



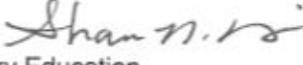
# STATE BOARD of ELEMENTARY and SECONDARY EDUCATION

P.O. Box 94064, Capitol Station, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064 · PHONE: 225-342-5840 · FAX: 225-342-5843

February 10, 2016

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Senator John A. Alario, Jr., Senate President  
Representative Taylor F. Barras, Speaker of the House  
Senator Dan "Blade" Morrish, Chair, Senate Committee on Education  
Representative Nancy Landry, Chair, House Committee on Education

**FROM:** Shan N. Davis, Executive Director   
Board of Elementary and Secondary Education

**RE:** Summary Report on Board of Elementary and Secondary Education Proposed Rulemaking

Pursuant to R.S. 49:968(D)(1)(b), the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education hereby submits to you this summary report and announces its plan to proceed with rulemaking by finalizing the January 20, 2016, Notice of Intent that was promulgated on pages 83 - 86 of the *Louisiana Register*.

The Board has received no comments or requests for a public hearing and has not conducted a hearing pursuant to R.S. 49:953(A)(2)(a).

The Board has made no change to the proposed Rule.

Subject to legislative oversight by either the House Committee on Education or Senate Committee on Education, the Board anticipates adopting the Notice of Intent as a final Rule in the April 20, 2016, issue of the *Louisiana Register*.

The following document is attached:

1. A copy of the Notice of Intent.

Please contact Nina Ford at (225) 342-5841 if the Board may be of any assistance to you concerning this Rule.

SND:naf

Attachment (1)

**c:** Cheryl Serrett, Analyst, Senate Committee on Education  
Nancy Jolly, Senior Legislative Analyst, House Committee on Education  
Ryan Gremillion, Policy Director, Louisiana Department of Education  
Shan N. Davis, Executive Director, BESE  
Kevin Calbert, Communications Manager, BESE  
Jeanne Johnston, Senior Policy Advisor to the Governor

James Garvey  
1<sup>st</sup> BESE District

Kira Orange Jones  
2<sup>nd</sup> BESE District

Sandy Holloway  
3<sup>rd</sup> BESE District

Tony Davis  
4<sup>th</sup> BESE District

Gary Jones  
5<sup>th</sup> BESE District

Kathy Edmonston  
6<sup>th</sup> BESE District

Holly Boffy  
7<sup>th</sup> BESE District

Jada Lewis  
8<sup>th</sup> BESE District

Thomas Roque  
Member-at-Large

Lurie Thomason  
Member-at-Large

Doris Voltier  
Member-at-Large

Shan N. Davis  
Executive Director

John C. White  
State Superintendent

purposes of this section, the word "poverty" means living at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty line.

1. Will the proposed Rule affect the household income, assets, and financial security? No.
2. Will the proposed Rule affect early childhood development and preschool through postsecondary education development? Yes.
3. Will the proposed Rule affect employment and workforce development? No.
4. Will the proposed Rule affect taxes and tax credits? No.
5. Will the proposed Rule affect child and dependent care, housing, health care, nutrition, transportation, and utilities assistance? No.

#### Small Business Analysis

The impact of the proposed Rule on small businesses as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act has been considered. It is estimated that the proposed action is not expected to have a significant adverse impact on small businesses. The agency, consistent with health, safety, environmental and economic welfare factors has considered and, where possible, utilized regulatory methods in the drafting of the proposed Rule that will accomplish the objectives of applicable statutes while minimizing the adverse impact of the proposed Rule on small businesses.

#### Provider Impact Statement

The proposed Rule should not have any known or foreseeable impact on providers as defined by HCR 170 of 2014 Regular Legislative Session. In particular, there should be no known or foreseeable effect on:

1. the effect on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service;
2. the total direct and indirect effect on the cost to the providers to provide the same level of service; or
3. the overall effect on the ability of the provider to provide the same level of service.

#### Public Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments via the U.S. Mail until 4:30 p.m., February 8, 2016, to Shan N. Davis, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, P.O. Box 94064, Capitol Station, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064.

