



**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 29, 2020**

# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

January 29, 2020

## The Louisiana Purchase Room Baton Rouge, LA

The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education met in regular session on January 29, 2020, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, located in the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order at 9:22 a.m. by Board President Sandy Holloway and opened with a prayer by Dr. Albert DuPont, APD Consulting Group.

Board members present were Mr. Preston Castille, Dr. Belinda Davis, Mr. Tony Davis, Mr. Jim Garvey, Mr. Ronnie Morris, Ms. Kira Orange Jones, Mr. Tommy Roque, and Ms. Doris Voitier.

Board members Dr. Holly Boffy and Ms. Ashley Ellis were not in attendance.

Ms. Ruth Anne Oakey-Frost, Louisiana Policy Institute for Children, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public comments were received from Ms. Emily DiStefano, Louisiana Partnership for Children; and Mr. Frank Pasqua, Lafourche Parish School System.

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

Agenda Item 3. **Approval of the Minutes**  
On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board approved the minutes of December 11, 2019, and January 16, 2020.

Agenda Item 4. **Report by the State Superintendent of Education**  
There was no report from the State Superintendent of Education.

Agenda Item 5. **Report(s) from members of BESE (Statutory and Legislative Task Force/Council Appointees**

- Ms. Voitier, representing BESE on the Dual Enrollment Task Force, informed members that the final meeting of the current session will be held February 19, 2020, to finalize its report. The meeting is to be held before the MFP Task Force meeting, so the recommendations for the future of dual enrollment can be addressed with the MFP Task Force.

- Ms. Holloway, co-chair of the Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP), reminded members of the next meeting of the panel scheduled for Wednesday, February 5, 2020. Ms. Holloway also informed members that she is stepping down as co-chair and interested members should inquire.

Agenda Item 6. **Petition(s) for Rulemaking (LA R.S. 49:953)** (Schedule 2)

Agenda Item 6.1 On motion of Ms. Orange Jones, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the Petition for Rulemaking regarding Bulletin 1903, *Regulations and Guidelines for Education of Dyslexic Students*, and the corresponding agency response.

Agenda Item 6.2 On motion of Ms. Kira Orange Jones, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the agency response regarding the written public comments submitted at the Public Hearing for Rulemaking held on December 11, 2019, and directed the Executive Director to submit the required summary report to the Legislative Oversight Committee.

Agenda Item 6.3 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Ms. Voitier, the Board referred the Petition for Rulemaking regarding Bulletin 1903, *Regulations and Guidelines for Education of Dyslexic Students*, to the LDE in order to determine the next steps, as it relates to the study and overall recommendations of the Early Literacy Commission, and the possible review of Bulletin 1903.

Further, the Board requested the LDE provide an update report regarding the recommendations of the Early Literacy Commission, as it pertains to the aforementioned Petition for Rulemaking at the March 2020 BESE meeting.

Agenda Item 7. **Board Committee Reports**

Agenda Item 7.1. **Academic Goals and Instructional Improvement Committee** (Schedule 3)

7.1.1 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the summary report of waiver requests, submitted by Local Education Agencies (LEAs) for the 2019-2020 school year, regarding policy contained in Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*: §2313. Elementary Program of Studies, pertaining to BESE mandated elementary level foreign language programs, as submitted by the State Superintendent of Education.

- 7.1.2 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the waiver request, submitted by Redesign Schools Louisiana, to waive policy outlined in Bulletin 1530, *Louisiana's IEP Handbook for Students with Exceptionalities*: §127. Three-Year Age Span, for the 2019-2020 school year.
- 7.1.3 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the 2019 Fall Reading Report, and directed the LDE to submit the report to the House and Senate Committees on Education, in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 17:182.
- 7.1.4 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the following TOPS Tech Early Start training program providers for the 2020-2021 academic year:
- ABC Pelican Chapter Associated Builders and Contractors;
  - Ayers Career College;
  - New Orleans Career Center;
  - New Orleans Technical Education Provider; and
  - St. James Online School.
- 7.1.5 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the report regarding the Louisiana Innovative Assessment Pilot.
- 7.1.6 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the minutes of the Nonpublic School Council meeting held January 21, 2020.
- Agenda Item 7.2. **Administration and Finance Committee** (Schedule 4)
- 7.2.1 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board received the report from the LDE Director of Internal Audit.
- 7.2.2 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board received the report regarding LDE contracts under \$50,000, as approved by the State Superintendent of Education.
- 7.2.3 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board received the report regarding in-state travel for Board members to be reimbursed from the BESE budget.

