



**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 13, 2023**

# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

December 13, 2023

## The Louisiana Purchase Room Baton Rouge, LA

The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education met in regular session on December 13, 2023, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, located in the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order at 11:42 a.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.

Ms. Karley Rockwell, University of Louisiana Lafayette, led the opening prayer, and Ms. Serena White, Monroe City Schools, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public comment was received from Dr. Megan McNamara, Redesign Schools of Louisiana.

On point of personal privilege, Ms. Orange Jones recognized Dr. Sharon Clark, District 2 BESE Member Elect; Dr. Boffy recognized Mr. Kevin Berken, District 7 BESE Member Elect; and Ms. Ellis recognized University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL) and University of Louisiana Monroe (ULM) 2023 Rising Educators.

Agenda **Approval of the Agenda** (Schedule 1)

Item 2.

2.1

On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board approved the agenda.

Agenda

Item 3.

3.1

**Approval of the Minutes**

On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the minutes of October 11, 2023.

Agenda

Item 4.

**Report by the State Superintendent of Education**

Mr. Ken Bradford, representing State Superintendent of Education Brumley, highlighted the following in his report to the Board:

- Annual Teacher Leader Summit to take place May 28-30, 2024 in New Orleans;
- JumpStart Convention and Child Welfare and Attendance Summit to take place January 23, 2024 in Lafayette;
- Louisiana Scholarship Program accepting applications from eligible families;

- 97% of teacher certification applications are now being processed within 15 business days;
- Dr. Ernise Singleton elected as the national chair for the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission and will serve as the liaison with school systems relative to military students or students of military families entering the state of Louisiana; and
- State SPS exceeded pre-pandemic levels following two consecutive years of growth, high school students earned record achievements on number of advanced placement tests that get three or higher scores, dual enrollment numbers in the state at the highest level, senior class earned first annual increase in the average ACT score since 2017 even as the national average dropped, and increased scores for second consecutive year in 75% of school systems.

Agenda  
Item 5.

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

- Mr. Castille, representing BESE on the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) Task Force, informed members of the work to find opportunities to finance education of children.
- Mr. Morris, representing BESE on the Louisiana Environmental Education Commission (LEEC), informed members of the plan to organize a symposium to promote environmental literacy and diligently working to formulate an environmental literacy plan designed for K-12.
- Mr. Morris, representing BESE on LaSTEM Advisory Council, informed members of the 2023 LaSTEM Summit and acknowledged appreciation for the leadership of Senator Sharon Hewitt, and acknowledged the work of Dr. John Underwood for information on the Ignite Program.
- Mr. Morris, representing BESE on the Special School District (SSD) Board in Baton Rouge, informed members of the enrollment increase at Louisiana School for the Deaf (LSD) and Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired (LSVI) with the numbers of referrals growing, greater emphasis on reading and high quality materials for literacy instruction, increased growth at both schools, increased family engagement at LSD, student participation in Space Camp, site plans are nearly complete for the barn which is part of the Farm to School Program, major maintenance projects are progressing, and acknowledgement of Dr. David Martin, Superintendent of SSD.

- Dr. Boffy, representing BESE on Year Round Healthy Child Task Force, informed members of the need to get better at getting Medicaid reimbursements, opportunities to make use of federal dollars to meet the needs of students, and collaborations amongst government agencies to open facilities for children such as gyms and tracks for kids to have access to places where they can safely exercise and benefit from physical fitness.

Agenda  
Item 6.1.

**Academic Goals and Instructional Improvement Committee**

(Schedule 2)

- 6.1.1 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board recognized Central Community School System as a Models of Excellence recipient for 2023.
- 6.1.2 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Voitier, the Board approved the 2024-2025 Nonpublic School Academic Classification Report, regarding the renewal of previously approved nonpublic school classifications, as recommended and presented by the State Superintendent of Education.
- Further, the Board directed the LDOE to continue oversight of the early childhood center, McMillian’s FIRST Steps CDC/Academy.
- 6.1.3 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Classification for the 2024-2025 school year for Agape School of Baton Rouge in East Baton Rouge Parish: non-accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.1.4 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Classification for the 2024-2025 school year for Chesterton Academy of Divine Mercy in St. Tammany Parish: non-accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.1.5 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Classification for the 2024-2025 school year for Holy Redeemer Catholic Virtual Academy in Orleans Parish: non-accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.1.6 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Classification for the 2024-2025 school year for Holy Trinity Academy in Terrebonne Parish: non-accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.