Shan N. Davis  
Executive Director

### FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RULE TITLE: Bulletin 126—Charter Schools

#### I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (Summary)

The enrollment requirements for students on free or reduced lunch and students with exceptionalities could increase enrollment at certain schools to the extent they do not currently meet these standards. While Type 5 charter schools in Orleans Parish currently provide free transportation to students living in Orleans Parish, costs could increase for those schools which do not meet this requirement.

The policy revisions incorporate requirements of Act 467 of the 2015 Regular Legislative Session regarding funding for at-risk students, and those with exceptionalities, as well as implement transportation policy required by Act 421 of the 2015 Regular Legislative Session.

#### II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

The proposed revisions requiring the use of weighted, differentiated funding may result in a reallocation and distribution of MFP funds to charter schools based on their student enrollment characteristics.

#### III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

There will be no estimated cost and/or economic benefit to directly affected persons or non-governmental groups.

#### IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

This policy will have no effect on competition and employment.

Beth Scioneaux  
Deputy Superintendent  
1601#032

Evan Brasseaux  
Staff Director  
Legislative Fiscal Office

### NOTICE OF INTENT

#### Board of Elementary and Secondary Education

Bulletin 129—The Recovery School District  
(LAC 28:CXLV.505, 1103, and 1105)

In accordance with R.S. 49:950 et seq., the Administrative Procedure Act, notice is hereby given that the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education approved for advertisement revisions to *Bulletin 129—The Recovery School District: §505, Return of Schools to Local School Board; §1103, Annual Budget; and §1105, Budget Planning, Preparation, and Schedules*. Current policy currently details a process for the Recovery School District (RSD) to return an RSD charter school to the former local school board when the charter school has earned a school performance score of 54.0 or above for two consecutive school years. The revisions to this section simplify the process of returning schools to the RSD by clarifying terms and existing processes, deleting unnecessary language, and aligning the policy with yearly accountability timelines for letter grade release and charter renewals. Additional revisions ensure that the policy aligns to the appropriate BESE meetings and budgetary timelines each year.

#### Title 28

#### EDUCATION

#### Part CXLV. Bulletin 129—The Recovery School District Chapter 5. Failed Schools

#### §505. Return of Schools to Local School Board

A. Schools transferred to the jurisdiction of RSD shall remain with the RSD for a period of not less than five years.

1. A school that has been under the jurisdiction of the RSD for a minimum of five years as either a direct-run RSD school or a type 5 charter school may be returned to the jurisdiction of its former local school board based upon the RSD's report and recommendation to BESE. The RSD's report shall include the following:

a. the status of the school, the nature of its faculty and administration, the demographics and size of the student body, its organizational and management structure, whether student academic performance has improved, the amount of any improvement, an explanation of why student academic performance has or has not improved, and to what extent performance targets were achieved;

b. the RSD report shall also include a recommendation as to whether the school should:

- i. remain within the RSD in the same operational status;
- ii. remain within the RSD in a new operational status;
- iii. close, with the reasons why it should close; or
- iv. return to the jurisdiction of its former local school board, with proposed stipulations and conditions for the return.

#### B. Eligible Type 5 Charter Schools

1. An eligible type 5 charter school board may elect to transfer from the RSD and return to the jurisdiction of its former local school board as a type 3b charter school. If the charter school board chooses not to transfer to its former local school board, it will automatically remain within the RSD for an additional school year. The charter school board shall have the opportunity to choose to return to its former local school board every year the charter school continues to meet eligibility criteria, in accordance with the procedures outlined below.