- 7.2.4 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board received the quarterly report of expenditures and budget balances regarding 8(g) projects for FY 2019-2020.
- 7.2.5 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board received the update report regarding LEAs in noncompliance with the 70 percent instructional requirement for FY 2017-2018.
- 7.2.6 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board received the update report regarding RSD capital projects for November 2019, including the:
  - RSD Monthly Summary for November 2019;
  - Superintendents' Report for November 2019; and
  - RSD open contracts as of as of November 30, 2019.
- 7.2.7 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board received the report from Education Finance staff regarding a status update of the FY 2018-2019 Fiscal Risk Assessment for LEAs.
- 7.2.8 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board received the update report from Education Finance staff regarding BESE-authorized charter school budgets and expenditures, including irregularities or concerns.
- 7.2.9 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board approved the following LDE contract:

Contractor: Iberia Parish School System  
Contract Period: 09/01/2019 - 05/31/2020  
Contract Amount: \$50,000.00  
Funding Source: State  
Competitive Process: Interagency Agreement

**Description of Service:** The contractor will:

- conduct initial research to inform and document information regarding play-based learning to guide implementation of the pilot as well as the school system guide;

(Motion continues on page 5)

- conduct a pilot consisting of five teachers from five diverse schools who teach a curriculum consisting of three hours of traditional learning and three hours of play-based learning to collect research that will inform the creation of a replicable play-based learning model;
- create a school system guide for implementing play-based learning in the classroom including, but not limited to, resource guides; strategies for implementing school system approved content for play-based learning, classroom management strategies, and classroom design that supports freedom of choice or movement; and
- serve as an expert liaison to the Department of Education regarding the implementation of play-based learning.

7.2.10 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, Board approved the following LDE contract amendment:

Contractor: Northwestern State University  
 Contract Period: 07/01/2019 - 06/30/2020  
 Previous Amount: \$1,846,423.75  
 Amended Amount: \$ 300,000.00  
 Contract Amount: \$2,146,423.75  
 Funding Source: Federal  
 Competitive Process: Interagency Agreement

**Description of Service:** The Tuition Assistance/Scholarship Program supports staff working in child care that are interested in seeking additional education to better support them in their roles. Ultimately, the Louisiana Pathways Child Care Career Development System leads to improved performance and expertise of classroom teachers, leaders within child care centers, and family child care providers.

7.2.11 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board approved the following LDE contract:

Contractor: Public Consulting Group, Inc.  
 Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 06/30/2021  
 Contract Amount: \$73,500.00  
 Funding Source: Federal  
 Competitive Process: Noncompetitive

(Motion continues on page 6)

**Description of Service:** The contractor, in collaboration with LDE staff, will develop unique plans for high-quality professional development for novice special education leaders that utilizes professional learning standards and equips participants to gain the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary to be effective special education administrators and deliver a series of unique, high-quality professional development to the cohort of novice special education leaders through on-site and virtual professional development sessions and learning activities.

7.2.12 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board approved the following LDE contract:

Contractor: LSDVI  
Contract Period: 06/01/2019 - 06/30/2020  
Contract Amount: \$390,000.00  
Funding Source: Federal - IAT  
Competitive Process: Noncompetitive

**Description of Service:** The LDE administers programs which provide direct services to disabled and at-risk students in state-operated programs. The Louisiana Schools for the Deaf and Visually Impaired provide services to students in a combination of residential and day programs. This agreement provides activities to support the following:

- ensuring access to services and community integration, and providing a continuum of services and oversight with regard to the transition of students to postsecondary activities;
- improving and supporting the use of classroom technology;
- supporting the use of assistive technology and Universal Design for Learning to maximize access to the general education curriculum; and
- ensuring compliance with federal mandates.

