



**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 June 14, 2023**

# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

June 14, 2023

## The Louisiana Purchase Room Baton Rouge, LA

The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education met in regular session on June 14, 2023, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, located in the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. by Board President Dr. Holly Boffy.

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

Mr. Trevor Bryan, Jefferson National Merit Scholar, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Ms. Madeline Krzystowczyk, East Baton Rouge National Merit Scholar, led the opening prayer.

Public comments were received from Mr. Taylor Castillo, Our Voice Nuestra Voz; Ms. Charuba Chavez and Ms. Emma Merrill, EXCELL Coalition; and Mr. Derick Torres, Free Alas.

Agenda  
Item 2.

### **Recognition of Guests**

- 2.1 On motion of Mr. Melerine, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board recognized National Merit Scholars.
- 2.2 On motion of Mr. Melerine, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board recognized SPED Fellows.
- 2.3 On motion of Mr. Melerine, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board recognized Diocesan students of the year.
- 2.4 On motion of Mr. Melerine, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board recognized LDOE students of the year.
- 2.5 On motion of Mr. Melerine, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board recognized aspiring principal fellowship.
- 2.6 On motion of Mr. Melerine, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board recognized schools meeting the requirements for the Seal of Biliteracy.
- 2.7 On motion of Mr. Melerine, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board recognized Excellence in Authorizing Fellowship.

2.8 On motion of Mr. Melerine, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board recognized Presidential Scholars.

2.9 On motion of Mr. Melerine, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board recognized school health provider of the year.

Agenda Item 3. **Approval of the Agenda** (Schedule 1)

3.1 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Voitier, the Board approved the agenda.

Agenda Item 4. **Approval of the Minutes**

4.1 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board approved the minutes of April 19, 2023.

4.2 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Mr. Roque, the Board approved the minutes of the Special Called Meeting of May 24, 2023.

Agenda Item 5. **Report by the State Superintendent of Education**

There was no report from the State Superintendent of Education.

Agenda Item 6. **Report(s) from members of BESE (Statutory and Legislative Task Force/Council Appointees)**

There were no reports from the members of BESE.

Agenda Item 7.1. **Academic Goals and Instructional Improvement Committee** (Schedule 2)

7.1.1 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board endorsed the report regarding the documentary, *Why Louisiana Ain't Mississippi...or Any Place Else!*.

7.1.2 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board received the report regarding BESE waiver requests submitted by LEAs to waive policy contained in Bulletins for the 2022-2023 school year, as recommended by the State Superintendent of Education.

- 7.1.3 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board deferred to the August 2023 Academic Goals and Instructional Improvement Committee meeting: "Consideration of requests from Local Education Agencies (LEAs) for waivers of policy contained in Bulletins, submitted by the State Superintendent of Education" as it relates to a waiver of Bulletin 119, *Louisiana School Transportation Specifications and Procedures*, regarding the 10 year age limit for buying a used bus, submitted by St. Tammany Parish School System for the 2023-2024 school year, and directed the LDOE to reevaluate policy concerning this topic.
- 7.1.4 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board denied the request, submitted by St. Tammany Parish School System, to waive policy contained in Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*, for the 2023-2024 school year, regarding BESE mandated librarian staffing requirements, as recommended by the State Superintendent of Education.
- 7.1.5 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the request, submitted by Northeast Claiborne Charter School, to waive policy contained in Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*, regarding Science of Reading training for the 2023-2024 school year, as recommended by the State Superintendent of Education.
- 7.1.6 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the student waiver request denied by the St. Martin Parish School Board to exit Cecilia High School in order to enter a High School Equivalency Program and adult education.
- 7.1.7 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval for Bossier Christian Academy in Bossier Parish.
- 7.1.8 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval for Chatauqua Woods Tutorial in Lincoln Parish.
- 7.1.9 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval for First Beginnings in Caddo Parish.
- 7.1.10 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval for The Jones Academy for Girls in Orleans Parish.

- 7.1.11 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval for Life Christian Academy in Calcasieu Parish.
- 7.1.12 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval for Mercy Christian Academy in Caddo Parish.
- 7.1.13 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval for Moving Grace Montessori School in Orleans Parish.
- 7.1.14 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval for North Range Academy in Livingston Parish.
- 7.1.15 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Academic Classification for the 2023-2024 school year for Bossier Christian Academy in Bossier Parish: accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 7.1.16 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Academic Classification for the 2023-2024 school year for Chataqua Woods Tutorial in Lincoln Parish: accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 7.1.17 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Academic Classification for the 2023-2024 school year for First Beginnings in Caddo Parish: non-accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 7.1.18 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Academic Classification for the 2023-2024 school year for The Jones Academy for Girls in Orleans Parish: non-accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 7.1.19 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Academic Classification for the 2023-2024 school year for Life Christian Academy in Calcasieu Parish: accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 7.1.20 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Academic Classification for the 2023-2024 school year for Mercy Christian Academy in Caddo Parish: non-accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.

- 7.1.21 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Academic Classification for the 2023-2024 school year for Moving Grace Montessori School in Orleans Parish: non-accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 7.1.22 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Academic Classification for the 2023-2024 school year for North Range Academy in Livingston Parish: non-accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 7.1.23 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board received the report regarding the New Meridian Mathematics Assessment Pilot Program.
- 7.1.24 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the reauthorization of the following Course Choice providers for a period of five years, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year:
- a. Edmentum;
  - b. NOVAC;
  - c. Operation Spark;
  - d. Pinnacle Learning Solutions;
  - e. St. Agatha Career School;
  - f. Acadian Companies;
  - g. Global Geospatial Institute;
  - h. Global Trucking Academy; and
  - i. University of Upper Iowa.
- 7.1.25 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved New Beginnings Beauty College as a course provider for the Course Choice Program for a period of three years, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.
- 7.1.26 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved Tulane School of Professional Advancement as a course provider for the Course Choice Program for a period of three years, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