2. A non-failing charter school is eligible for transfer from the jurisdiction of the recovery school district provided it meets all of the following.

a. The charter school will have been under the jurisdiction of the recovery school district for a minimum of five year. A charter school shall be considered to have been under the jurisdiction of the RSD for five years when five complete school years have passed since the approval of the transfer to the RSD by BESE under R.S. 17:10.5 or 17:10.7, regardless of changing operators or site codes for the charter school since that time. The decision to transfer will be considered at the earliest during the charter school's fifth year under the jurisdiction of the RSD, with the proposed transfer occurring at the conclusion of that same school year.

b. The charter school has earned for the past two consecutive years a school performance score (SPS) of 54.0 or above. If the academically unacceptable school (AUS) bar is raised above 50.0, then the charter school must have earned for the past two consecutive years a school performance score that is at least 4.0 points above the AUS bar as established by BESE pursuant to the statewide school and district accountability system. Should the charter school change operators, an SPS of 54.0 or above under the final year of the former operator and an SPS of 54.0 or above under the new operator the next consecutive year shall still meet this requirement.

i. In order to be eligible to choose to transfer from the jurisdiction of the RSD, charter schools comprised entirely of grades below ninth grade shall have two consecutive school performance scores of 54.0 or above based on test data from students actually attending that charter school, rather than test data from a paired school. For charter schools comprised entirely of grades above eighth grade, both consecutive school performance scores of 54.0 or above shall include ACT data for students actually attending the charter school, and at least one of the school performance scores shall include graduation index and graduation rate data for students actually attending the charter school.

c. In order for a charter school in the final year of its current charter contract term to be eligible to choose to

transfer from the jurisdiction of the RSD, the charter school must be renewed for the upcoming school year by BESE pursuant to the charter renewal process in Bulletin 126. The charter school board may still take official board action to seek to return to the local school board prior to being renewed by BESE, but final eligibility to return shall be contingent upon BESE approving a renewal for the charter school.

d. The charter school board elects to seek transfer from the RSD and has notified BESE in writing, no later than the deadline set by the RSD each year preceding the effective date of the proposed transfer.

e. The charter school board shall take official board action based on a vote of its membership, at a charter school board meeting in accordance with its by-laws and state open meetings law to provide BESE with written notification of desire to transfer the charter school from the jurisdiction of the RSD to the jurisdiction of its former local school board as a type 3B charter school. Such notice shall state whether the charter school desires to remain an independent local education agency (LEA) or have the former local school board serve as the charter school's LEA.

3. The transfer of a type 5 charter school from the RSD shall become effective on July 1 of the year following BESE's approval of such transfer.

4. Upon receiving notice from an eligible type 5 charter school board of its desire to seek to transfer the charter school to its former local school board by a deadline set each year by the RSD, BESE shall consider the transfer request for approval. BESE may require additional transfer conditions to be completed by the charter school prior to approval of the transfer at a later BESE meeting preceding the proposed transfer.

5. BESE shall only approve a charter school board request to transfer to the charter school to the jurisdiction to the local school board if the following requirements are met:

a. the local school board provides BESE with written notice, in accordance with the deadlines established by the RSD, that official board action has been taken to accept jurisdiction of the charter school as a type 3B charter school, pending approval of the transfer by BESE; and

b. the charter school board submits a copy of the type 3B charter contract signed by the local school board and the charter operator to BESE prior to approval of the transfer. In order for BESE to grant approval of the transfer, new charter contract, to be effective on the date of transfer (July 1), and any subsequent renewal charter contracts must:

i. be consistent with all state and federal laws governing charter school authorization;

ii. contain academic performance standards for the initial and first renewal term lengths that are equal to or greater than type 5 charter school performance standards as enumerated in BESE Bulletin 126, §519;

iii. comply with any transfer conditions previously specified by BESE;

iv. permit the charter school to remain in its facility or designate an alternative facility for use by the charter school;

v. prohibit the charter school from establishing admissions requirements; and

vi. require any charter school that participated as a type 5 charter school in unified processes common to other

public schools located in the same parish or school district boundaries that are critical to providing equity and access to students and families to continue to participate in such processes. At a minimum, the contract shall require the charter school to:

(a). continue to participate in any unified enrollment system and expulsion process established by the RSD for the parish or region where the charter school is located. The charter school shall follow all policies and procedures applicable to type 5 charter schools participating in the enrollment system and expulsion process; and

(b). continue to provide transportation services for students who reside more than one mile from the school.

