

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.

# SPECIAL CALLED BOARD MINUTES

Meeting of May 12, 2021

## LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

### May 12, 2021

## The Louisiana Purchase Room Baton Rouge, LA

The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education met in special session on May 12, 2021, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, located in the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order at 9:38 a.m. by Board President Sandy Holloway.

Board members present were Dr. Holly Boffy, Mr. Preston Castille, Dr. Belinda Davis, Ms. Ashley Ellis, Mr. Jim Garvey, Ms. Sandy Holloway, Mr. Michael Melerine, Mr. Ronnie Morris, Ms. Kira Orange Jones, Mr. Tommy Roque, and Ms. Doris Voitier.

Public comments were received from Dr. Keith Courville, Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana; Dr. Tia Mills and Mr. Marcus Thomas, Louisiana Association of Educators; Ms. Cynthia Posey, Louisiana Federation of Teachers; Ms. Caroline Roemer, Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools; and Mr. Wes Watts, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents.

Agenda Item 2.	Approval of the Agenda	(Schedule 1)
	On motion of Ms. Voitier, seconded by Mr. Morris, the Board approved the agenda, as printed and disseminated.	
Agenda Item 3. 3.1.1	Items for Consideration	(Schedule 2)
	On motion of Dr. Boffy, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board	
	<ul> <li>a. approved the FY 2021-2022 Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) formula to include:</li> </ul>	
	<ol> <li>maintaining the base per-pupil amoun provided in Level I of the current MFP for SCR 3 of the 2019 Regular Session;</li> </ol>	
	<ol> <li>continuing the \$1,000 pay increase for cla and other certificated personnel provided plus the current year annual retirement co established for the Teachers' Retiren Louisiana in the actuarial valuation appro Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee</li> </ol>	in FY 2019-2020 ontribution rate as nent System of oved by the Public

(Motion continues on page 2)

- continuing the \$500 pay increase for non-certificated personnel provided in FY 2019-2020 plus the current year annual retirement contribution rate as established for the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System in the actuarial valuation approved by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee;
- providing an across-the-board pay raise of \$800 for classroom teachers and other certificated personnel for FY 2021-2022 plus the current year annual retirement contribution rate as established for the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana in the actuarial valuation approved by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee;
- providing an across-the-board pay raise of \$400 for noncertificated personnel for FY 2021- 2022 plus the current year annual retirement contribution rate as established for the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System in the actuarial valuation approved by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee; and
- 6. eliminating the Certificated Mentor Teacher Stipend Allocation provided in Level 4 of the proposed formula as presented in the March 2021 formula submission.
- b. authorized the LDE to make technical changed to the MFP formula as needed; and
- c. authorized the LDE to submit the MFP formula to the Legislature as soon as possible.

Further, due to time constraints as the legislative session progresses, and in the event additional funds are realized, BESE requests that the Legislature consider appropriating funds to support an additional pay raise for teachers, other certificated personnel, and support personnel, as an appropriation outside of the formula as an acceptable method for implementing pay raises. The Board would then take action to ensure the inclusion of these additional funds for pay raises into the formula next year as a permanent pay raise.

Finally, should funds be available, BESE requests the Legislature consider appropriating funding, outside of the MFP formula for FY2021-2022, for a \$2,000 stipend for a projected number of approximately 2,078 teachers mentor teachers.

#### **BOARD MINUTES**

- 3.2.1 On motion of Ms. Orange Jones, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board approved, as a Declaration of Emergency, revisions to Bulletin 741, *The Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*: §401. Purpose and Background; and §403. Minimum Requirements for Reopening and Operating School Facilities; Bulletin 741 (Nonpublic), *Louisiana Handbook for Nonpublic School Administrators*: §1105. Purpose and Background; and §1107. Minimum Requirements for Reopening and Operating School Facilities; and Bulletin 126, *Charter Schools*: §4101. Purpose and Background; and §4103. Minimum Requirements for Reopening and Operating School Facilities; and Bulletin 126, *Charter Schools*: §4101. Purpose and Background; and §4103. Minimum Requirements for Reopening and Operating School Facilities, effective May 12, 2021 for a period of 120 days or until adopted as a Final Rule.
- 3.2.2 On motion of Ms. Orange Jones, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 741, *The Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*: §401. Purpose and Background; and §403. Minimum Requirements for Reopening and Operating School Facilities; Bulletin 741 (Nonpublic), *Louisiana Handbook for Nonpublic School Administrators*: §1105. Purpose and Background; and §1107. Minimum Requirements for Reopening and Operating School Facilities; and Bulletin 126, *Charter Schools*: §4101. Purpose and Background; and §4103. Minimum Requirements for Reopening and Operating School Facilities; School Facilities.
- 3.2.3 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board directed the State Superintendent of Education to meet with the Governor to discuss the lifting of the face covering mandate for K-12 students in summer school. In the event that the face covering mandate cannot be removed, the Board directed further conversation regarding easing face covering restrictions for students (e.g., on the playground).
- 3.3.1 On motion of Ms. Orange Jones, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board denied the request, submitted by Calcasieu Parish School System, to waive policy contained in Bulletin 118, *Statewide Assessment Standards and Practices*: §6821, High School Test Cohorts, regarding school performance scores.
- 3.3.2 On motion of Ms. Orange Jones, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the request, submitted by Calcasieu Parish School System, to waive policy contained in Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*: §2318. The TOPS University Diploma, and §2319. The Career Diploma, regarding End of Course exams and LEAP 2025 testing.

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