- 6.1.7 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Classification for the 2024-2025 school year for Immanuel Christian School in St. Mary Parish: non-accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.1.8 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Classification for the 2024-2025 school year for Montessori Academy of Slidell in St. Tammany Parish: Louisiana Montessori provisionally accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.1.9 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Classification for the 2024-2025 school year for Runnels Secondary in East Baton Rouge Parish: non-accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.1.10 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Classification for the 2024-2025 school year for The Link School in East Baton Rouge Parish: accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.1.11 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved the Nonpublic School Classification for the 2024-2025 school year for Youngsville Christian Academy in Lafayette Parish: non-accredited approved, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.1.12 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval to Agape School of Baton Rouge in East Baton Rouge Parish.
- 6.1.13 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval to Chesterton Academy of Divine Mercy in St. Tammany Parish.
- 6.1.14 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval to Immanuel Christian School in St. Mary Parish.
- 6.1.15 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval to St. Lillian Academy in East Baton Rouge Parish.
- 6.1.16 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval to The Link School in East Baton Rouge Parish.

- 6.1.17 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval to Youngsville Christian Academy in Lafayette Parish.
- 6.1.18 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board granted Brumfield vs. Dodd approval to Epiphany Day School in Iberia Parish.
- 6.1.19 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the report regarding BESE waiver requests submitted by LEAs to waive policy contained in Bulletins for the 2023-2024 school year.
- 6.1.20 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the Test Security Irregularities Report for the 2022-2023 school year.
- 6.1.21 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board directed the LDOE to update the Student Transcript System with the appeals process as an option and require the identification of the industry-based credential, TOPS Tech, or WorkKeys and to clarify in LDOE guidance pursuant to the ESEA, that the state academic content standards shall apply to all public schools and public school students in the state and include the same level of achievement expected of all students. Therefore, the LDOE shall define content proficiency around the granting of a diploma through the appeals process on the same level as that of students graduating without the appeals process.
- Ms. Ellis, Mr. Garvey, Ms. Holloway, Mr. Melerine, and Mr. Morris were recorded as being opposed to the motion.
- 6.1.22 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the minutes of the Accountability Council meeting held November 6, 2023.
- 6.1.23 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the report regarding the Accountability Work Group.
- 6.1.24 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the minutes of the Accountability Work Group meetings held November 3, 2023, and November 29, 2023.
- 6.1.25 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved the timeline and process for establishment of the Computer Science Content Standards Committee.

- 6.1.26 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the minutes of the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Advisory Council meeting held November 15, 2023.
- 6.1.27 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the minutes of the Superintendents' Advisory Council (SAC) meeting held November 30, 2023.
- 6.1.28 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) meeting held November 29, 2023.
- 6.1.29 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 741 (Nonpublic), *Louisiana Handbook for Nonpublic School Administrators*: §2109. High School Graduation Requirements; and §2317. Foreign Languages.
- 6.1.30 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*: §2318. The TOPS University Diploma; §2319. The Career Diploma; and §2345. Foreign Languages.
- 6.1.31 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the report regarding the implementation of Special Education Dispute Resolution procedures.
- Further, Ms. Holloway requested that the LDOE present the Attorney General's opinion regarding mandatory reporting at the January 2024 Academic Goals and Instructional Improvement Committee meeting.
- 6.1.32 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 1573, *Complaint Management Procedures*: §305. Filing a Complaint; §501. Filing Complaints; §505. Complaint Intake Procedures Log (SCL), and §509. Report of Findings.
- 6.1.33 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board:
- received the SPCAR regarding revisions to Bulletin 135, *Health and Safety*;
  - authorized the BESE staff to submit the summary report to the Legislative Oversight Committees; and
  - directed the BESE staff to proceed with the final adoption of the October 20, 2023, Notice of Intent regarding revisions to Bulletin 135, *Health and Safety*, with the submission of the final Rule at the appropriate time.