**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:6(A)(10), R.S. 17:10.5(A)(1), R.S. 17:10.7(A)(1), R.S. 17:1990(A)(2), R.S. 17:10.5(C), and R.S. 17:10.7(C).

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 37:878 (March 2011), amended LR 38:354 (February 2012), LR 38:1396 (June 2012), LR 39:82 (January 2013), LR 39:1022 (April 2013), LR 39:3255 (December 2013), LR 42:

## **Chapter 11. Fiscal Management**

### **§1103. Annual Budget**

A. ...

B. The RSD's budget must be approved by BESE. The RSD shall present a proposed operational budget to BESE for review in June and for approval in August of each year. The RSD direct-operated and charter-operated schools shall budget on a fiscal year basis, July 1 through June 30.

C. ...

**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:6(A)(10), R.S. 17:10.5(A)(1), R.S. 17:10.7(A)(1), and R.S. 17:1990(A)(2).

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 37:310 (January 2011), amended LR 42:

### **§1105. Budget Planning, Preparation, and Schedules**

A. The RSD shall present a proposed operational budget to BESE for review in June and for approval in August of each year.

B. - D. ...

**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:6(A)(10), R.S. 17:10.5(A)(1), R.S. 17:10.7(A)(1), and R.S. 17:1990(A)(2).

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 37:311 (January 2011), amended LR 42:

#### **Family Impact Statement**

In accordance with section 953 and 974 of title 49 of the *Louisiana Revised Statutes*, there is hereby submitted a Family Impact Statement on the Rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. All Family Impact Statements shall be kept on file in the state board office which has adopted, amended, or repealed a Rule in accordance with the applicable provisions of the law relating to public records.

1. Will the proposed Rule affect the stability of the family? No.

2. Will the proposed Rule affect the authority and rights of parents regarding the education and supervision of their children? No.

3. Will the proposed Rule affect the functioning of the family? No.

4. Will the proposed Rule affect family earnings and family budget? No.

5. Will the proposed Rule affect the behavior and personal responsibility of children? No.

6. Is the family or a local government able to perform the function as contained in the proposed Rule? Yes.

#### **Poverty Impact Statement**

In accordance with section 973 of title 49 of the *Louisiana Revised Statutes*, there is hereby submitted a Poverty Impact Statement on the Rule proposed for adoption, amendment, or repeal. All Poverty Impact Statements shall be in writing and kept on file in the state agency which has adopted, amended, or repealed a Rule in accordance with the applicable provisions of the law relating to public records. For the purposes of this section, the word "poverty" means living at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty line.

1. Will the proposed Rule affect the household income, assets, and financial security? No.

2. Will the proposed Rule affect early childhood development and preschool through postsecondary education development? Yes.

3. Will the proposed Rule affect employment and workforce development? No.

4. Will the proposed Rule affect taxes and tax credits? No.

5. Will the proposed Rule affect child and dependent care, housing, health care, nutrition, transportation, and utilities assistance? No.

#### **Small Business Analysis**

The impact of the proposed Rule on small businesses as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act has been considered. It is estimated that the proposed action is not expected to have a significant adverse impact on small businesses. The agency, consistent with health, safety, environmental and economic welfare factors has considered and, where possible, utilized regulatory methods in the drafting of the proposed Rule that will accomplish the objectives of applicable statutes while minimizing the adverse impact of the proposed Rule on small businesses.

#### **Provider Impact Statement**

The proposed Rule should not have any known or foreseeable impact on providers as defined by HCR 170 of 2014 Regular Legislative Session. In particular, there should be no known or foreseeable effect on:

1. the effect on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service;

2. the total direct and indirect effect on the cost to the providers to provide the same level of service; or

3. the overall effect on the ability of the provider to provide the same level of service.

#### **Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments via the U.S. Mail until 4:30 p.m., February 8, 2016, to Shan N. Davis, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, P.O. Box 94064, Capitol Station, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064.

Shan N. Davis  
Executive Director

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

**RULE TITLE: Bulletin 129—The Recovery  
School District**

**I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO  
STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (Summary)**

The proposed policy revision will have no effect on costs or savings to state or local governmental units.

