



**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 December 16, 2020**

# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

December 16, 2020

## The Louisiana Purchase Room Baton Rouge, LA

The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education met in regular session on December 16, 2020, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, located in the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order at 10:44 a.m. by Board President Sandy Holloway and opened with a prayer by Dr. Tia Mills, Louisiana Association of Educators.

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

Board member Holly Boffy was not in attendance.

Mr. Marcus Thomas, Louisiana Association of Educators, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public comments were received from Ms. Heather Bourgeois, Louisiana Key Academy; Ms. Jema Cedillo, Lafayette Parish Association of Educators; and Dr. Craig Carter, Dr. Suzanne T. Harris, Dr. Tia T. Mills, and Mr. Marcus Thomas, Louisiana Association of Educators.

Agenda Item 2.      **Approval of the Agenda**      (Schedule 1)

On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved the agenda, as printed and disseminated.

Agenda Item 3.      **Approval of the Minutes**

On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the minutes of October 14, 2020.

Agenda Item 4.      **Report by the State Superintendent of Education**

State Superintendent of Education Brumley highlighted the following in his report to the Board:

- Schools systems have reopened, and 65 percent of students are in face-to-face instruction. School systems have also created individual comprehensive operational plans based on the needs in the community as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specific guidance has been given regarding students with disabilities, English language learners, and early childhood centers.

- National and state partners have been collaborating to determine best practices concerning virtual learning and accompanying family materials. In addition to the professional development provided by districts, many educators have been trained by the LDE in methods to deliver virtual instruction.
- A reopening dashboard was launched which provides a multitude of data.
- CARES Act funds have been distributed in the amount of over \$372,000,000.00.
- Over one million face masks have been provided throughout the state. An additional one million face masks and bottles of hand sanitizer have been secured and are being distributed to districts across the state.
- Rapid testing for COVID-19 has been secured and distributed to health centers around the state to ensure students and educators have access to testing kits.
- Support has been provided to systems and families concerning mental health as well as waivers for nutritional programs, helping eliminate barriers families face securing meals.
- In addition to the pandemic, the state has faced many hurricanes this year. Support and communication have remained important with districts and stakeholders. This has been supported via weekly reopening calls, system roundtable meetings, teacher group meetings, and other weekly communications.
- An effort to support tutoring statewide is forthcoming.

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 regarding common efforts in increasing access to dual enrollment and creating additional associate degree pathways. Efforts to incentivized dual enrollment participation are being reviewed in regard to the accountability system. Additional support is needed to ensure equity, access, and success in this endeavor.

Discussion followed.

- Mr. Morris, representing BESE on the LaSTEM Advisory Council, reported that the annual conference was held October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Eight presentations were made regarding various STEM efforts. Much progress has been made with requests for applications (RFAs) to identify entities representing each of the nine regional STEM centers. Seven of the nine regions should

receive approval before year-end, and it is anticipated that the remaining will receive approval by February 2021. The confirmed entities are Louisiana State University, Fletcher Technical Community College, Calcasieu Parish School Board, Northwestern University, Sci-Port Discovery Center, Louisiana Tech, and Southeastern University.

Further, Mr. Morris serves on the Louisiana Environmental Education Commission and informed members that vision documents are being drafted that will guide the development of a statewide environmental literacy plan with a goal to be released May 2022. The plan gives way to the goal of moving environmental literacy forward

- Dr. Davis, Co-Chair of the Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP), informed members that past SEAP meetings have failed to make quorum due to panel members with medically fragile family, and no voting decisions have been made.

Dr. Davis also reported that the Louisiana Children's Cabinet met recently and has made a legislative priority to purchase a universal statewide computer operating system to assist LEAs draw federal Medicaid dollars to help cover the cost of social workers and nurses on campus. The pro of this move is the MFP dollars the state contributes counts as the state contribution and therefore does not cost the state additional funding. The con is that this requires an extensive investment from the legislature to purchase the computer software and allow LDE to maintain operation.

Dr. Davis serves on House Concurrent Resolution 20 Committee that works on discovering the actual cost of owner operated buses. The work has not been updated in several decades, and preliminary numbers show the change to be expensive.

Further, Dr. Davis serves as BESE representative for the Louisiana Educational Television Authority (LETA), and reminded members of the organization's continued commitment to provide quality educational programming throughout the state.

- Ms. Ellis, working with the mentor teacher expansion improvement team, informed members the group is reviewing the mentor teacher assessment series trying to streamline and support mentors. Conversations include various stakeholders.

Agenda  
Item 6.

**Consideration of election of Board officers for 2021**

On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved by acclamation the following slate of officers for 2021:

Ms. Sandy Holloway – President;  
Ms. Kira Orange Jones – Vice President; and  
Ms. Ashley Ellis – Secretary-Treasurer.

