



**BOARD  
of  
ELEMENTARY  
and  
SECONDARY  
EDUCATION**

*The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall provide leadership and create policies for education that expand opportunities for children, empower families and communities, and advance Louisiana in an increasingly competitive global market.*

**OFFICIAL BOARD MINUTES**

**Meeting of January 11, 2012**

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

**JANUARY 11, 2012**

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

The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education met in special session on January 11, 2012, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, located in the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Board President Penny Dastugue.

Board members present were Ms. Lottie Beebe, Mr. John Bennett, Ms. Holly Boffy, Ms. Connie Bradford, Ms. Penny Dastugue, Mr. Jim Garvey, Mr. Jay Guillot, Ms. Carolyn Hill, Mr. Walter Lee, Ms. Kira Orange Jones, and Mr. Chas Roemer.

Public comments regarding Agenda Item 4, "Consideration of appointment of the State Superintendent of Education," were received from Ms. Lee Barrios, Coalition for Louisiana Public Education; Mr. Lee A. Meyer, Assumption Parish School Board and Coalition for Louisiana Public Education; Mr. Les Landon, Louisiana Federation of Teachers; Ms. Karran Harper Royal, concerned citizen; Ms. Joyce Haynes, Louisiana Association of Educators; and Ms. Beth Meyers, ARIE Institute.

Agenda Item 3      On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Ms. Bradford, the Board approved the agenda, as printed and disseminated.

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Board members were provided with handouts entitled, "Coalition for Louisiana Public Education Re-iterates Position on State Superintendent Appointment," and "Lottie P. Beebe - Position on the Selection of State Superintendent of Education."

Mr. Roemer offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education waive the requirement that the State Superintendent of Education hold the same qualifications as are adopted by rule by the Board for the position of superintendent of a city, parish, or other local public school board and appoint John C. White as the State Superintendent of Education, effective immediately.

Ms. Dastugue invited Board members to comment.

Ms. Beebe offered a substitute motion that the Board conduct a national search for the position of Louisiana State Superintendent of Education that is open and transparent and allows all who desire to participate in the process.

The substitute motion failed for lack of a second.

Board member discussion followed.

On Point of Personal Privilege, Ms. Dastugue recognized Leslie Jacobs, former BESE member.

Public comments were received.

Agenda  
Item 4

Motion 1

On motion of Mr. Roemer, seconded by Mr. Bennett, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education waived the requirement that the State Superintendent of Education hold the same qualifications as are adopted by rule by the Board for the position of superintendent of a city, parish, or other local public school board and appointed John C. White as the State Superintendent of Education, effective immediately.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Yeas: Mr. Bennett, Ms. Boffy, Ms. Bradford, Mr. Garvey, Mr. Guillot, Mr. Lee, Ms. Orange Jones, Mr. Roemer, and Ms. Dastugue.

Nays: Ms. Beebe voted "No" to Question 1.

Abstentions: Ms. Hill.

Absences: None.

The motion passed.

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The Board received comments from newly appointed State Superintendent of Education John C. White.

Board members were provided with a handout entitled, "State of Louisiana Superintendent of Education Employment Contract."

Motion 2      On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Roemer, the Board approved the contract, as presented, between the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the State Superintendent of Education, Mr. John C. White.

Ms. Beebe was recorded as objecting to the motion.

Motion 3      On motion of Ms. Bradford, seconded by Mr. Guillot, the Board directed that a letter be sent to the Governor and to the Legislature requesting Senate confirmation of John C. White as State Superintendent of Education and approval of the salary by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB).

Ms. Beebe was recorded as objecting to the motion.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.