- 7.1.27 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board received the status report regarding Course Choice providers completing the second of a three-year authorization period for the following schools initially approved for a period of three years beginning with the 2021-2022 school year:
- a. Advanced Nursing Training;
  - b. Horizon Education;
  - c. SLT Technology; and
  - d. Upbeat Foundation Academy.
- 7.1.28 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board received the report regarding literacy and key performance indicators (KPIs).
- 7.1.29 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board received the report regarding policy revisions that provide for an appeals process for all students, as it relates to graduation assessment requirements.
- 7.1.30 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board received the minutes of the Accountability Council meeting held May 8, 2023.
- 7.1.31 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board received the minutes of the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Advisory Council meeting held May 18, 2023.
- 7.1.32 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board received the minutes of the Superintendents' Advisory Council (SAC) meeting held June 8, 2023.
- 7.1.33 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 136, *Louisiana Standards for Early Childhood Care and Education Programs*: §101. Introduction; §103. About this Document; §301. Creative Thinking and Expression; §303. Mathematics; §305. Science; §501. Introduction; §503. Physical Fitness and Motor Skills; §505. Good Health and Safety Practices; §507. Physical Well-Being and Motor Development Standards; as well as the establishment of §509. Physical Development and Well-Being; and repeal of §105. Role of the Early Learning and Development Standards; §107. Guiding Principles; §109. Effective Use

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of Early Learning and Development Standards with All Children; §111. Overview of the Early Learning and Development Standard; §113. Use of this Document with Other Documents in Louisiana; §201. Approaches to Learning; §307. Social Studies; §401. Introduction; §403. Speaking and Listening; §405. Reading; §407. Writing; §409. English Language Learners (ELL); §411. Speaking and Listening Standards; §701. Introduction; §703. Early Relationships with Adults and Peers; §705. Self-Concept; §707. Self-Regulation: Managing Behavior and Emotions; §709. The Role of Temperament; §711. Social-Emotional Development Standards; §901. Definitions; §1101. Strategies for Including Children with Disabilities in Program Activities; and §1103. Strategies to Support English Language Learners (ELL) in Program Activities, as outlined and recommended by the Early Learning Development Standards Review Committee.

Ms. Ellis, Mr. Garvey, Ms. Holloway, Mr. Melerine, and Mr. Morris were recorded as being opposed to the motion.

7.1.34

On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 137, *Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations*: §103. Definitions; §305. Operating Without a License; Registry; Penalties; §311. Posting of License; §709. Validity of Licenses; §907. Notification of Temporary or Permanent Closure; §1103. Critical Incidents and Required Notifications; §1307. Appeal of Denial, Revocation, or Refusal to Renew; §1503. General Liability Insurance Policy; §1509. Policies; §1511. Procedures; §1707. Required Staff; §1711. Child-to-Staff Minimum Ratios; §1719. Orientation Training; §1721. Continuing Education; §1723. CPR and First Aid Certifications; §1725. Medication Management Training; §1807. CCCBC-Based Determinations of Eligibility for Child Care Purposes Required for Owners, Volunteers, Staff, Visitors and Contractors of Early Learning Centers; §1811. Requests for CCCBC-Based Determinations of Eligibility for Child Care Purposes from the Department; §1815. Fees for CCCBC-Based Determinations of Eligibility for Child Care Purposes; §1907. Furnishings and Equipment; §1911. Care of Children; §1913. Water Activities; §1915. Health Services; §1919. Food Service and Nutrition; and §1921. Emergency Preparedness and Evacuation Planning; as well as the establishment of §1804. Provisional Status for Child Care Purposes.



7.1.35 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*: §717. Reports of High School Credit; §2321. Appeals Eligibility and Requirements; as well as the establishment of §2322. Senior Projects, as amended.

Ms. Ellis, Mr. Garvey, Ms. Holloway, Mr. Melerine, and Mr. Morris were recorded as being opposed to the motion.

7.1.36 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 111, *The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System*: §405. Calculating a K-8 Assessment Index.

7.1.37 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board tabled the following item: "Consideration of revisions to Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*, regarding student attendance."

7.1.38 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 140, *Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Network*: §103. Definitions; §503. Coordinated Observation Plan and Observation Requirements; §509. Performance Rating Calculations for Publicly-Funded Sites; §511. Performance Rating Calculations for Community Networks; §513. Informational Metrics of Best Practices; and §519. Waivers of Accountability System Requirements.

Agenda Item 7.2. **Administration and Finance Committee** (Schedule 3)

7.2.1 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board received the report from the LDOE Director of Internal Audit.

7.2.2 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board received the report regarding LDOE contracts \$50,000 or less approved by the State Superintendent of Education.

7.2.3 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board received the report on in-state travel for Board members to be reimbursed from the BESE budget.

7.2.4 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board received the April 2023 Bureau of Internal Audit: Quality Assessment Review Self-Assessment with Independent Validation internal audit report.

- 7.2.5 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board ratified the emergency policy waivers approved by the BESE President under interim authority.
- 7.2.6 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board ratified the consulting services contract with Airick Journey Crabill, previously approved by the BESE President under interim authority.
- 7.2.7 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board received the report regarding school systems and schools in non-compliance with the 70% Instructional Expenditure Requirement.
- 7.2.8 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the update regarding the 2023-2024 Minimum Foundation Program Formula Proposal.
- 7.2.9 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board received the update report regarding RSD capital projects for January, February, and March 2023 including:
- RSD Monthly Summary for January, February, and March 2023;
  - Superintendents' Report for January, February, and March 2023; and
  - RSD Open Contracts as of January 31, 2023, February 28, 2023, and March 31, 2023.
- 7.2.10 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board received the report regarding Fiscal Dialogues as a result of the Fiscal Risk Assessment Process for 2020-2021.
- 7.2.11 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board received the report from Education Finance staff concerning BESE-authorized charter school budgets and expenditure reports, including irregularities or concerns.
- 7.2.12 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:
- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Contractor:          | Agenda for Children     |
| Contract Period:     | 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024 |
| Contract Amount:     | \$1,461,345.00          |
| Fund:                | Federal                 |
| Competitive Process: | Competitive - RFP       |

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Description of Service: This contract will provide high quality differentiated coaching to child care centers and family child care, group training to both child care centers and family child care on essential content and skills, and act as a community resource center for early childhood providers and families to improve kindergarten readiness.

- 7.2.13 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: National Institute for Excellence in Teaching  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 12/31/2025  
Contract Amount: \$4,302,100.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Competitive

Description of Service: This contract provides funds for National Institute for Excellence in Teaching for three fiscal years. The vendor will assist LDOE in adjusting the educator evaluation system and creating aligned handbooks, training, and professional learning. The vendor will assist in managing a pilot to test the system and will make adjustments following the pilot year. The vendor will assist in developing a communication plan and full-scale rollout plan for the new evaluation system.