- Agenda Item 6.2. **Administration and Finance Committee** (Schedule 3)
- 6.2.1 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the report of 8(g) block grant projects for elementary/secondary for FY 2023-2024.
- 6.2.2 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the report regarding LDOE contracts \$50,000 or less approved by the State Superintendent of Education.
- 6.2.3 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the quarterly report of expenditures and budget balances of 8(g) projects for FY 2023-2024.
- 6.2.4 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board deferred until the January 2024 Administration and Finance Committee meeting: "Consideration of an update report regarding LEAs in non-compliance with the 70 percent instructional requirement for FY 2021-2022".
- 6.2.5 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the revision to the standing item, "Consideration of an update report regarding LEAs in non-compliance with the 70 percent requirement" to require the report in January and June, annually.
- 6.2.6 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the FY 2024-2025 budget requests for the LDOE and the Recovery School District.
- 6.2.7 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the update report regarding RSD capital projects for August, September, and October 2023 including:
- RSD Monthly Summary for August, September, and October 2023;
  - Superintendents' Report for August, September, and October 2023; and
  - RSD Open Contracts as of August 31, 2023, September 30, 2023, and October 31, 2023.
- 6.2.8 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the report on fiscal dialogues as a result of the Fiscal Risk Assessment Process for FY 2022-2023.



6.2.9 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Administrators of the Tulane Education Fund/Dept. of Psych  
Contract Period: 01/01/2024 - 06/30/2026  
Contract Amount: \$7,750,980.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Competitive

Description of Service: The Contractor will provide mental health consultation services to Type III Early Learning sites and registered Family Child Care sites.

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.

6.2.10 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Fluency Plus, LLC  
Contract Period: 01/01/2024 - 12/31/2026  
Contract Amount: \$100,000.00  
Fund: State  
Competitive Process: Sole Source

Description of Service: To pay the cost of 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. Brumley, et al. [2:10-cv-04049], U.S. District Court of the Eastern District of Louisiana.

6.2.11 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Nancy Tardo  
Contract Period: 01/15/2024 - 09/30/2024  
Contract Amount: \$52,000.00  
Fund: Federal  
Competitive Process: Non-Competitive

Description of Service: To provide learning recovery in English Language Arts (ELA) and math to students at St. Charles Catholic High School who experienced learning loss due to COVID-19 related school closures.

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

Allocation: Amira Learning Tutoring Expansion  
Type: Competitive  
Amount: \$ 25,126.00  
Period: 01/01/2023 – 09/30/2024  
Source of Funds: Federal

Purpose: This program provides an expansion opportunity to support language and literacy support for all learners grades K-8 for participating school systems using an artificial intelligence-based computer tutoring program aimed at supporting individualized student literacy needs. Participating schools and school systems will receive implementation support and professional development.

Basis of Allocation: Allocations were based on numbers of students enrolled in participating school systems. The school system will receive \$17 per student for the program license through 2023-2024.

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

Allocation: CCAP B-3  
Type: Competitive  
Amount: \$2,972,222.00  
Period: 01/01/2024 – 6/30/2024  
Source of Funds: Federal/State

(Motion continues on page 10)

Purpose: The purpose of the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot Program allocation is to provide funding for birth through three-year-old seats for children who meet CCAP eligibility requirements. In the 2023-2024 year, this program will serve up to 6,500 children. The funding will be allocated to Ready Start Networks and Community Network Lead Agencies that will administer these funds.

Basis of Allocation: The LDOE allocations are based on a combination of the current enrollment of children in CCAP B-3 Seats by Community Network Lead Agencies in the first months of the program and network's anticipated enrollment for the third quarter. The amount of allocation is to fund the third quarter of the academic year and is based on each age group, inclusive of an estimated CCAP bonus. The annual calculation is based on the following rates: infants are funded at \$18,940 per requested seat, toddlers at \$11,700 per requested seat, and three year olds at \$10,670 per seat.

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

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

Allocation:	CLSD UIN
Type:	Competitive
Amount:	\$685,000.00
Period:	07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024
Source of Funds:	Federal

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 12th grade.