Agenda  
Item 7.

**Board Committee Reports**

Agenda  
Item 7.1.

**Academic Goals and Instructional Improvement Committee**  
(Schedule 2)

7.1.1 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board deferred until January 2021: "Consideration of the 2021-2022 Nonpublic School Academic Classifications Report to renew previously approved nonpublic school classifications and to consider new nonpublic schools and academic classifications."

7.1.2 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the Test Security Irregularities Report for the 2019-2020 School Year.

7.1.3 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board deferred until January 2021: "Consideration of the 2020 Fall Reading Report."

7.1.4 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the report regarding LDE efforts to promote and improve student literacy skills.

7.1.5 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board:

- received the report regarding reopening of schools in response to COVID-19, and
- directed the BESE Executive Director to draft and forward a letter to the appropriate entities, requesting an elevated priority regarding access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

7.1.6 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the report regarding Louisiana Balanced School Calendar model and alternative school calendar options.

- 7.1.7 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the Social Studies Academic Content Standards Review Process.
- Further, Ms. Holloway requested that two BESE members be appointed to the Steering Committee as non-voting members.
- 7.1.8 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the minutes of the Accountability Commission meeting held November 16, 2020.
- 7.1.9 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the appointment of Ms. Norisha Kirts, a parent representative, to the membership of the Accountability Commission, as recommended by the State Superintendent of Education.
- 7.1.10 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) meeting held November 18, 2020.
- 7.1.11 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the minutes of the Superintendents' Advisory Council (SAC) meeting held November 19, 2020.
- 7.1.12 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the minutes of the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Advisory Council meetings held November 16, 2020, and December 9, 2020.
- 7.1.13 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 111, *The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System*: §301. School Performance Score Goal; §405. Calculating a K-8 Assessment Index; §409. Calculating a 9-12 Assessment Index; §413. Dropout/Credit Accumulation Index Calculations; §501. Calculating an Elementary/Middle School Progress Index; §503. Calculating a High School Progress Index; §601. State Assessments and Accountability; §603. Inclusion of Students; §605. Inclusion of Schools; §607. Pairing/Sharing of Schools with Insufficient Test Data; §703. Determining a Cohort for a Graduation; §705. Documenting a Graduation Index; §709. Calculating a Strength of Diploma Index; §903. Inclusion of Students in the Subgroup Component Performance; §907. Urgent Intervention Required; §909. Comprehensive Intervention Required; §3503. Alternative Schools Including Alternative Charter Schools; §3603. Student Information System; §3605. Specialized Accountability System; §3901. Assessment of Students with Disabilities;

(Motion continues on page 6)

§3903. LEAP Alternate Assessment Participation Criteria; §3905. Inclusion of Alternate Assessment Results; §4101. Valid Data Considerations; and §4103. NRT and CRT Data.

- 7.1.14 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 118, *Statewide Assessment Standards and Practices*: §5105. Testing and Accountability; §5107. Assessment Programs; §5305. Test Security Policy; §5701. Overview of Assessment Programs in Louisiana; §5907. Agency Administrative Participation; §6153. Transfer Students; §6803. Introduction; §6819. Double Jeopardy Rule; §6823. Rescores; §6825. LEAP 2025 for High School Administration Rules; §6829. LEAP 2025 Transfer Rules; §6901. Overview; §6913. Performance Standards; §7209. WorkKeys; §7301. Overview; §7501. General Provisions; §8301. Participation; §8303. Students with Disabilities; §8306. Approved Accommodations for Students with IEPs or 504 Plans; §8307. English Language Learners; §8501. Approved Home Study Program Students; and §8507. Office of Juvenile Justice; as well as the repeal of §6151. Retests and Rescores; §7701. Administration and Scoring; and §7703. Security.
- 7.1.15 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board ratified the approval, as Declaration of Emergency, in response to Executive Proclamation Number 168 JBE 2020, of revisions to Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*: §401. Purpose and Background; Bulletin 741 (Nonpublic), *Louisiana Handbook for Nonpublic School Administrators*: §1105. Purpose and Background; and Bulletin 126, *Charter Schools*: §4101. Purpose and Background, made by the BESE President under interim authority in accordance with R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 17.6.
- 7.1.16 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*: §401. Purpose and Background; Bulletin 741 (Nonpublic), *Louisiana Handbook for Nonpublic School Administrators*: §1105. Purpose and Background; and Bulletin 126, *Charter Schools*: §4101. Purpose and Background, to align BESE policy with Executive Proclamation 168 JBE 2020.
- 7.1.17 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 135, *Health and Safety*: §501. Injury Management Program and §503. Injury Management Program Protocol for Educational Training on Serious Sports Injuries; as well as the establishment of §507. Serious Heat Illness and Acclimatization.