- 7.2.14 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Contract Amount: \$2,452,255.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Non-competitive

Description of Service: The University of Louisiana at Lafayette will recruit and train observers to conduct 4170 CLASS observations at all publicly funded early childhood care and education sites in Louisiana. Third party observations are required as part of the accountability system stipulated in Bulletin 140 and includes all Infant, Toddler, and Pre K classrooms.

7.2.15 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Children's Coalition for NELA  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Contract Amount: \$533,599.30  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Competitive - RFP

Description of Service: This contract will provide high quality differentiated coaching to child care centers and family child care, group training to both child care centers and family child care on essential content and skills, and act as a community resource center for early childhood providers and families to improve kindergarten readiness.

7.2.16 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Jefferson Parish Ready Start Network  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Contract Amount: \$617,000.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Competitive - RFP

Description of Service: This contract will provide high quality differentiated coaching to child care centers and family child care, group training to both child care centers and family child care on essential content and skills, and act as a community resource center for early childhood providers and families to improve kindergarten readiness.

7.2.17 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Lafayette Parish School Board/On Track by 5  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Contract Amount: \$436,449.81  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Competitive - RFP

Description of Service: This contract will provide high quality differentiated coaching to child care centers and family child care, group training to both child care centers and family child care on essential

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content and skills, and act as a community resource center for early childhood providers and families to improve kindergarten readiness.

Dr. Boffy recused herself from voting on this item.

7.2.18 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: MESH, LLC  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 09/30/2023  
Contract Amount: \$68,500.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Non-Competitive Consulting

Description of Service: This contract will develop a marketing toolkit to better support the varying needs among schools and systems in Louisiana. The toolkit will aim to aid marketing and communications initiatives such as promoting the school system's accomplishments, attracting families and staff members, and improving the school system's visibility.

7.2.19 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Northwestern State University Child & Family Network  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Contract Amount: \$741,650.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Competitive - RFP

Description of Service: This contract will provide high quality differentiated coaching to child care centers and family child care, group training to both child care centers and family child care on essential content and skills, and act as a community resource center for early childhood providers and families to improve kindergarten readiness.

7.2.20 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Volunteers of America South Central LA  
(Regions 2,3,4)  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Contract Amount: \$1,315,917.72  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Competitive - RFP

Description of Service: This contract will provide high quality differentiated coaching to child care centers and family child care, group training to both child care centers and family child care on essential content and skills, and act as a community resource center for early childhood providers and families to improve kindergarten readiness.

Dr. Davis recused herself from voting on this item.

7.2.21 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Volunteers of America South Central LA  
(Regions 5,6,7)  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Contract Amount: \$907,677.96  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Competitive - RFP

Description of Service: This contract will provide high quality differentiated coaching to child care centers and family child care, group training to both child care centers and family child care on essential content and skills, and act as a community resource center for early childhood providers and families to improve kindergarten readiness.

Dr. Davis recused herself from voting on this item.

7.2.22 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Attuned Education Partners, LLC  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Contract Amount: \$72,780.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Non-Competitive Consulting

Description of Service: The contractor will conduct a strength-based needs assessment (SBNA) at up to six schools identified by the LDOE to support future planning and professional development aligned to their needs and key levers identified in the vision for the CHANGE Collective. The contractor will synthesize these evidence sources into a comprehensive, evidence-rich report and debrief findings for each school and the LDOE. The SBNA will collect and synthesize multiple sources of evidence including:

- performance data provided by the LDOE and/or school district, disaggregated by subgroup, including:
  - academic (e.g., graduation rate, student achievement),
  - well-being (e.g., out of school suspension rates, attendance), and
  - workforce (e.g., teacher turnover);
- instructional quality reviews, including:
  - classroom observations (in person),
  - review of instructional artifacts (e.g., curriculum maps, lesson plans),
  - instructional leadership capacity, and
  - instructional enabling systems; and
- constituent perspectives, including:
  - student and instructional leadership team (ILT) focus groups (2 per school),
  - 1-on-1 interview with principal, and
  - student/staff/family survey data provided by schools/districts, if available.

7.2.23 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Caveon, LLC  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2026  
Contract Amount: \$174,375.00  
Fund: State  
Competitive Process: NA - consulting

Description of Service: Caveon, a nationally-recognized expert in test security, will provide teams of two to 15 sites across Louisiana, that were designated as having test security issues in prior administrations. The vendor will provide the LDOE with detailed reports that outline areas of strength, concern and suggestions. These reports will:

1. identify sites that may need additional support from the LDOE to establish quality processes; and
2. consider information from the reports that can inform overall state processes for test security and integrity.

7.2.24 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Gatorworks, LLC  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 11/30/2023  
Contract Amount: \$73,520.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Non-competitive

Description of Service: The contractor will provide digital media advertising including geo-fencing, targeted email and Google ads to ensure target audiences for the Steve Carter Tutoring Program are reached through these various digital ads. This will impact students and families across Louisiana who are eligible for the Steve Carter Tutoring Program and increase program participation.



7.2.25 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: National Institute for Excellence in Teaching  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Contract Amount: \$66,000.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Non-competitive/consulting

Description of Service: This contract provides for professional learning for Comprehensive Intervention Required (CIR) schools. The contractor will deliver Louisiana School Improvement Best Practices Level 1 trainings in Instructional Leadership Teams (ILT) and Teacher Collaboration (TC). The contract provides for a total of four two-day on-site trainings, including two for ILT and two for TC. These will be delivered to two cohort locations in the state. The contract also provides for four two-day virtual trainings, including two for ILT and two for TC. The contract also includes registration management and site-based event management service by the vendor.

7.2.26 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: The National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment, Inc. (NCIEA)  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2026  
Contract Amount: \$490,500.00  
Fund: Federal, State  
Competitive Process: Sole source

Description of Service: NCIEA has provided consulting services and technical assistance to the LDOE from the initial development of the assessment and accountability system in 1999 and through subsequent adjustments over the years. Due to NCIEA's long-standing relationship (over 14 consecutive years) with the LDOE, the company is uniquely positioned to advise Louisiana on development and implementation decisions necessary to support its assessment systems. The detailed knowledge of the history specific to the Louisiana assessment and accountability system that the NCIEA has acquired over time is unique to the consulting firm and is integral to LDOE's compliance with state and federal laws. The NCIEA provides the LDOE with advice on building technically defensible and sound assessment and

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accountability systems. This contract will provide support services related to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), psychometrics, Louisiana’s next generation assessment system, and the Louisiana Assessment Literacy Initiative. The services provided by this contract guide the design, administration, and scoring procedures implemented in Louisiana’s assessment and accountability system.

