

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

JULY 30, 2007

The Plaza Hearing Room Baton Rouge, Louisiana

The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education met in special session on July 30, 2007, in the Plaza Hearing Room, located in the Poydras Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order at 9:17 a.m. by Board President Linda M. Johnson.

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

Dr. Edgar Chase, Ms. Penny Dastugue, and Mr. Walter Lee were absent.

Mr. Richard Sherburne served as the Hearing Officer for Agenda Item 4, "Consideration of extension or revocation of the Charter with Innovators in Milestones, Inc." Mr. Charles Patin, Jr., and Mr. Max Kees, attorneys with Kean Miller, represented Innovators in Milestones, Inc., and Ms. Uma Subramanian, Office of the Attorney General, represented the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

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

Agenda Item 4 Ms. Johnson introduced and turned the meeting over to Mr. Richard Sherburne, who served as the Hearing Officer for Agenda Item 4, "Consideration of extension or revocation of the Charter with Innovators in Milestones, Inc."

Mr. Sherburne outlined the process that would be followed regarding receipt of evidentiary documents and testimony concerning this item.

Ms. Uma Subramanian, the attorney representing BESE, and Mr. Charles Patin, the attorney representing Innovators in Milestones, Inc., introduced evidentiary documents and testimony was received from Ms. Mary Louise "Weegie" Peabody, Executive Director of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, and Mr. Thomas Spencer, Section Administrator, Department of Education, Office of Student and School Performance, Division of Standards, Assessments and Accountability.

The Board recessed at 10:42 a.m. and reconvened at 10:50 a.m., at which time the introduction of evidentiary documents and receipt of testimony continued.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:55 a.m. and reconvened at 1:35 p.m.

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

On motion of Ms. Givens, seconded by Ms. Broussard, the Board agreed to take Agenda Items 5 and 6 out of order.

Agenda Item 5 On motion of Ms. Givens, seconded by Mr. Bayard, the Board deferred until August 2007 "Consideration of preparing a letter of support of the concept of the Early Childhood and Family Learning Center." (Schedule 2)

Agenda Item 6 On motion of Ms. Jacobs, seconded by Ms. Givens, the Board approved the following contract with the Orleans Parish School Board for athletic insurance for the Recovery School District:

Recovery School District

- 1. Contractor Name: Orleans Parish School Board
- Previous Contract: Yes
- Begin Date: 6/20/07
- End Date: 8/6/08
- Original Contract Amount: \$170,888.90
- Amendment Amount: \$ 12,015.00
- New Contract Amount: \$182,903.90
- Source of Funds: Restart – IAT Federal

Description of Services: Contractor will provide catastrophic athletic insurance for students in RSD who are participating in sports. (Schedule 3)

The Board returned to Agenda Item 4, "Consideration of extension or revocation of the Charter with Innovators in Milestones, Inc."

Dr. Stafford requested that the record reflect that no members of the Board of Directors of Innovators in Milestones, Inc., were present.

Agenda
Item 4

On motion of Ms. Jacobs, seconded by Mr. Bayard, the Board permitted Innovators in Milestones, Inc., to commence its fifth year of operation. The 2007-08 school year is the fifth and final year of the five year charter of Innovators in Milestones, Inc.'s, Type 2 charter authorized by the Board on June 19, 2003. The Innovators in Milestones, Inc., shall be subject to all reporting and other requirements imposed by the Board on all charter schools to ensure compliance with the school's charter, charter school law, and all applicable law, regulation, and policy during the fifth year of the charter. In addition, Innovators in Milestones, Inc., is not required to implement the School Improvement Plan based on the findings of the Scholastic Audit, as referenced in Motion 9-C-31, Condition #2, of the June 15, 2006, motion regarding the probationary extension of the charter of Innovators in Milestones, Inc.

A written agreement to this effect must be authorized and signed by Innovators in Milestones, Inc., and presented to BESE for its August 2007 meeting. This agreement must be submitted to the Executive Director of BESE no later than August 9, 2007. The agreement shall include the Innovators in Milestones, Inc.'s, waiver of any legal rights to appeal or otherwise contest the terms of the agreement. All litigation currently pending must be dismissed with prejudice within 24 hours of the execution of this agreement. (Schedule 4)

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Yeas: Mr. Bayard, Ms. Broussard, Ms. Buquet, Ms. Givens, Ms. Jacobs, Dr. Stafford, Ms. Washington, and Ms. Johnson.

Nays: None.

Abstains: None

The motion passed.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.