- 7.1.18 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund: §707*. Credit for Early Learning Center Directors and Staff.
- 7.1.19 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Declaration of Emergency, revisions to Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund: §707*. Credit for Early Learning Center Directors and Staff, effective December 16, 2020, for a period of 120 days or until adopted as a final rule.
- 7.1.20 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 140, *Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Network: §503*. Coordinated Observation Plan and Observation Requirements.
- 7.1.21 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Declaration of Emergency, revisions to Bulletin 140, *Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Network: §503*. Coordinated Observation Plan and Observation Requirements, effective December 16, 2020, for a period of 120 days or until adopted as a final rule.
- 7.1.22 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, the repeal of Bulletin 1903, *Regulations and Guidelines for Implementation of the Louisiana Law for the Education of Dyslexic Students: §101*. Forward; §103. State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; §301. The Louisiana Law for the Education of Dyslexic Students; §303. Preface; §501. Guidelines for the Implementation of RS 17:7 (11); §503. School System and School Building Responsibilities; §505. Requirements for Implementation of R.S. 17:7(11); §507. Decision Process for Dyslexia Intervention, Identification, and Placement; §701. Assessment Procedures; §901. Program; §1101. Terminology of the Bulletin; §1301. Part VI-A. Screening and Intervention for School Success; §1303. Introduction; §1305. Instruments for Identification and Screening—Appendix A; §1307. Multisensory Structured Language Programs for Students with Dyslexia or "At Risk" Readers—Appendix B; and §1309. Characteristics Associated with Dyslexia and Related Disorders—Appendix C.

Further, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, the establishment of Bulletin 1903, *Louisiana Handbook for Students with Dyslexia: §101*. Definitions; §103. Local Education Agency (LEA) Responsibilities; §105. School Level Responsibilities; §107. School Building Level Committee (SBLC) Responsibilities; §109. Screening Requirements; and §111. Multisensory Structured Language and Literacy Program Criteria.



- Agenda Item 7.2. **Administration and Finance Committee** (Schedule 3)
- 7.2.1 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the report of the approved 8(g) block grants for FY 2020-2021.
- 7.2.2 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the report regarding LDE contracts \$50,000 and under, approved by the State Superintendent of Education.
- 7.2.3 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the annual LDE risk assessment report and revised annual audit plan of the Bureau of Internal Audit.
- 7.2.4 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the quarterly report of expenditures and budget balances of 8(g) projects for FY 2020-2021.
- 7.2.5 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board ratified the following emergency decisions made by the BESE President pursuant to authority granted in LAC 28:I.305.B.:
- waivers of BESE rules, as requested by the State Superintendent, to support Louisiana local education agencies (LEAs) and early childhood centers severely impacted by the recent COVID-19 public health emergency; and
  - appointments to the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council.
- 7.2.6 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received an update report regarding school systems and schools in non-compliance with the 70 Percent Instructional Requirement for FY 2018-2019.
- 7.2.7 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the annual LDE budget(s) (LDE, RSD, and SSD).
- 7.2.8 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the update report regarding RSD capital projects, including:
- RSD Monthly Summary for July and August 2020;
  - Superintendents' Report for July and August 2020; and
  - RSD Open Contracts as of July 31, 2020 and August 31, 2020.

7.2.9 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the report regarding fiscal dialogues as a result of the Fiscal Risk Assessment Process for FY 2019-2020

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

Contractor: Northwestern State University  
Contract Period: 07/01/2020-06/30/2021  
Previous Amount: \$1,781,848.80  
Amended Amount: \$ 161,340.00  
Contract Amount: \$1,943,188.80  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Interagency Agreement

Description of Service: The Scholarship Program supports staff working in child care that interested in seeking additional education to better support them in their roles. Ultimately, the Louisiana Pathways Scholarship Program 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 Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following LDE contract:

Contractor: Bank Street College of Education  
Contract Period: 12/20/2020-6/30/2021  
Contract Amount: \$74,999.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Non-competitive

Description of Service: Louisiana has 16,427 child care providers registered in its early childhood workforce registry, and over 40 percent of these professionals do not have education beyond a high school degree. The CDA is the first step in building toward higher credentials, and thus strengthening these programs has the potential for positive outcomes throughout the state. The state currently offers an Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate (ECAC). This pilot is to enhance ECAC coaching to strengthen practice alongside formal education. Bank Street has a proven coaching approach currently used in graduate school programs, which cultivates adult learning through inquiry, observation, research, and hands-on opportunities to help learners build on their existing knowledge, skills, and experiences.

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This type of coaching results in improved practice and provides crucial supports that increase knowledge retained. Research shows that Bank Street graduates feel more prepared than comparison teachers to develop student-centered curriculum, plan quality instruction, and support social emotional development in their classroom, and are more likely to stay in the field (Stanford Center for Opportunity Policy in Education, 2016).