7.2.27 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Sequitur LLC  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Contract Amount: \$70,000.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Non-competitive

Description of Service: This contract has a focus on Louisiana Workforce Commission registered apprenticeships. It will include research and information gathering, toolkit development, and the implementation of apprenticeship opportunities across the state.

7.2.28 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Administrators of the Tulane Education Fund  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 12/31/2023  
Contract Amount: \$1,210,016.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Bridge Contract

Description of Service: This contract will continue the necessary support services for early learning site leaders, teachers, and families through a nationally acclaimed model for mental health consultation. The contractor will continue to deliver services using a model that is site-centered, designed to support all staff who work with children at an early learning site; child-centered, designed to assess and make recommendations about particular children; and classroom-centered, designed to support the staff who work with children in one classroom.

To prevent a gap in these critical services, which would cause a threat to health and welfare of citizens; it is necessary to create an amendment to bridge/extend the contract as recommended by Office of State Procurement.

7.2.29 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt  
Contract Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Contract Amount: \$4,323,729.67  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Sole Source

Description of Service: This agreement is to provide the Innovative Assessment Program (IAP). It includes the scope for the operational IAP ELA assessments for Grades 6-8 and the field-testing for Grades 3-5. It includes the psychometric support and item development necessary as a part of this project.

7.2.30 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following LDOE contract amendment:

Contractor: Transcend Translation  
Contract Period: 07/01/2022 – 06/30/2024  
Previous Amount: \$49,950.00  
Amended Amount: \$72,050.00  
Contract Amount: \$122,000.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Non-competitive

Description of Service: Provides for continued translation services to the LDOE to meet the needs of both non-English speaking students and their families and visually impaired students by providing accurate and uniform translation services requested by LDOE. Requested translation services fall into three major categories:

1. document translations from English to requested foreign language(s), most commonly into Spanish, Vietnamese, and Arabic. Other languages available as needed;
2. review of previously translated documents to ensure accuracy and uniformity; and
3. create, from print, Unified English Braille-UEB/Nemeth transcription, reviewing, embossing, and binding for designated assessments.

**School and District Support - Competitive**

7.2.31 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Bayou Bridges Grade 4 and Grade 5 Pilot Achieve!  
Amount: \$384,530.00  
Period: 07/01/2023 – 09/30/2023  
Source of Funds: ESSER II Incentive

Purpose: The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) is committed to advancing literacy skills for all of its children. LDOE is creating and launching a new K-8 social studies curriculum. This allocation would provide districts who have expressed interest in piloting these materials with access to funds to purchase high-quality reusable print materials, including student readers and teacher guides.

Basis of Allocation: Allocations of funds were decided based on applicants' interest in piloting the first available print materials for the LDOE's new K-8 social studies curriculum.

Dr. Boffy recused herself from voting on this item.

**School and District Support - Competitive**

7.2.32 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Early Childhood Lead Agencies EC Consolidated  
Amount: \$3,854,247.00  
Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Source of Funds: State General Funds, CCDF, ARPA CCDBG

Purpose: The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) coordinates the Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Network by designating, through a competitive process, a Community Network Lead Agency for each community to conduct administrative functions and coordinate essential activities. The Community Network Lead Agency also serves as fiscal agent. Lead Agencies must:

1. conduct administrative functions for the Community Network Lead Agency;

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- 2. coordinate CLASS observations by assuring observations are conducted for every publicly funded early learning site in accordance with Bulletin 140; and
- 3. coordinate birth-to-age-five enrollment for publicly funded programs and the state funding application for the Community Network Lead Agency.

Basis of Allocation: Funding is provided for each Community Network Lead Agency at a rate of \$525 per infant, toddler, and pre-K classroom. Additionally, a multiplier is applied to the secondary Community Network Lead Agency's per-classroom allocations. This will raise the per-classroom allocation rate from \$525.00 to \$787.50 for classrooms located in a secondary lead agency under the purview of a primary Community Network Lead Agency. Additionally, the rate of \$787.50 is applied to classrooms in Community Network Lead Agencies where more than 10% of their total classroom count are located in secondary school systems. Finally, there was an additional \$60 per observer increase for the new edition of Toddler CLASS, based on an estimate that every network will have at least one observer for every seven classrooms.

Dr. Boffy and Dr. Davis recused themselves from voting on this item.

**School and District Support - Competitive**

7.2.33 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: New School Choices Pandemic Relief Funding Achieve!  
 Amount: \$473,502.00  
 Period: 01/05/2021 – 09/30/2023  
 Source of Funds: ESSER II Incentive

Purpose: New School Choice Pandemic Response Funds will be available to Type 1, 2, 3, 3b, 4, and 5 charter schools in the first three years of operation (planning and first two years after opening) with the purpose of providing evidenced-based interventions to meet the academic and well-being needs of students.

Basis of Allocation: Each application will undergo both a technical review by LDOE staff and a quality review by a panel of reviewers. LDOE staff will review each proposal for compliance with state law and

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policy and with ESSER guidelines. The review panel will assess the quality of all proposals. Applications will include an award narrative, approach to accessibility, a budget detailing the use of funds with alignment to LDOE Believe to Achieve Educational Priorities, and a three-year operating budget. Applications will be reviewed for allowability and alignment with LDOE's priorities. The maximum allocation will be up to \$350,000 to be distributed in accordance with the allowable use of funds, upon a successful application. Charter schools opening in the fall of 2024 are eligible for the planning phase of awards, up to \$150,000 for one year, and charter schools opening in the fall of 2023 are eligible for the planning and implementation phases of awards of up to \$350,000 over two years (\$150,000 for planning phase and \$200,000 for implementation phase).

### **School and District Support - Competitive**

7.2.34 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Ready Start Transform EC Consolidated  
Amount: \$1,775,000.00  
Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Source of Funds: ARPA-CCDBG

Purpose: Ready Start Transform is an opportunity for well-established Ready Start Networks and early childhood stakeholders to accelerate their work and develop cutting-edge strategies to transform early care and education at the local level. The aim of Ready Start Transform is for communities to create a transformative vision for achieving access to high-quality early care and education. Participating networks will assemble a team of high-level partners, community leaders, and stakeholders who will collaborate to develop and implement this vision.

