

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**JUNE 11, 2007**

**The Louisiana Purchase Room  
Baton Rouge, LA**

The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education met in special session on June 11, 2007, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, located in the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by Board President Linda M. Johnson.

Board members present were: Mr. Dale Bayard, Ms. Polly Broussard, Ms. Glenny Lee Buquet, Dr. Edgar Chase, Ms. Penny Dastugue, Ms. Louella Givens, Ms. Linda M. Johnson, Mr. Walter Lee, Dr. James Stafford, and Ms. Mary A. Washington.

Ms. Leslie Jacobs was absent.

Mr. Steve Monaghan, Louisiana Federation of Teachers, provided Board members with handouts entitled, "Homeland Insecurity," "Table 1. Overall Child Vulnerability," "Table 2. Where States Rank on Percent of Uninsured Children," "Table 3. Percent of Infants Born Underweight," "Table 4. Percent of Births to Women Receiving Late or No Prenatal Care," "Table 5. Number of Deaths of Infants per 1,000 Live Births," "Table 6. Deaths per 100,000 Children Aged 1-14," "Table 7. Deaths Per 100,000 Teens Aged 15-19," "Table 8. Per Capita Child Welfare Expenditures," "Table 9. Child Abuse Fatalities per 100,000 Children," "Table 10. Overall Crime Rate," "Table 11. Incarceration Rate per 1,000 Adults," "Table 12. Juvenile Incarceration Rate per 100,000," "Table 13. Births to Teen Mothers (15-19) per 1,000 Teen Girls," "Table 14. Child Poverty Rate (Percent)," "Table 15. Child Poverty in the State's Poorest County," "Table 16. Federal Spending in Each State per Dollar of Federal Taxes," and "Monopoly and 'No Child Left Behind.'" Mr. Monaghan expressed concern about these issues.

Public comments regarding the MFP were received from Mr. Wayne Free, Louisiana Association of Educators; Mr. Ponder Jones, concerned citizen; and Representative Carl Crane, Chair of the House Committee on Education.

Agenda Item 3      On motion of Dr. Chase, seconded by Mr. Bayard, the Board approved the agenda as printed and disseminated. (Schedule 1)

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Ms. Beth Scioneaux provided the Board with a handout entitled, "MFP Simulation Summary (6-11-07)," with attachments pertaining to Version 9 of the simulation; a revised copy of the MFP Resolution; information regarding support for hurricane-affected districts; and information regarding mandated costs. She reviewed Version 9 of the MFP Simulation with the Board.

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Ms. Dastugue requested that an item be referred to the Student and School Standards/Instruction Committee to address and get information from the LDE on: supporting the Board’s assertion that additional funds are needed for at-risk children, asking for policy recommendations to that effect, looking for how other states are targeting resources, and also looking at a five-year goal of reaching a weight of 40%, which we understand is and probably was the national average.

Agenda Item 4 On motion of Ms. Dastugue, seconded by Mr. Bayard, the Board approved Version 9 of the MFP Simulation dated June 11, 2007, and authorized the Department to adjust the formula, utilizing the handouts it provided, when final confirmation of the additional \$13 million has been received. Further, the Board authorized the Department to make technical adjustments, as required. (Schedule 2)

The Board agreed to recess for lunch at 12:10 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 12:55 p.m.

Board members present were: Mr. Dale Bayard, Ms. Polly Broussard, Ms. Glenny Lee Buquet, Ms. Penny Dastugue, Ms. Louella Givens, Ms. Linda M. Johnson, Mr. Walter Lee, Dr. James Stafford, and Ms. Mary A. Washington.

Dr. Edgar Chase and Ms. Leslie Jacobs were absent.

Agenda Item 5 On motion of Ms. Givens, seconded by Ms. Washington, the Board approved an MOU with OPSB to provide catastrophic insurance for RSD students participating in athletic activities. (Schedule 3)

Agenda Item 6 (Schedule 4)

Motion 6A On motion of Ms. Buquet, seconded by Ms. Broussard, the Board supported Senate Bill No. 86, which provides that school employees other than teachers in Orleans Parish hired or promoted on or after July 1, 2007, shall not be eligible to acquire permanent status in the higher position, but shall retain permanent status in the lower position from which she/he was promoted.

Motion 6B On motion of Ms. Givens, seconded by Ms. Washington, the Board supported Senate Bill No. 169, which is a Constitutional Amendment; the legislative intent of this bill is to remove the application of all 10-Year Industrial Exemption to taxes levied for purposes related to elementary and secondary education.

Motion 6C On motion of Ms. Givens, seconded by Ms. Buquet, the Board supported House Bill No. 221, which provides for reimbursement of unemployment benefits of state and local governments and eligible nonprofit organizations during a gubernatorially declared disaster or emergency.

Ms. Washington was recorded as voting "No."

Motion 6D On motion of Ms. Givens, seconded by Ms. Broussard, the Board supported Senate Bill No. 265, which changes mandatory expulsion periods for certain student offenses, with amendments regarding

- raising the minimum expulsion period for firearm possession on school property,
- changing the expulsion period from a calendar month to a semester basis, and
- ending State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education waivers for local district alternative school programs effective with the 2008-2009 school year and thereafter.

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Ms. Johnson requested that the BESE staff draft a letter to Senator Ullo informing him of the Board's position on Senate Bill No. 265.

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On motion of Ms. Broussard, seconded by Ms. Givens, the Board referred to the Student and School Standards/Instruction Committee: Consideration of a discussion regarding alternative school programs.

Agenda Item 7 On motion of Mr. Lee, seconded by Ms. Broussard, the Board approved the recommendations of the Selection Committee for the 2007 Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship recipients, as amended. (Schedule 5)

Agenda Item 8 On motion of Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Bayard, the Board deferred until the Board meeting scheduled for June 21, 2007, "Consideration of Executive Session on litigation concerning Kathey Boisseau, et. al v. Cecil Picard, et. al, Civil Action No. 07-0565; and David Bentley, et. al v. Louisiana Department of Education, et. al, Civil Action No. 07-0571."

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.