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

Contractor: Multiple vendors  
 Contract Period: 10/09/2020-06/30/2021  
 Contract Amount: \$400,000.00  
 Fund: Federal  
 Competitive Process: Emergency

Description of Service: Due to the declared emergency rule by the governor of Louisiana for Hurricane Laura and Hurricane Delta, emergency respite care services were needed in congregate and non-congregate shelters.

<b>Name of Agency</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Contract</b>
Children’s Coalition of NE Louisiana	117 Hall St. Monroe, LA 71201	\$100,000.00
Northwestern State University	310 Sam Sibley Dr. Natchitoches, LA 71497	\$100,000.00
Volunteers of America 5,6, & 7	3949 North Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70806	\$100,000.00
Agenda for Children	8300 Earhart Blvd. Suite 201 New Orleans, LA 70112	\$100,000.00

7.2.13 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following LDE contract:

Contractor: National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET)  
 Contract Period: 09/30/2020 - 09/02/2021  
 Contract Amount: \$521,250.00  
 Fund: Federal  
 Competitive Process: Emergency

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Description of Service: NIET (National Institute for Excellence in Teaching) will:

1. develop planning, instruction, and engagement resources and tools aligned to high-quality curriculum, provide ongoing consulting support throughout the year; and
2. develop and deliver virtual trainings for both teachers and school leaders through a series of synchronous and asynchronous modules.

7.2.14 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following LDE contract:

Contractor: Teach For America (TFA)  
Contract Period: 07/01/2020 – 06/30/2021  
Contract Amount: \$300,000.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Sole Source

Description of Service: Teach For America will use its reasonable efforts to train and provide at least 150 educators of its national teacher corps and provide such educators as candidates for placement in high needs Louisiana public schools for the 2020-2021 school year as full time classroom teachers of record with all employment rights attendant with said employment. Failure to provide the full number does not constitute a breach of this agreement. These educators will complete an intensive summer institute training that will train them in both the theory and practice of K-12 education and equip them to lead rigorous, supportive and inclusive classrooms. Through the summer training, educators will learn by participating in education seminars and supervised practice teaching in summer reading growth with students and families. The TFA Louisiana program staff will work with local school districts, CMOs and schools to facilitate matches of educators with state and district-identified need areas and to organize introductions that orient educators to the communities in which they teach. TFA will provide to the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) Talent Office a list of all TFA educators and the school district/CMO/charter to which they are assigned, as well as other necessary data for the state to confirm teacher placements and assess the ongoing effectiveness of teachers via state or district processes. This data may include teacher name, school name, parish, and first year of teaching in Louisiana.

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Teach For America agrees to provide training and leadership development opportunities, as well as regular support, to the educators placed as teachers in Louisiana public schools. Educators will receive training and support through summer institute, structured observations and post-observations, regional and multi-regional conferences, an interactive website featuring educational issues and resources, targeted workshops delivering professional development, and structured small group reflection meetings.

Teach For America will continue to support its alumni base through programming that facilitates community-building and career pipelines. The TFA Louisiana program staff will work to support alumni of the TFA program in the state who continue in the teaching profession, and will also support alumni in middle leadership, school leadership, school system leadership, and policy and advocacy roles. This work will also include leveraging the expertise and relationships of the TFA regional alumni to support the experience of current educators.

Teach For America will continue to work with the LDE in regards to priority areas for TFA's presence. Sustaining and potentially growing TFA's statewide placements will require our organization to secure significant funding and support, which may include increased state monies, and as such, TFA will partner with the state to help build partnerships and identify new opportunities to sustain and grow the organization's presence.

Ms. Orange Jones recused herself from voting on this item.

7.2.15 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following LDE contract:

Contractor:	Multiple vendors
Contract Period:	10/09/2020-06/30/2021
Contract Amount:	\$244,900.00
Fund:	Federal
Competitive Process:	Emergency

Description of Service: Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, teachers, children, and families are experiencing a greater amount of stress. This stress is leading to an increase in reported child abuse, neglect, inappropriate discipline, and leaving children unattended in early learning centers. Type I and Type II early learning centers do not currently receive coaching and technical assistance from the local Child Care Resource and Referral Agency.

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The additional funds will be used to provide technical assistance and group training for Type I and Type II early learning centers. It is through this technical assistance and group training the systemic abuse and neglect in these centers will be alleviated.