Basis of Allocation: Ready Start Networks that were selected to participate in the Ready Start Transform (RST) grant are receiving an allocation of \$375,000 - \$500,000 for early childhood seats. This is the fourth of four allocations. This allocation will provide funding for the additional B-3 seats requested in conjunction with the community vision and access expansion efforts. The amount of each grantee's allocation was determined based upon the number of seats requested in their grant application and the current cost/seat as determined by LDOE.

Dr. Boffy and Dr. Davis recused themselves from voting on this item.

**School and District Support - Competitive**

7.2.35 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Strong School Systems Initiative Super App  
Amount: \$2,506,000.00  
Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/15/2024  
Source of Funds: Strong School Systems Initiative - 8(g) State

Purpose: The purpose of the Strong School Systems Initiative is to improve outcomes for students by focusing on whole-system improvements to accelerate and sustain student achievement. The 2023-2024 Strong School Systems Initiative provides funds for both Cohort 4 and for implementation support. Through collaborative relationships between LDOE, expert, local, and national partners, as well as school system leadership teams, the approach toward systemic improvements will include support of school systems as they implement and monitor a strong strategic plan driven by a clear vision and strategic direction.

Cohort 4: School systems interested in developing and implementing a three-year strategic plan volunteered to participate in the Strong School System initiative by requesting funds through Super App [Strategic Plan (P5.9.4)]. Funding provides targeted support to school system leaders through partnerships with national experts vetted by LDOE and selected by school system leads. Funding recipients agree to:

- diagnose where their systems are;
- define a clear vision for where they want the system to be;
- identify priorities;
- create a coherent plan to achieve priorities;
- implement initiatives to improve school and system performance (e.g., align budgetary and staffing resources);
- monitor progress against the plan and make adjustments;
- provide feedback to LDOE on strategies for supporting school systems seeking to develop and implement a strategic planning process; and
- provide feedback to LDOE on the tools and resources used in the develop process.

Implementation: School systems interested in implementing and progress monitoring their Strong School System's strategic plan

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volunteered to participate in the Strong School System initiative by applying for funds through Super App [Progress Monitoring and Support (P5.9.5)]. Funding provides targeted support to school system leaders through partnerships with national experts vetted by LDOE and selected by school system leads. Funding recipients agree to:

- diagnose where their systems are;
- implement initiatives to improve school and system performance (e.g., align budgetary and staffing resources);
- monitor progress against the plan and make adjustments;
- provide feedback to LDOE on strategies for supporting school systems seeking to implement a strategic planning process; and
- provide feedback to LDOE on the tools and resources used in the develop process.

Basis of Allocation: Recipients were awarded funds based on a combination of funding availability and responses provided to the Strategic Plan (P5.9.4) and Progress Monitoring and Support (P5.9.5) in the 2024 Super App.

### **School and District Support - Other**

7.2.36 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation:	EC Child Care Management Software Initiative
Amount:	\$25,000.00
Period:	07/01/2023 – 12/30/2023
Source of Funds:	Preschool Development Grant

Purpose: These allocations will support the state's efforts to support early learning center business efficiencies and operations through automating processes such as fee collection, tracking time and attendance, and documentation uploading. These funds will allow the state to subsidize 80% of the cost of a Child Care Management Software (CCMS) annual subscription, for up to \$1,000. These products are known and designed to help providers spend less time on paperwork and save cost by streamlining and automating business tasks. Providers will have the option to choose from one of eight CCMS solutions, which were selected via an RFA process. Providers will select a solution of their choosing based on their site's needs.

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Basis of Allocation: Allocations will be made to Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) agencies to reimburse Type III and CCAP- certified Family Child Care Home providers for the purchase of Child Care Management Software (CCMS) annual subscriptions. Allocation amounts were based on the number of CCR&R's across the state and the amount of funding available, divided evenly.

Dr. Boffy and Dr. Davis recused themselves from voting on this item.

### **School and District Support - Other**

7.2.37 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) Program  
 Amount: \$425,000.00  
 Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
 Source of Funds: PL 108-446 Part - B Individual with Disabilities Education Act; Special Education - Grants to States

Purpose: The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) will provide allocations to eight local education agencies (LEAs) to serve as fiscal agent for their respective regional Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) consortium.

Basis of Allocation: Eight local education agencies (LEAs) were selected to serve as fiscal agents for the PBIS program within their respective education region. The LEAs were selected based on experience and/or prior service as a fiscal agent for PBIS implementation. Each LEA will receive a flat amount of \$53,125.

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

7.2.38 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Believe!  
 Amount: \$9,330,369.00  
 Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
 07/01/2023 – 12/30/2023 (PDG)  
 Source of Funds: ARPA CCDBG and Preschool Development Grant (PDG)

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Purpose: The Believe! application offers funding opportunities for early childhood community networks to develop plans and partnerships to ensure Louisiana achieves the following:

1. strengthens and supports the child care system to meet the needs of all families and support the stabilization of the child care sector;
2. expands supply of and access to high-quality early childhood options for families and identifies opportunities to sustain that expansion long-term;
3. prepares and supports teachers to lead classrooms and provide high-quality interactions that meet the developmental needs of children every day; and
4. empowers families to access tools and resources to support their children's development.

Basis of Allocation: Networks submitted applications for Believe! funding after consulting with their community partners on the activities funded and in which areas they needed the most financial support.

Category 1: Child Care Stabilization funding was determined based on the number of classrooms in Type III centers in each network.

Category 2: Access Expansion funding is available at the same level for all interested networks, no matter the size.

Category 3: High-Quality Classrooms funding was determined based on the number of classrooms in Type III centers in each network.

Category 4: Empowering Families funding was determined based on the number of birth through three-year-olds who are economically disadvantaged in the network.

Dr. Boffy and Dr. Davis recused themselves from voting on this item.

**Student Centered Goals - Competitive**

7.2.39 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Early Childhood Guides (EC Guides) EC Consolidated  
 Amount: \$1,200,000.00  
 Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
 07/01/2023 – 12/30/2023 (PDG)  
 Source of Funds: Preschool Development Grant (PDG) and CCDF

Purpose: This program is integral to the Preschool Development Grant that LDOE received a third iteration of in January 2023. This work has been nationally recognized by the Association for Children and Families, the grantor of the Preschool Development Grant, and is likely a significant factor in the continued receipt of funds.

Basis of Allocation: Each recipient of these funds will receive \$50,000 in PDG funds and \$50,000 in CCDF funds for a total of \$100,000. This amount covers salary and benefits for a full-time employee, plus materials needed for their work.

Dr. Boffy recused herself from voting on this item.