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.

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

Allocation: Disability Innovation Fund  
Type: Competitive  
Amount: \$1,060,000.00  
Period: 01/01/2024 – 06/30/2024  
Source of Funds: Federal

Purpose: The National Disability Innovation Fund grant is intended to provide funds to LEAs to expand workplace apprenticeships and private sector partnerships, and supplement the cost of personnel to engage in the implementation of a newly designed transition framework.

Basis of Allocation: District allocations are calculated by applying a base set of funds per district to support emerging needs. LEAs in full implementation will receive \$20,000 per high school per year, and LEAs in emerging implementation will receive \$10,000 per high school. Every participating LEA will receive \$150,000 annually to support grant activities.

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

Allocation: Get Ready Cohort 5  
Type: Competitive  
Amount: \$200,000.00  
Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Source of Funds: Federal

Purpose: Louisiana seeks to strengthen its early childhood care and education system by formalizing local governance for rural community networks. The state recognizes rural communities are best suited to address the unique early childhood care and education needs of their families and children. This funding will support the launch of the Get Ready Cohort 5, which will comprise lead agencies interested in becoming a Ready Start Network. Lead agencies participating will use this funding to support the development of Ready Start activity in their rural community.

Basis of Allocation: A rural expansion of Cohort 5 Ready Start Networks will work to implement strategies for increasing rural access to and improving the quality of publicly funded early childhood care and education in the upcoming year. Each new Ready Start Network is funded \$50,000 for the 2023-2024 academic year.

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

Allocation: Ready Start Networks  
Type: Competitive  
Amount: \$0  
Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Source of Funds: Federal

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. The December 2023 BESE action removes funding from Volunteers of America.

Dr. Davis recused herself from voting on this item.

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

Allocation: Real-time Early Access to Literacy  
Type: Competitive  
Amount: \$4,349,500.00  
Period: 08/01/2023 – 07/30/2024  
Source of Funds: Federal

(Motion continues on page 13)

Purpose: 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 5. Through REAL, school systems are allocated funding to provide students in pre-K through grade 5 with tutoring services.

This allocation will provide funding for school systems to offer literacy supports/tutoring to pre-K through fifth-grade students. School systems will receive allocations to fund approved tutoring service providers.

Basis of Allocation: Allocations are based on student populations and school system interest in partnering with an LDOE-approved tutoring provider. Allocations are based on previous year's usage of the program.

Dr. Boffy and Ms. Voitier recused themselves from voting on this item.

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

Allocation:	Energize: Praxis Exam Computer Science 6-12 Training with SELU
Type:	Other
Amount:	\$693,000.00
Period:	01/01/2024 – 06/30/2024
Source of Funds:	State

Purpose: The purpose of this program is to train 1,100 teachers in grades 6-12 in the content required to pass the Computer Science Praxis Exam (5652). This training will help to increase the number of teachers who are eligible to add computer science in grades 6-12. This will help to increase the number of courses and industry-based credentials in computing available to students.

Basis of Allocation: This allocation awards \$630 to each state-recognized public school that has instruction occurring for students in grades 6-12. For a public school system that has 15 or more locations, a second \$630 award is issued. Statewide, there are 904 locations.

(Motion continues on page 14)

This allocation format will permit a total of 1,100 teachers to receive funding. This allocation is designated to cover one attempt at the Praxis Computer Science Exam (5652), a stipend for the teacher, travel costs for the teacher to attend trainings, and substitute fees needed to cover the teacher's classes while they attend training.

Dr. Boffy, Mr. Castille, Dr. Davis, and Ms. Voitier recused themselves from voting on this item.

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

Allocation:	Ignite-K-5 Computer Science Teacher Training
Type:	Other
Amount:	\$580,000.00
Period:	01/01/2024 – 05/30/2024
Source of Funds:	State

Purpose: The purpose of this program is to train 1,157 teachers grades K-5 in the use of computer science pedagogy, coding, cybersecurity, and computational thinking. Teachers will learn how to redeliver lessons from Code.org and design new lessons for their students.