**School and District Innovations - Competitive**

7.2.13 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation:	Preschool Development Grant Birth to Five
Amount:	\$253,396.00
Funding Period:	01/23/2019 - 06/30/2020
Source of Funds:	Federal

**Purpose:** During the 2018 Regular Legislative Session, R.S. 17:407.23 was amended to authorize the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to establish pilot programs to implement new strategies for increasing access to, and improving the quality of, publicly-funded early childhood care and education. Ready Start Networks selected classrooms in centers for which materials and resources are needed to help teachers and staff promote a high-quality experience for children and prepare centers to be diverse delivery settings should funding become available for birth-to-three year old seats. Additionally, Ready Start Networks need extra funding for activities such as implementing local governance, fundraising and policy support, data analysis, and instructional support to improve quality. These funds will bridge the gap between the first year of funding (January 2019 - June 2020) and the second year of funding (July 2020 - June 2021).

**Basis of Allocation:** Funding is provided at the level specified in the Louisiana Department of Education's Request for Applications as follows: \$100,000 annually for each community network pilot. In addition, Ready Start Networks in cohort 1 were given the opportunity to apply for classroom material supports. In these applications, they provided details on centers in their network and specific needs for materials that would enhance and improve a quality learning experience for young children. After a no-cost extension was awarded for PDG funds, Ready Start Networks in cohort 1 were given the opportunity to apply for funding for costs needed to promote and sustain Ready Start Network activities before the next funding cycle begins in July 2020.



**School and District Innovations - Competitive**

7.2.14 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation:	Ready Start Early Childhood Community Networks Cohort 2
Amount:	\$321,758.00
Funding Period:	PDG: 08/14/2019 - 06/30/2020 Kellogg: 08/14/2019 - 05/30/2020
Source of Funds:	Federal

**Purpose:** During the 2018 Regular Legislative Session, R.S. 17:407.23 was amended to authorize the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to establish pilot programs to implement new strategies for increasing access to, and improving the quality of, publicly-funded early childhood care and education. This is the second cohort of the Ready Start Early Childhood Community Networks. Cohort 1 launched in January 2019. Results of the activities undertaken by these pilots will inform the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE), Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Early Childhood Commission, and the Legislature about the influence of structured, shared decision making on improving the quality and access of publicly-funded early childhood programs. Additionally, Ready Start Early Childhood Community Networks selected classrooms in centers for which materials and resources are needed to help teachers and staff promote a high-quality experience for children and prepare centers to be diverse delivery settings should funding become available for birth-to-three year old seats.

**Basis of Allocation:** Funding is provided at the level specified in LDE's Request for Applications as follows: \$100,000 for each community network pilot every year. In addition, the Ready Start Networks in cohort 1 were given the opportunity to apply for classroom material supports. Funding was awarded based on each network's quality and specificity of the application and the size of the community and number of classrooms served.

**School and District Innovations - Competitive**

7.2.15 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation:	Charter School Start Up
Amount:	\$240,000.00
Funding Period:	10/01/2019 - 03/14/2020
Source of Funds:	Federal

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Charter School Program – Planning and Implementation grant is to support new charter schools with the resources they need to start at full capacity, leading to a strong first year and beyond of operation and success. This grant program supports initiatives related to:

- the planning, program design, and initial implementation of charter schools by providing funds for the refinement of the educational program;
- professional development for staff;
- community engagement; and
- operational costs related to educational materials and supplies.

**Basis of Allocation:** The Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) submitted a competitive application in 2015 to the U.S. Department of Education to support Louisiana’s charter schools. The LDE was awarded funding to support charter schools in spring 2016. Allocations will be provided to charter schools through the federal CSP grant program. Recipients of these funds submitted competitive grant proposals to the LDE. They were evaluated using a rubric by a review committee. Funding determinations were based on each applicant’s score and quality of the proposed plan. These allocations include planning for years 1 and 2 of implementation funding.

7.2.16 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board received the update report regarding the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) Task Force and approved the appointment of Ms. Kim Nevils, public school parent, to the MFP Task Force.