**Student Centered Goals - Competitive**

7.2.40 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Early Childhood Education Fund EC Consolidated  
 Amount: \$25,653,844.00  
 Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
 Source of Funds: State General Fund

Purpose: The Early Childhood Education Fund is intended to incentivize local investment in and fundraising for early childhood care and education by providing a dollar-for-dollar state match for locally generated funds. Until there are sufficient funds in the Early Childhood Education Fund, LDOE is committed to matching local investment through stimulus funding. This funding will be spent directly on implementation of B-3 Seats in local communities, specifically in the

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delivery in high-quality child care. This fund is established by §407.30. Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund and guided by Bulletin 140, *Louisiana Early Childhood and Education Network*, Chapter 9.

Basis of Allocation: Recipients of the funds are Community Network Lead Agencies that raised qualifying local funds from local governments, philanthropic groups, and individuals, to expand access for children aged birth to three years old in their communities. Each recipient has the potential, through legislature, to receive up to a dollar-for-dollar match of their locally raised funds. For the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year, LDOE recommends granting an exact dollar-for-dollar match to each Community Network Lead Agency requesting funds.

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

7.2.41 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation:	2023-2026 Education of Homeless Children and Youth
Amount:	\$1,721,400.00
Period:	07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024
Source of Funds:	Education of Homeless Children and Youth

Purpose: The purpose of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act provides competitive sub-grants to expand support services to children experiencing homelessness; to create greater awareness of district and school staff about ways to identify students who may be experiencing homelessness; and to provide additional services to these children to increase their chances for academic success. LEAs or LEA consortiums may apply for these federal funds to provide activities for, and services to, students experiencing homelessness, including preschool-aged homeless children, that enable such children and youth to enroll in, attend, and succeed in school.

Basis of Allocation: McKinney Vento funds are awarded through a competitive process to LEAs of similar sizes such as small, medium, and large homeless populations. The allocation recommendations are based on the total number of students identified as homeless by sub-grantees October 1 count of the previous year. Each sub-grantee will receive \$200 per homeless student identified plus a base award of \$2000.

Dr. Boffy recused herself from voting on this item.

**Student Centered Goals - Competitive**

7.2.42 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: ESSER III Incentive Competitive Allocations  
Achieve!  
Amount: \$1,090,000.00  
Period: 06/14/2023 – 09/30/2024  
Source of Funds: ESSER III Incentive

Purpose: The purpose of the Achieve! Incentive competitive allocations is to award funding to school systems for specific initiatives that will address the needs of students, especially those who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Funding will be spent on interventions that respond to students’ needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups.

Basis of Allocation: Recipients of this optional funding are school systems that indicated interest on specific initiatives within the 2024 Super App. School systems were given the maximum funding available for each initiative based on either the budget for the initiative or the known cost to provide a particular intervention. These are additional requests from Super App.

**Student Centered Goals - Competitive**

7.2.43 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Family Engagement and Leadership Planning Grant  
EC Consolidated  
Amount: \$500,000.00  
Period: 07/01/2023 – 12/30/2023  
Source of Funds: Preschool Development Grant

Purpose: LDOE will continue to leverage the local work and leadership of its Ready Start Networks (RSN) to inform more widespread adoption of strategies that support family engagement and leadership at the local level.

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LDOE is launching a six-month planning grant that will provide funding and technical assistance for RSNs to develop a detailed analysis of family engagement and leadership efforts within the communities they serve and a strategic plan to increase family engagement and leadership.

The goal of this opportunity is for networks to analyze family engagement and leadership in the communities they serve and develop a strategic plan focused on increasing family engagement at the local level.

The grant is anticipated to begin on July 1, 2023, and will end on December 31, 2023. The local family engagement and leadership strategic plans developed through this grant opportunity must be completed and submitted to LDOE, and all grant funding must be expended by December 15, 2023.

Upon grant completion, grantees will be encouraged to embed the strategic family engagement and leadership plans and strategies within their RSN blueprints.

Basis of Allocation: Each recipient will receive exactly \$100,000 to conduct the work in this grant. Recipients were selected based on applications received. This amount was calculated based on the costs of paying for the human capital to conduct the research, analyze the data, and support the implementation of these new communications and interactions with families.

Dr. Boffy recused herself from voting on this item.

**Student Centered Goals - Competitive**

7.2.44 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation:	Ready Start Networks EC Consolidated
Amount:	\$13,920,621.00
Period:	07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024
	07/01/2023 – 12/30/2023 (PDG)
Source of Funds:	Preschool Development Grant (PDG), CCDF, ARPA CCBBDG

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Purpose: During the 2018 regular legislative session, RS 17:407.23 was amended to authorize BESE to establish Ready Start Network pilot programs to implement new strategies for increasing access to and improving the quality of publicly funded early childhood care and education. Results of the activities undertaken by these pilots informed LDOE, BESE, and the Legislature about the influence of structured, shared decision-making on improving quality and access for publicly funded early childhood programs. Policy to add Ready Start Network as a permanent structure under Bulletin 140 was approved by BESE in April 2022. Currently, there are 37 Ready Start Networks that will continue to pursue this work in the 2023-2024 academic year.

Basis of Allocation: Thirty-seven Ready Start Networks will work to implement new strategies for increasing access to and improving the quality of publicly funded early childhood care and education in the upcoming year. Each Ready Start Network is funded \$100,000 for the 2023-2024 academic year.

One additional network that is included in this allocation is Volunteers of America, which though is not a Ready Start Network, will receive an allocation of PDG funds to close out the activities from the now terminated B-3 seats pilot.

Dr. Boffy and Dr. Davis recused themselves from voting on this item.

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

7.2.45 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation:	Real-time Early Access to Literacy
Amount:	\$424,000.00
Period:	08/01/2022 – 07/30/2023
Source of Funds:	ESF-REM

Purpose: The need to prioritize early literacy is significant. The Coronavirus pandemic 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. Real-time Early Access to Literacy (REAL) provides early literacy support for students in pre-K through grade 3.

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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 literacy supports/tutoring to pre-K through 3rd grade students. School systems will receive allocations to fund approved tutoring service providers.

Basis of Allocation: Each school system that requested funding through SuperApp is funded at 35% of its eligible students at \$500 per child. If this amount is less than \$10,000, it will be rounded up to \$10,000.