Name of Agency	Address	Contract Amount
Agenda for Children	8300 Earhart Blvd. Suite 201 New Orleans, LA 70118	\$95,000.00
Children’s Coalition of NELA	117 Hall St. Monroe, LA 71201	\$12,800.00
NSU Child and Family Network	310 Sam Sibley Dr. Natchitoches, LA 71497	\$24,600.00
Lafayette Parish On Track by Five	P.O Box 2158 Lafayette, LA 70502	\$12,800.00
Volunteers of America 2,3, & 4	3949 North Blvd. Baton Rouge LA 70806	\$60,100.00
Volunteers of America 5,6, & 7	3949 North Blvd. Baton Rouge LA 70806	\$39,600.00
	<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>\$244,900.00</b>

7.2.16 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following LDE contract:

Contractor: University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
 Contract Period: 01/01/2021 – 06/30/2021  
 Contract Amount: \$125,120.00  
 Fund: Federal  
 Competitive Process: Interagency Agreement

Description of Service: The contractor will complete CLASS® observations in 155 randomly selected K classrooms, 45 first grade classrooms, and 30 second grade classrooms in districts participating in the CLASS® Pilot. (\$544/observation)

The contractor shall send each early childhood provider a letter indicating the month in which the site will be visited for the CLASS® observation as well as a provider protocol detailing what the provider can expect on the day of the observation.

The contractor will also create a pandemic-contingency plan to be submitted to LDE. The plan should be aligned with the resources being provided to teachers and families in regards to virtual learning settings and should include draft virtual observation protocols.

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The virtual observation protocols shall also include planning for how virtual observer training and support would occur and how data collection will occur virtually.

The LDE and the contractor will monitor completion of all reports and timelines established in the contract. The contractor agrees to participate in monthly calls with LDE to discuss progress toward completion of all work and any pertinent issues related to this work in order to make adjustments necessary to complete the project.

7.2.17 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following LDE contract amendment:

Contractor:	Fluency Plus, LLC
Contract Period:	01/01/2018 to 01/01/2021
Previous Amount:	\$300,000.00
Amended Amount:	\$ 75,000.00
Contract Amount:	\$375,000.00
Fund:	State
Competitive Process:	Sole Source

Description of Service: The contractor will provide court-ordered services of an independent monitor to monitor compliance with the consent decree issued by the federal court in the litigation captioned P.B., et al. v. White, et al. [2:10-cv-04049], U.S. District Court of the Eastern District of Louisiana.

7.2.18 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following LDE contract amendment:

Contractor:	CN Resource, LLC
Contract Period:	12/20/2019-12/19/2022
Previous Amount:	\$ 739,530.00
Amended Amount:	\$ 700,000.00
Contract Amount:	\$1,439,530.00
Fund:	Federal (USDA)
Competitive Process:	Competitive

Description of Service: The contractor will conduct United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-mandated compliance monitoring reviews of sponsoring organizations, related to the operation of the USDA's National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Seamless Summer Option (SSO), Afterschool Snack Program (ASP), Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP),

(Motion continues on page 15)

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Special Milk Program (SMP). The review process will be conducted in accordance with the applicable regulations for the designated programs in 7 CFR Parts 210, 215, 220, 225, 226, 245 and 250, as well as 2 CFR Part 200 as amended; state laws, policies and procedures as applicable and as amended by the State Agency.

7.2.19 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following RSD contract amendment:

Contractor: Hewitt-Washington & Associates Architects and Planner  
Contract Period: 12/09/2010 – 12/09/2021  
Previous Amount: \$7,609,242.13  
Amended Amount: \$ 6,700.00  
Contract Amount: \$7,615,942.13  
Fund: IAT - FEMA  
Competitive Process: Competitive

Description of Service: This amendment extends the contract end date from 12/09/2020 to 12/09/2021 for New Booker T. Washington Medium High School and Rehabilitation of Auditorium CMaR and New Booker T. Washington Auditorium interior. It also provides for the additional service for an Asbestos Management Plan and limited AHERA Inspection for New Booker T. Washington Medium High School and Rehabilitation of Auditorium CMaR and New Booker T. Washington Auditorium interior.

7.2.20 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following SSD contract:

Contractor: Slayter Therapy Services, LLC  
Contract Period: 07/01/2020-09/30/2021  
Contract Amount: \$66,000.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Non-Competitive

Description of Service: This contract is being requested in order to provide speech therapy services as outlined in the IEP of special education students. The contract will allow the district to maintain compliant with federal, state, and district mandates according to IDEA.



**District Support - Other**

7.2.21 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation:	Team Nutrition Mini-Grant
Amount:	\$0
Funding Period:	07/01/2020-03/30/2021
Source of Funds:	Federal

Purpose: The Louisiana Department of Education (LDE), in partnership with the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), will coordinate regional Smarter Lunchroom trainings and technical assistance to School Food Service (SFS) professionals to increase selection of healthy foods by children. In addition, the LDE and LDH will coordinate culinary skills training series SFS professionals from at least 40 LEAs. In partnership with the Louisiana School Health Training Krewe, the LDE and LDH will also continue from last year efforts to provide schools individualized training and technical assistance on Smarter Lunchroom practices, school wellness assessment, and best practice in creating healthy school environment to schools and assist the LEA in completing HealthierUS School Challenge: Smarter Lunchrooms applications. The Louisiana State University Ag program will lead the project evaluation efforts and work to determine project activity reach and implementation and project influence and impact. To help support local level implementation of the skill and knowledge gained at the regional trainings, the LDE and LDH will provide targeted support to schools through a mini-grant process. The mini-grant application was reviewed and scored by a panel of experts in the state. Eligible schools must meet the following criteria:

