substitute motion failed.

The vote on the original motion was as follows:

Yeas: (3) **Mr. Arbour, Ms. Lee, and Mr. Smith**

Nays: (8) **Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Lamana, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson**

Abstained: (0) **None**

Absent: (0) **None**

The original motion failed.

Discussion continued.

The following motion was made.

By Mr. Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby choose to do a roll call vote on each of the remaining four (4) semi-finalists. The individual(s) receiving six (6) votes will move forward as a finalist.

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

The vote on the motion was as follows:

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

Nays: (1) **Mr. Freeman**

Abstained: (0) **None**

Absent: (0) **None**

The motion passed.

The vote for each candidate was as follows:

Herman Brister: Yeas: (5) Mr. Arbour, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-

Smith, and Mr. Smith

Samuel T. King: **Nays: (6)** **Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson**
Yeas: (10) **Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson**

Maria Pitre-Martin: **Nays: (1)** **Mr. Freeman**
Yeas: (5) **Mrs. Bernard, Mrs. Dyason, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson,**

Elliot L. Smalley: **Nays: (6)** **Mr. Arbour, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, and Mr. Smith**
Yeas: (5) **Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson**

Nays: (6) **Mr. Arbour, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, and Mr. Smith**

Mr. Samuel T. King will be asked to return as a finalist for Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System.

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

John L. Dilworth
Secretary/Treasurer to the Board