Current policy details a process for the Recovery School District (RSD) to return an RSD charter school to the former local school board when the charter school has earned a School Performance Score of 54.0 or above for two consecutive school years. The revisions to this section simplify the process of returning schools to the RSD by clarifying terms and existing processes, deleting unnecessary language, and aligning the policy with yearly accountability timelines for letter grade release and charter renewals. Additional revisions ensure that the policy aligns to the appropriate BESE meetings and budgetary timelines each year.

**II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE  
OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)**

This policy will have no effect on revenue collections of state or local governmental units.

**III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO  
DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL  
GROUPS (Summary)**

There will be no estimated cost and/or economic benefit to directly affected persons or non-governmental groups.

**IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT  
(Summary)**

This policy will have no effect on competition and employment.

Beth Scioneaux  
Deputy Superintendent  
1601#012

Evan Brasseaux  
Staff Director  
Legislative Fiscal Office

**NOTICE OF INTENT**

**Board of Elementary and Secondary Education**

**Bulletin 133—Scholarship Programs  
(LAC 28:CLIII.1305)**

In accordance with R.S. 49:950 et seq., the Administrative Procedure Act, notice is hereby given that the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education approved for advertisement revisions to *Bulletin 133—Scholarship Programs: §1305, Accountability System for Participating Nonpublic Schools*. The revisions allow the state superintendent to align future scholarship school participation and enrollment decisions to the transition policies for new assessments.

**Title 28  
EDUCATION**

**Part CLIII. Bulletin 133—Scholarship Programs  
Chapter 13. Criteria for School Participation in the  
Student Scholarships for Educational  
Excellence Program**

**§1305. Accountability System for Participating  
Nonpublic Schools**

A. - E.2.b. ...

c. The state superintendent may waive either or both of the above provisions for a given school if the school

received a score higher than an equivalent school performance score correlating to a letter grade of an "F" according to the school performance score formula outlined in *Bulletin 111—the Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System*.

E.3. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.17:6 and R.S. 17:4025.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 39:83 (January 2013), amended LR 42:

**Family Impact Statement**

In accordance with section 953 and 974 of title 49 of the *Louisiana Revised Statutes*, there is hereby submitted a Family Impact Statement on the Rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. All Family Impact Statements shall be kept on file in the State Board Office which has adopted, amended, or repealed a Rule in accordance with the applicable provisions of the law relating to public records.

1. Will the proposed Rule affect the stability of the family? No.

2. Will the proposed Rule affect the authority and rights of parents regarding the education and supervision of their children? No.

3. Will the proposed Rule affect the functioning of the family? No.

4. Will the proposed Rule affect family earnings and family budget? No.

5. Will the proposed Rule affect the behavior and personal responsibility of children? No.

6. Is the family or a local government able to perform the function as contained in the proposed Rule? Yes.

**Poverty Impact Statement**

In accordance with section 973 of title 49 of the *Louisiana Revised Statutes*, there is hereby submitted a Poverty Impact Statement on the Rule proposed for adoption, amendment, or repeal. All Poverty Impact Statements shall be in writing and kept on file in the state agency which has adopted, amended, or repealed a Rule in accordance with the applicable provisions of the law relating to public records. For the purposes of this Section, the word "poverty" means living at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty line.

1. Will the proposed Rule affect the household income, assets, and financial security? No.

2. Will the proposed Rule affect early childhood development and preschool through postsecondary education development? Yes.

3. Will the proposed Rule affect employment and workforce development? No.

4. Will the proposed Rule affect taxes and tax credits? No.

5. Will the proposed Rule affect child and dependent care, housing, health care, nutrition, transportation, and utilities assistance? No.

**Small Business Analysis**

The impact of the proposed Rule on small businesses as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act has been considered. It is estimated that the proposed action is not expected to have a significant adverse impact on small businesses. The agency, consistent with health, safety, environmental and economic welfare factors has considered and, where possible, utilized regulatory methods in the