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

7.2.46 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Stronger Connections Grant (SCG)  
Amount: \$20,215,845.00  
Period: 09/15/2022 – 09/30/2025  
Source of Funds: Stronger Connections Grant

Purpose: On June 25, 2022, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) was signed into law. \$1 billion in funding has been awarded to State educational agencies (SEAs) to be distributed under Title IV, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). The state of Louisiana has been awarded \$20 million. The BSCA specifies that SEAs must make competitive sub-grants to high-need local educational agencies (LEAs), as determined by the SEA, for activities to support safe and healthy students under section 4108 of the ESEA. The SCG provides funding to school systems on a competitive basis to support school safety efforts to harden perimeters and reinforce single points of entry. LDOE designed a competitive sub-grant competition, and sub-grants are being awarded to high-need LEAs as determined by LDOE.

Basis of Allocation: LDOE's definition of high-need LEA is an LEA with a poverty percentage of 50% or greater AND a chronic absenteeism rate greater than the state average of 19.4% (2021-2022), OR significantly impacted by a natural disaster or traumatic event within the last 3 years. High-need LEAs answered a set of narrative questions that were scored using a rubric. The rubric questions were specifically related to school site assessments, single points of entry, emergency

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operations plans, stakeholder engagement, and evaluation plans. Thirty-nine LEAs were selected to receive funding.

Note: Four charter associations are being recognized as one LEA and are receiving one award to be divided amongst each of their qualified school sites. Awards are broken down as follows:

- Collegiate: Sci Academy and Livingston Collegiate Academy will receive \$259,179 each for a total of \$518,355;
- FirstLine: Samuel J. Green, Arthur Ashe, and Phillis Wheatley will receive \$172,785 each for a total of \$518,355;
- KIPP: Dutch Morial, Believe, Leadership, Booker T. Washington, East Community Primary, Central City, John F. Kennedy HS, and Frederick Douglass HS will receive \$64,794 each for a total of \$518,355; and
- Renew: SciTech Academy at Laurel, Dolores T. Aaron Elementary, and Schaumburg Elementary will receive \$172,785 each for a total of \$518,355.

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

7.2.47 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation:	Workforce Planning Grant EC Consolidated
Amount:	\$500,000.00
Period:	07/01/2023 – 12/30/2023
Source of Funds:	Preschool Development Grant

Purpose: LDOE will continue to leverage the local work and leadership of its Ready Start Networks (RSNs) to inform more widespread adoption of innovations that can support the B-5 ECE workforce.

Using the structure of the CSBAE grant as a model, LDOE is launching a six-month planning grant that will provide funding and technical assistance for RSNs to develop a detailed analysis of their community's ECE workforce needs and a strategic plan to address those needs.

The goal of this opportunity is for networks to analyze the status of the existing workforce in the communities they serve and develop a strategic plan focused on addressing workforce needs at the local level.

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Workforce planning is the process of analyzing existing workforce components and planning that includes:

1. build a pipeline: ensure path for effective early educators;
2. access: ensure all children have great educators;
3. high-quality practices: ensure workforce has skills to implement;  
and
4. wellness initiatives: promote wellness for educators who care for our youngest children.

Basis of Allocation: Each recipient of this grant will receive exactly \$100,000 to conduct the work in this grant. Recipients were selected based on applications received. This amount was calculated based on the costs of paying for the human capital to conduct the research and produce the analysis.

### **School and District Innovations - Competitive**

7.2.48

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

Allocation:	CLSD CIR/UIR-A Super App
Amount:	\$477,000.00
Period:	07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024
Source of Funds:	Comprehensive Literacy State Development 2019

Purpose: The purpose of the Comprehensive Literacy State Development Grant (CLSD) is to award competitive grants to local education agencies (LEAs) to advance literacy skills, including pre-literacy skills, reading, and writing, for all children from birth through Grade 12, with a special emphasis on disadvantaged children, including children living in poverty, English Learners, and children with disabilities.

Focus Area: Opportunity to provide additional and enhanced literacy efforts to build capacity of local leaders, improve practice of teachers, and increase literacy outcomes for children.

Basis of Allocation: Schools with Comprehensive Intervention Required or Urgent Intervention Required - Academics labels are eligible. School systems and lead agencies should prioritize Type III childcare, Head Start/Early Head Start, and/or public and nonpublic pre-K sites that demonstrate high levels of need, ensuring the greatest numbers of disadvantaged, geographically diverse children are being reached.

**School and District Innovations - Competitive**

7.2.49 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: CLSD UIN Super App  
Amount: \$900,000.00  
Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Source of Funds: Comprehensive Literacy State Development 2020

Purpose: The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) is committed to advancing literacy skills for all of its children, especially its most disadvantaged children. CLSD UIN targets high-need UIN schools and ECE partners that demonstrate the promise to become models for other high-need sites to replicate. This project focuses on a specific set of evidence-based practices and evidence-informed innovations to strengthen the literacy skills of children birth to Grade 12.

Basis of Allocation: Allocations of funds were decided based on applicants' detailed program descriptions in their CLSD UIN application. This is year three of a three-year grant cohort, as well as year one of a two-year cohort for the second cohort of the five-year grant.

**School and District Innovations - Competitive**

7.2.50 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: ESSER II Incentive Competitive Allocations  
Achieve!  
Amount: \$1,476,000.00  
Period: 06/14/2023 – 09/30/2023  
Source of Funds: ESSER II Incentive

Purpose: The purpose of the Achieve! Incentive competitive allocations is to award funding to school systems for specific initiatives that will address the needs of students, especially those who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Funding will be spent on interventions that respond to students' needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups.

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Basis of Allocation: Recipients of this optional funding are school systems that indicated interest on specific initiatives within the 2024 Super App. School systems were given the maximum funding available for each initiative based on either the budget for the initiative or the known cost to provide a particular intervention. These are additional requests from Super App.

**School and District Innovations - Competitive**

7.2.51 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Reimagine School Systems Phase II Achieve!  
Amount: \$1,560,000.00  
Period: 08/04/2022 – 09/30/2024  
Source of Funds: ESSER III Incentive

Purpose: The Reimagine School Systems program will enable school systems to create new, high-quality educational opportunities through innovative and sustainable Reimagine School Actions (as defined below) that are aligned to school system strategy and to community needs. Through this work, LDOE will offer funding and technical assistance that both builds a cohort of schools that can serve as statewide exemplars and builds school system and educator capacity for sustained school and system improvement. School Actions include Replication, Expansion, Rural Collaboration, School Model Innovation, Restart/Turnaround, Innovation Cluster, Student Reassignment/School Reconfiguration, Year-round Calendar, Wraparound Model, and Local Innovation.

