



**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 February 27, 2012**

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

**FEBRUARY 27, 2012**

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

The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education met in special session on February 27, 2012, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, located in the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order at 1:50 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.

Agenda Item 2. On motion of Mr. Roemer, seconded by Ms. Bradford, the Board approved the agenda, as printed and disseminated. (Schedule 1)

Agenda Item 3.1. Mr. Roemer offered a motion, seconded by Ms. Bradford, that the Board:

- a. approve the FY 2012-2013 Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) Resolution and authorize the LDE to make technical adjustments to the Resolution, as needed;
- b. authorize the LDE to adjust the estimated cost, based on the receipt of the final February 1, 2012, student count and the final audit adjustment amounts; and
- c. authorize the LDE to submit the Resolution and simulation of cost to the legislature on or before the start of the 2012 Regular Legislative Session.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. Beebe offered a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Hill, that the Board defer approval of the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) Resolution until the March 2012 meeting.

Discussion followed.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

(Motion continues on page 2)

Yeas: Ms. Beebe, Ms. Boffy, Ms. Hill, and Ms. Orange Jones.

Nays: Mr. Bennett, Ms. Bradford, Mr. Garvey, Mr. Guillot, Mr. Lee, Mr. Roemer, and Ms. Dastugue.

Abstentions: None.

Absences: None.

The motion failed.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. Scioneaux reviewed the proposed 2012-2013 Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) Resolution with Board members and responded to Board member questions.

- 3.1.1 On motion of Ms. Bradford, seconded by Mr. Roemer, the Board amended the proposed MFP Resolution, as requested by the LDE, and inserted the following language as Item V.B.4. on page 12 of 27:

The provisions in Section B.3. above to exclude any portion of local revenues specifically dedicated by the legislature or by voter approval to capital outlay or debt service, shall be applicable only to a charter school housed in a facility or facilities provided by the district in which the charter school is located.

**NOTE:** All subsequent items will be renumbered appropriately.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. Boffy offered a motion, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, that Item XII.B.1. on page 21 of 27 of the proposed MFP Resolution be re-written, as follows:

~~Students in First through Twelfth grade qualify to apply for a scholarship if they attend a school that received no more than a C+ in the most recent school performance evaluation period or are entering Kindergarten, and the student's parent(s) or legal custodian's income does not exceed 250% of the current poverty guidelines as established by the federal office of management and budget.~~

(Motion continues on page 3)

The eligibility for scholarships be determined by applicable laws.

Discussion followed.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. Hill offered a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Beebe, that Item XII.B.1. on page 21 of 27 of the proposed MFP Resolution be amended, as follows:

Students in First through Twelfth grade qualify to apply for a scholarship if they attend a school that received no more than a ~~C+~~ D or F in the most recent school performance evaluation period or are entering Kindergarten, and the student's parent(s) or legal custodian's income does not exceed 250% of the current poverty guidelines as established by the federal office of management and budget.

Discussion followed.

Ms. Hill's substitute motion failed.

3.1.2 On motion of Ms. Boffy, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board amended the proposed MFP Resolution and directed that the LDE re-write Item XII.B.1. on page 21 of 27, as follows:

~~Students in First through Twelfth grade qualify to apply for a scholarship if they attend a school that received no more than a C+ in the most recent school performance evaluation period or are entering Kindergarten, and the student's parent(s) or legal custodian's income does not exceed 250% of the current poverty guidelines as established by the federal office of management and budget.~~

The eligibility for scholarships be determined by applicable laws.

Ms. Beebe was recorded as being opposed to the motion.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. Boffy offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Guillot, that the Board amend the proposed MFP Resolution and direct the LDE to insert the following language, where appropriate, under Item XII.B.:

(Motion continues on page 4)

In administering the scholarship program, BESE shall establish an accountability mechanism that abides by the law.

Discussion followed.

- 3.1.3 On motion of Ms. Boffy, seconded by Mr. Guillot, the Board amended the proposed MFP Resolution and directed the LDE to insert the following language, where appropriate, under Item XII.B.:

In administering the scholarship program, BESE shall establish an accountability mechanism that abides by the law.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Yeas: Ms. Boffy, Mr. Guillot, Ms. Hill, Mr. Lee, Ms. Orange Jones, Mr. Roemer, and Ms. Dastugue.

Nays: Ms. Beebe, Mr. Bennett, Ms. Bradford, and Mr. Garvey.

Abstentions: None.

Absences: None.

The motion passed.

- 3.1.4 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Ms. Bradford, the Board amended the proposed MFP Resolution and directed the LDE to insert the following language into Item XII.B.3. on page 21 of 27:

If the amount allocated for actual tuition and fees is less than the state and local share per pupil allocation for a specific student, then the amount supported state and locally shall be calculated based on the proportion of state and local support provided in Level 1 of the MFP formula for the city or parish school district in which the attending student resides. Any additional funding above actual tuition and fees shall return to the state or to the city or parish school district according to the proportion of state and local support provided in Level 1 of the MFP formula for the city or parish school district.

- 3.1.5 On motion of Mr. Roemer, seconded by Ms. Bradford, the Board amended the proposed MFP Resolution, as requested by the LDE, and inserted the following language as Item XII.B.4. on page 21 of 27:

For purposes of the Scholarship program, BESE will adopt an annual maximum tuition rate increase for participating nonpublic schools by establishing a percentage of the per pupil MFP in the district where a nonpublic school is located. Such nonpublic school may not increase its annual tuition for scholarship students by an amount to exceed that percentage.

**NOTE:** All subsequent items will be renumbered appropriately.

- 3.1.6 On motion of Ms. Orange Jones, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board amended the proposed MFP Resolution and directed the LDE to insert the following language, where appropriate, under Item XII.B.:

BESE shall measure the rate at which all schools serving scholarship students admit and serve students with special education needs. BESE may establish a lower rate of funding for those schools not meeting a minimum threshold of special education enrollment established by BESE.

- 3.1.7 On motion of Mr. Roemer, seconded by Ms. Bradford, the Board:
- a. approved the FY 2012-2013 Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) Resolution, as amended, and authorized the LDE to make technical adjustments to the Resolution, as needed;
  - b. authorized the LDE to adjust the estimated cost, based on the receipt of the final February 1, 2012, student count and the final audit adjustment amounts; and
  - c. authorized the LDE to submit the Resolution and simulation of cost to the legislature on or before the start of the 2012 Regular Legislative Session.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

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

(Motion continues on page 6)

Nays: Ms. Beebe and Ms. Hill.

Abstentions: Ms. Orange Jones.

Absences: Mr. Bennett.

The motion passed.

(Schedule 2)

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.