1. schools must be participating in the USDA NSLP and SBP;
2. schools must designate one representative from the applicant school to attend regional trainings;
3. schools must have a team (two or more individuals), wellness council, or School Health Advisory Council willing to implement the mini-grant goals and objectives;
4. schools must complete the application by the specified deadline; and
5. schools must be committed to creating healthy school environments that support students' healthy eating patterns.

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These schools will receive funding and individualized technical assistance from the Louisiana School Health Training Cadre to meet the TNTG goals and objectives. The Louisiana School Health Training Cadre will provide training and technical assistance on incorporating Serving Up MyPlate: A Yummy Curriculum or the SuperTracker Nutrition Lesson Plans for High School Students to the school’s mini-grant recipients. The schools will serve as a model for schools across the state on how to create a healthy school environment that help children have the knowledge, skills, and motivation to make healthy food and physical activity choices as part of a healthy lifestyle. In addition, schools will be able to share successes and lessons learned from providing nutrition education through all six communication channels.

Basis of Allocation: The LDE and Well-Ahead Louisiana will award schools a three-year grant to support healthier school environments that are conducive to healthy eating and physical activity.

Each of the schools were awarded \$2,500 in 2018-2019 and \$2,800 in 2019-2020 to implement strategies in the schools.

**Note:** this is supplement funding from 2019-2020 school year that was not used. Also, Mary Coghill Elementary School was unresponsive to implementing grant activities so the funds were allocated equally to the remaining schools.

Ms. Voitier recused herself from voting on this item.

**School and District Innovations - Other**

7.2.22 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation:	Real-time Early Access to Literacy (REAL Tutoring)
Amount:	\$1,643,000.00
Funding Period:	08/01/2020-07/30/2021
Source of Funds:	Federal

Purpose: The need to prioritize early literacy is significant. The Coronavirus pandemic has exacerbated existing gaps in early literacy. Families lack access to quality remote learning resources for young children, especially for early literacy instruction. Parents need to understand and be able to support students in remote learning for students to succeed.

(Motion continues on page 18)

Real-time Early Access to Literacy (REAL) provides early literacy support for students in pre-K through grade 3. Through REAL, school systems are allocated funding to provide students in pre-K through grade 3 with technology and tutoring services. This allocation will provide funding for school systems to offer remote learning literacy supports to pre-K through 3rd grade students using the REAL portal.

Basis of Allocation: Non-charter school systems received \$16 per pre-K through 3rd grade student in CIR/UIR-A schools with a \$10,000 minimum and rounded up in increments of \$500. Independent charter schools identified as CIR/UIR-A received tiered funding based on enrollment in PK-3.

Tiered Funding for Charters:

1-149 students	\$2,500
150-299 students	\$5,000
300-399 students	\$7,500
400+ students	\$10,000

Ms. Ellis and Ms. Voitier recused themselves from voting on this item.

**School and District Innovations - Other**

7.2.23 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Family Child Care Pilot  
Amount: \$0  
Funding Period: PDG - 08/13/2020-12/30/2020  
CCDF - 08/13/2020-06/30/2021  
Source of Funds: Federal

Purpose: In order to reengage and learn more about the quality of care young children are experiencing in family child care settings, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) will conduct a second year of the family child care pilot. The Pilot operators will pay pilot participants stipends and purchase materials and supplies as incentives for participating in the LDE's family child care pilot study. This allocation will reimburse pilot operators for materials, supplies, and stipends. This allocation will be funded by the Preschool Development Grant Birth to Five; and Child Care Development Funds (CCDF).

Basis of Allocation: This allocation will be used to flow funds to the Child Care Resource & Referrals (CCR&R) for them to issue to family care providers grants for materials and quarterly stipends for their participation in the LDE's family child care pilot study.

**School and District Innovations - Competitive**

7.2.24 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Charter School Program  
Amount: \$1,938,618.00  
Funding Period: 10/01/2019-03/14/2021  
Source of Funds: Federal

Purpose: The purpose of the Charter Schools Program Grant is to support charter schools by providing critical start-up grants to new charter schools in their pre-opening period or first semester of operation and providing dissemination grants to high quality charter schools in order to share best practices for serving educationally disadvantaged students. The awarded funds must be spent on curriculum and instructional materials, professional development, recruitment and retention activities, and one-time expenditures that meet criteria set forth by the grant.