Basis of Allocation: Grantees of the Reimagine School Systems grant initiative select school actions that are aligned to LDOE educational priorities and initiatives. School systems submitted an aligned budget and requested implementation funding. Implementation plans were reviewed using the Reimagine planning rubric designed specifically for this initiative and utilized during phase I technical support. These grantees are now receiving phase II allocations.

[NOTE: This action request includes new allocations for two school systems as well as the funding previously allocated to G. W. Carver High School in December 2022 to be transferred to Rosenwald Collegiate (Site Code WBU001) in June 2023.]

Dr. Boffy recused herself from voting on this item.

**School and District Innovations - Other**

7.2.52 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Charter Board Governance Program (Round 4)  
Achieve!  
Amount: \$18,100.00  
Period: 01/01/2023 – 09/30/2024  
Source of Funds: ESSER III Incentive

Purpose: Louisiana has fifty Type 2 public charter schools, which are governed by 501(c) (3) board members of a non-profit group. Board members and school leaders continuously make decisions about various aspects of school operations and standards of charter school governance. The experience level and time serving on the charter board varies from each charter board member and school leader. While public charter school board members possess a wealth of knowledge in their occupational area and community involvement ventures, their experience with schools varies greatly. It is imperative that they also possess a depth of knowledge related to performing the duties of a board member and the operation of charter schools. LDOE plans to launch a Charter Board Governance Program in an effort to provide consultancy, intervention, robust professional development, and collaborative mentoring opportunities designed to support school leaders and charter board member efficacy.

Basis of Allocation: The fourth round of allocations are for LEAs that did not submit an application during the first through third round. Additionally, first round and second round applicants can use the fourth round application to submit a request for travel funding. Grantees of the Charter Board Governance funds were provided to LEAs that expressed interest in increasing the efficacy of charter board members in making the best academic decision to support students with academic recovery and increase student achievement. Boards were able to select pathways that aligned with their needs. LEAs submitted a budget request based on the number of charter board members requesting to participate in each pathway. Pathway 1 is funded at \$1,200 per person with an additional \$750 that can be added for travel expenses per person. Pathway 2 is funded at \$11,500 per board, and Pathway 3 is funded at \$1,200 per person.

**School and District Innovations - Other**

7.2.53 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Reimagine Mini Grant - Orleans Parish (Travis Hill)  
Amount: \$30,475.00  
Period: 08/04/2022 – 09/30/2024  
Source of Funds: ESSER III Incentive

Purpose: This Reimagine Mini Grant will enable Travis Hill School, an alternative school, to purchase and implement resources for a virtual science lab. This offers a new educational opportunity to the detained youth by giving them accessibility to learn and conduct science experiments.

Basis of Allocation: The average cost to fund startup resources and first year implementation ranges from \$39,000-\$75,000. The school submitted a budget, which requires \$30,475 in funding to achieve implementing a virtual science lab.

7.2.54 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the following 8(g) Statewide programs and budgets for FY 2023-2024: Early Childhood Care and Education Networks (\$140,000) and TALK PD-Teachers Accessing Literacy Knowledge (\$1,000,000).

7.2.55 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board received the LDOE legislative reports regarding the Louisiana Scholarship Program for the 2021-2022 school year, the Steve Carter Literacy Program, the 2023 Spring Reading Report, and the Juvenile Justice Reform Act Report.

7.2.56 On motion of Mr. Garvey, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board received the report regarding the 2023 Regular Legislative Session.

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

7.3.1 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board received the report, per Louisiana Revised Statute 11:710 regarding retired teachers return to active service and the certification of teacher shortages in critical shortage areas, as submitted by Local Education Agencies (LEAs) from December 2022 to present.

- 7.3.2 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved the appointment of Dr. Jason Fountain, a member representing Louisiana Association of School Superintendents (LASS), to the membership of TCAC for a four-year term from 2023-2027.
- 7.3.3 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved as a Notice of Intent revisions to Bulletin 746, *Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel*: §1301. Introduction.
- 7.3.4 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board approved as a Declaration of Emergency revisions to Bulletin 746, *Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel*: §1301. Introduction, effective June 14, 2023, for a period of 180 days or until adopted as final Rule.
- 7.3.5 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board revoked the Louisiana Type B teaching certificate #86437 issued to Ms. Kimberly Badinger.
- 7.3.6 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board revoked the Louisiana Temporary Authority to Teach (TAT) certificate #434108 issued to Ms. Temple Baldwin.
- 7.3.7 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board revoked the Louisiana ancillary certificate #464274 issued to Ms. Leslie Bland.
- 7.3.8 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board revoked the Louisiana Practitioner's License #645160 issued to Ms. Sheronda Davis.
- 7.3.9 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board revoked the Louisiana Out-of-State (OS) certificate #606628 issued to Mr. Jacob De La Paz.
- 7.3.10 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board revoked the CTTIE Louisiana teaching certificate #648839 issued to Ms. Pamela Hubier.
- 7.3.11 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board revoked the Louisiana Level 1 teaching certificate #462291 issued to Ms. Shawn Trosclair.
- 7.3.12 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board revoked the Louisiana Ancillary certificate #575894 and Louisiana Level 2 teaching certificate #527062 issued to Ms. Lisa Samuels.

- 7.3.13 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board granted the issuance of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Mr. Haven Johnson.
- 7.3.14 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board granted the reinstatement of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Mr. Katterio Pennywell.
- 7.3.15 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board granted the issuance of a Louisiana Teaching Authorization or credential appropriate to the credentials of Ms. Stephanie Ardison.
- 7.3.16 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board granted the reinstatement of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Ms. Leslie Bland.
- 7.3.17 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board granted the issuance of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Mr. Kenneth Carmouche.
- 7.3.18 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board granted the issuance of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Mr. Demetrius Gatewood.
- 7.3.19 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Melerine, the Board granted the issuance of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Ms. Dana Hill.

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

- 7.4.1 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the revised 2022-2023 Charter Request for Application Process Timeline.
- 7.4.2 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved the material amendment to the Type 2 charter contract, submitted by International High School of New Orleans, located in Orleans Parish, to relocate the school to a new physical location of 2733 Esplanade Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70119, effective beginning July 1, 2023, as recommended by the State Superintendent of Education.



- 7.4.3 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the 2022-2023 report regarding economically disadvantaged students and students with disabilities enrolled in charter schools.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m.