- 7.2.17 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board ratified the submission of the legislative report to the Louisiana Legislature regarding House Concurrent Resolution 9 of the 2019 Regular Legislative Session, submitted by the BESE President, per interim authority, as recommended by BESE staff.
- 7.2.18 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board ratified the submission of the legislative report to the Louisiana Legislature regarding House Concurrent Resolution 62 of the 2019 Regular Legislative Session, submitted by the BESE President, per interim authority, as recommended by BESE staff.
- 7.2.19 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board received the legislative reports in response to House Resolution 222 and Senate Resolution 182 of the 2019 Regular Legislative Session.
- 7.2.20 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board approved the report regarding House Resolution 228 of the 2019 Regular Legislative Session and authorized the LDE to submit the report to the House Education Committee.
- 7.2.21 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board approved the report regarding Senate Concurrent Resolution 57 of the 2019 Regular Legislative Session and authorized the LDE to submit the report to the House and Senate Education Committees.
- 7.2.22 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board approved the report regarding Senate Resolution 226 of the 2019 Regular Legislative Session and authorized the LDE to submit the report to the Senate and House Education Committees.
- 7.2.23 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board received the report from the BESE Superintendent Selection Work Group and adopted the following process and/or Work Group activities concerning the BESE Work Group, as it pertains to the administrative responsibilities, regarding the selection process of a new State Superintendent, and granted the work group the authority to amend the process, as necessary, subject to general Board member notification.

(Motion continues on page 11)

The BESE Superintendent Selection Work Group will:

- work with a search firm to develop criteria to screen candidates;
- in addition to an open application process, directly contact potential candidates, submitted by individual BESE members, for screening;
- review initial applications;
- propose three to five finalists for interviews;
- conduct interviews as needed and in accordance with the Open Meetings Law;
- facilitate the interview process between individual members and finalists as needed and in accordance with the Open Meetings Law; and
- propose one to three finalists to be presented to the Board for the appointment of the State Superintendent.

Agenda  
Item 7.3.

**Educator Effectiveness Committee**

(Schedule 5)

- 7.3.1 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board revoked the Louisiana Temporary Authority to Teach (TAT) certificate #447344 issued to Mr. William E. Wise.
- 7.3.2 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board revoked the Louisiana Level 2 teaching certificate #500068 issued to Ms. Christy Le'Ann Bourque.
- 7.3.3 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board revoked the Louisiana Type B teaching certificate #090525 issued to Mr. Anthony McKeel.
- 7.3.4 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board granted the issuance of a Louisiana Teaching Authorization appropriate to the credentials of Ms. Desiree Erica Brunet.
- 7.3.5 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board granted the reinstatement of a Louisiana Ancillary Certificate appropriate to the credentials of Mr. Kenrard D. Broussard.

Agenda Item 7.4. **School Innovation and Turnaround Committee** (Schedule 6)

7.4.1 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the 2018-2019 Annual Report on Type 2, 4, and 5 Charter Schools, as recommended by the LDE.

7.4.2 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 126, *Charter Schools: §1505. Eligibility for Renewal for BESE-Authorized Charter Schools*; and established §3709. Virtual Charter School Attendance, as presented and amended.

Agenda Item 8. **Items for Consideration**

Agenda Item 8.1 On motion of Ms. Orange Jones, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board went into executive session at 9:51 a.m. to discuss pending litigation in the case of Roytricka Charles, obo her minor son, Kentrall Williams vs. Paulina Elementary School, Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, St. James Parish School Board, and ABC Insurance Company; 23<sup>rd</sup> JDC; St. James Parish; Docket # 37,731; Division "C".

A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Mr. Castille, Dr. Davis, Mr. Davis, Mr. Garvey, Ms. Holloway, Mr. Morris, Ms. Orange Jones, Mr. Roque, and Ms. Voitier.

Nays: None.

Abstentions: None.

Absences: Dr. Boffy and Ms. Ellis.

The roll call vote to go into executive session passed. It was noted that no votes would be taken while the Board was in executive session; all votes would be made in public.

\* \* \* \* \*

On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board reconvened into regular session at 10:27 a.m. and continued with the regular order of the agenda. A quorum was present.

No further action was taken concerning this matter.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.