Basis of Allocation: The 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 funds submitted competitive grant proposals to the LDE and 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, Year 1, and Year 2 of Implementation funding.

**Student Centered Goals - Formula**

7.2.25 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Believe and Prepare Formula Funds  
Amount/Period: \$99,000 - 8(g) - 07/01/2020-06/15/2021  
\$8,000 - TIF & IDEA - 07/01/2020-06/30/2021  
Source of Funds: State, Federal

Purpose: The purpose of this program is to support educator development through the use of mentoring.

(Motion continues on page 20)

The program provides funds to LEAs and preparation providers to pay stipends to the mentors of undergraduate yearlong residents.

Basis of Allocation: Allocations to LEAs and BESE approved preparation providers are to provide funding for undergraduate mentor stipends. Through a data collection process, preparation providers and local school systems identified undergraduate residents and their assigned mentors. This includes mentors supporting residents completing a residency from January 2020-December 2020 and those completing a residency from August 2020-May 2021.

IDEA funds were allocated at a 100 percent rate if the resident being supported by the mentor is pursuing special education certification. TIF funds were allocated if the residency occurred in a TIF district.

This allocation is an update to the allocation which was brought in October 2020 based on data confirmed by school systems.

Ms. Ellis and Ms. Voitier recused themselves from voting on this item.

### **Student Centered Goals - Competitive**

- 7.2.26 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: SRCL2  
 Amount: \$18,500.00  
 Funding Period: 07/01/20-06/30/21  
 Source of Funds: Federal

Purpose: These SRCL funds will assist sub grantee districts, charter schools, and lead agencies in supporting high-quality curriculum, professional development, and assessments.

Basis of Allocation: Allocations are based on federal funding percentages set forth by the USDOE per age band and school system need.

### **School Turnaround - Competitive**

- 7.2.27 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following allocation:

(Motion continues on page 21)

Allocation: School Redesign Grant  
Amount: \$0  
Funding Period: 04/20/2020 - 06/30/2021  
Source of Funds: Federal

Purpose: The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires school systems to build plans to improve struggling schools. The state must use 7 percent of the state’s Title I funds to support high quality improvement plans. In Louisiana, these funds will be competitively awarded to school systems that build the strongest plans for improvement.

Basis of Allocation: The Every Student Succeeds Act requires that local school systems create a plan to improve the performance of students in persistently struggling schools. ESSA also provides school improvement funding to implement state-approved plans in identified struggling schools. LDE staff reviewed applications from eligible school systems and determined allocations based on the quality of each plan.

Recipients of school improvement funding must comply with all terms of the grant, including:

- purchasing Tier I curriculum for implementation in classrooms at the start of the fall 2020 school year; and
- providing training to teachers on the implementation of Tier 1 curriculum.

LEAs that do not meet the requirements of the grant and the implementation timeline will forfeit these school improvement allocations.

7.2.28 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the 8(g) Annual Report for FY 2019-2020.

7.2.29 On motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the 8(g) budget reduction for FY 2020-2021 as outlined.

(Motion continues on page 22)

<b>Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE)</b>			
<b>LA Quality Education Support Fund 8(g)</b>			
<b>Proposed Reduction for Shortfall</b>			
<b>FY 2020-2021</b>			
<b>Program/Category</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Proposed Reduction</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>
Block Allocation	\$11,315,000	(\$3,000,000)	\$8,315,000
Statewide Allocation	\$11,315,000	(\$3,000,000)	\$8,315,000
Management and Oversight	\$660,000	\$0	\$660,000
Review, Evaluation, and Assessment of Proposals	\$210,000	\$0	\$210,000
<b>Total LA Quality Education Support Fund 8(g)</b>	<b>\$23,500,000</b>	<b>(\$6,000,000)</b>	<b>\$17,500,000</b>

7.2.30 On motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the total allocation of \$15,000,000 for the 8(g) program and budget for FY2020-2021, which includes the following:

- \$660,000 for management and oversight;
- \$170,000 for review, evaluation, and assessment of proposals;
- \$7,085,000 for block allocation; and
- \$7,085,000 for statewide allocation.

Further, the the Board approved the following proposed priority areas for FY 2020-2021:

- high quality early childhood education;
- college and career readiness;
- teacher and leadership development;
- technology and innovation; and
- science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

In addition, the Board authorized BESE staff to establish guidelines and procedures for the implementation of the approved program and budget.

7.2.31 On motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the report regarding the BESE Budget.

- 7.2.32 On motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board:
- approved the report regarding the 2020 BESE Annual Legislative Report regarding Educator Certification Revocations and Records Reviews in response to R.S. 17:7(6)(i); and
  - authorized the Executive Director to submit the report, including the results of the records reviews conducted at the December 2020 BESE meeting, to the House and Senate Committees on Education by December 31, 2020.

