



## 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

March 19, 2020

Mrs. Sandy Holloway, President  
Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education  
1201 North Third Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

**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

**Ashley Ellis**  
5<sup>th</sup> BESE District

**Ronnie Morris**  
6<sup>th</sup> BESE District

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

**Preston Castille**  
8<sup>th</sup> BESE District

**Belinda Davis**  
Member-at-Large

**Thomas Roque**  
Member-at-Large

**Doris Voitier**  
Member-at-Large

**Shan N. Davis**  
Executive Director

**Beth Scioneaux**  
Acting  
State Superintendent

President Holloway,

On March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Louisiana, the Honorable John Bel Edwards, issued Proclamation Number JBE 2020-27, declaring a Public Health Emergency and mandating additional measures regarding the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. It explained that the worldwide breakout of COVID-19, with the extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout the United States and Louisiana, significantly threatens the safety, health, and security of citizens of the state.

In order to preserve the health and safety of Louisiana citizens, Governor Edwards ordered and directed various actions and prohibitions, including a restriction regarding the size of public gatherings between Friday, March 13, 2020 and April 13, 2020, and the reduction of the burden on members of the public by limiting interactions of individuals with state employees and governmental offices.

As such, in lieu of calling a Special Called Meeting of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), and pursuant to the authority granted to the President of BESE, per Title 28, Education, Part I, (Board of Elementary and Secondary Education) of the Louisiana Administrative Code, §305.B to make ad hoc decisions for the board in emergency situations when the board is not in regular or special session, I, as chair of the BESE State Superintendent Search Work Group, request approval for the BESE to narrow the search for the State Superintendent of Education. Please note that any decision that constitutes an action of the Board is subject to ratification by the Board at the next scheduled meeting.

Therefore, please accept and move forward the following proposal of candidates for the potential appointment of a Louisiana State Superintendent of Education:

1. Jessica Baghian
2. Cade Brumley
3. Debbra Lindo
4. Lonnie Luce
5. Heather Poole
6. Joe Siedlecki
7. Paul Vallas

The BESE Superintendent Search Work Group will continue to direct and collaborate with our Search Firm to carry out the administrative responsibilities delegated to the work group, in an effort to proceed with the BESE timeline and general process for the State Superintendent selection, approved by the Board at its January 2020 meeting, to the extent possible, with deference to Proclamation number JBE 2020-27, issued by Governor Edwards and any future statewide executive direction provided by the Governor to Louisianans related to our public health.

Stay safe and healthy,



Kira Orange Jones  
District 2 BESE member  
Superintendent Search Work Group Chair

Approved:



Sandy Holloway  
BESE President

Date: March 19, 2020