Agenda Item 7.3. **Educator Effectiveness Committee** (Schedule 4)

- 7.3.1 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board received the report, in accordance with R.S. 11:710 and 11:1007, regarding retired teachers returning to active service and the certification of school personnel shortages in critical shortage areas, as submitted by local education agencies to BESE from June 2020 to November 2020.
- 7.3.2 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board ratified the minutes of the Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC) meeting held November 12, 2020.
- 7.3.3 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board approved the appointment of Mr. James Kennedy to the membership of the Teacher Certification Appeals Council, to serve a term of four years from 2021-2025.
- 7.3.4 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board received the 2019-2020 Teacher Exit Survey Report.
- Further, the Board directed the LDE staff to submit the 2019-2020 Teacher Exit Survey Report to the Senate and House Committees on Education no later than January 15, 2021.
- 7.3.5 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board recognized Mr. Christopher Dier, 2020 Louisiana Teacher of the Year, for his service on the Educator Effectiveness Committee and introduced Ms. Nathalie Roy, 2021 Louisiana Teacher of the Year.
- 7.3.6 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 746, *Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel: §203. Certification Exams and Scores.*



- 7.3.7 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board approved, as a Declaration of Emergency, revisions to Bulletin 746, *Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel: §203. Certification Exams and Scores*, effective December 16, 2020, for a period of 120 days or until adopted as a final rule.
- 7.3.8 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board revoked the Louisiana Non-public (T) teaching certificate #525706 issued to Ms. Amber Leigh Anderson.
- 7.3.9 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board revoked the Louisiana Type B teaching certificate #079729 issued to Mr. Vernon Shane Benoit.
- 7.3.10 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board revoked the Louisiana Practitioner Teacher License #556984 issued to Mr. Edward Forrest Crowell.
- 7.3.11 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board revoked the Louisiana Out-of-State (OS) teaching certificate #588388 issued to Ms. Melinda Meers Elrod.
- 7.3.12 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board revoked the Louisiana CTTIE teaching certificate #525691 issued to Mr. Jeremy Michael Eusea.
- 7.3.13 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board revoked the Louisiana Level 3 teaching certificate #510539 issued to Mr. Matthew Paul Nesser.
- 7.3.14 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board revoked the Louisiana Teaching Authorization (TA) #608323 issued to Mr. Gavin Avery Ripp.
- 7.3.15 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board revoked the Louisiana Level 1 teaching certificate #522310 issued to Ms. Kellie Lynn Speed.
- 7.3.16 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board revoked the Louisiana Level 1 teaching certificate #549038 issued to Mr. Raymond Alfred Winzy.
- 7.3.17 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board granted the issuance of a Louisiana teaching certificate appropriate to the credentials of Ms. Shannon Williams Tillis.

7.3.18 On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board granted the reinstatement of a Louisiana teaching certificate appropriate to the credentials of Ms. Phyllis Givens Davis.

Agenda Item 7.4. **School Innovation and Turnaround Committee** (Schedule 5)

7.4.1 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the material amendment to the charter contract governing Lafayette Renaissance Charter Academy, operated by Lafayette Charter Foundation, Inc., to add grade levels 9-12 to the current grade-level configuration and increase enrollment beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, contingent upon the governing board of the Lafayette Charter Foundation completing a required governance training with the LDE, as recommended by the LDE.

7.4.2 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board received the report regarding Type 2 charter applications in response to the Request for Charter School Applications, as recommended by the State Superintendent of Education

7.4.3 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board denied the Type 2 charter application for the 2021-2022 school year, submitted for Louisiana Connections Academy, operated by Louisianans for Quality Virtual Education, as recommended by the LDE.

7.4.4 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board deleted from the agenda: "Consideration of Type 2 charter applications in response to the 2020 request for Charter School Applications, as recommended by the State Superintendent of Education, for Scott Renaissance Charter Academy, operated by Lafayette Charter Foundation."

7.4.5 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the Type 2 charter application submitted for St. Landry Charter School, operated by St. Landry Primary, Inc., to commence operation of one Type 2 charter school in St. Landry Parish beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, as recommended by the LDE and contingent upon the following:

(Motion continues on page 26)

- complete all pre-opening requirements as determined by the LDE;
- address any conditions or special considerations set forth by BESE; and
- execute a charter contract prior to opening.

Dr. Davis, Mr. Roque, and Ms. Voitier were recorded as being opposed to the motion.

7.4.6 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the Type 2 charter application submitted for Williams Scholar Academy, operated by Williams Non-Profit, to commence operation of one Type 2 charter school in Vermillion Parish beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, and contingent upon the following:

- complete all pre-opening requirements as determined by the LDE;
- address any conditions or special considerations set forth by BESE; and
- execute a charter contract prior to opening.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m.