Basis of Allocation: This allocation awards \$500 to each state-recognized public school that has grades K-5. For a public school system that has 11 or more locations, a second \$500 award is issued. Statewide, there are 738 K-5 locations. This allocation format will permit a total of 1,157 teachers to receive funding and is designated to cover a stipend to the teacher, travel costs for the teacher to attend trainings, and substitute fees needed to cover the teacher's classes while they attend training.

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

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

Allocation:	Math Refresh: Curriculum Coaching Pilot
Type:	Other
Amount:	\$1,563,251.00
Period:	01/01/2024 – 09/30/2024
Source of Funds:	Federal

(Motion continues on page 15)

Purpose: This allocation will provide job-embedded, curriculum-based coaching for math teachers supporting high-quality teaching and learning.

Basis of Allocation: Recipients were identified as implementers of three commonly adopted high-quality math materials. The program manager worked with the vendor and the systems to determine the needed coaching professional learning sessions for the system. Systems and schools were prioritized by performance and growth on the most recent LEAP assessment.

Dr. Boffy and Ms. Voitier recused themselves from voting on this item.

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

Allocation:	The CHANGE Collective Pilot
Type:	Other
Amount:	\$54,000.00
Period:	09/01/2023 – 06/20/2024
Source of Funds:	Federal

Purpose: The purpose of The CHANGE Collective is to improve outcomes for students in schools categorized as persistently struggling. Persistently struggling schools are CIR schools that have earned three or more "F" SPS letter grades in the last five years. During the 2023-2024 school year, six persistently struggling schools across three systems will participate in The CHANGE Collective pilot. Participating systems are Madison Parish, Natchitoches Parish, and St. John the Baptist Parish. Through close collaboration between the LDOE, system and school leaders, and expert national partners, The CHANGE Collective provides priority support to help schools overcome their most challenging barriers.

Basis of Allocation: This additional \$54,000 allocation to St. John the Baptist Parish is designated to increase funding to meet the required cost for the staffing redesign technical assistance secured through a vendor. The initial allocation underestimated the cost of securing vendor services.



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

Allocation: Youth Leadership Forum  
Type: Other  
Amount: \$15,000.00  
Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024  
Source of Funds: Federal

Purpose: This funding is to provide for a joint effort of the LDOE, Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council, Governor's Office of Disability Affairs, and Families Helping Families of Acadiana in order to provide a Louisiana Youth Leadership Forum (LaYLF). LaYLF will provide student participants with capacity building to become student leaders in their schools and communities through a three-day residential leadership program where students attend leadership sessions and build skills in advocacy, independence, employment, and relationships. LaYLF will adhere to standards and best practices set forth by the National Association of Youth Leadership Forums to ensure the highest quality experience for all student leaders.

Basis of Allocation: The total cost of the Youth Leadership Forum for Students with Disabilities will be approximately \$50,000. LDOE will support with \$15,000.

6.2.24 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the cooperative endeavor agreement for The Center for Literacy and Learning in response to legislation from the 2023 Regular Legislative Session.

6.2.25 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board approved the 8(g) Annual Program and Budget for FY 2023-2024 by funding category and the priority areas, as outlined: \$425,125 or 2.1 percent for management and oversight; \$350,075 or 1.7 percent for review, evaluation, and assessment of proposals; \$9,862,400 or 48.1 percent for the Student Enhancement Block allocation; and \$9,862,400 or 48.1 percent for the Statewide allocation.

- 6.2.26 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board:
1. approved revisions to the FY 2023-24 8(g) Program and Budget and directed BESE staff to allocate \$100,000 within either the previously approved Block or Statewide allocation, depending on availability of funds, for the purpose of implementing the graduation appeals process policy, noting that this revision does not represent an increase in the total allocation authorized by the Louisiana Legislature during the 2023 Regular Legislative Session; and
  2. updated the Block and/or Statewide allocation to approve the amount of \$100,000, to the Louisiana Department of Education for FY 2023-2024 for implementation of the Graduation Appeals policy.

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

- 6.2.27 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board received the report regarding the BESE Budget.

- 6.2.28 On motion of Mr. Roque, seconded by Ms. Ellis, the Board renamed the Administration and Finance Committee: "Board Administration and Education Finance Committee".

Agenda Item 6.3. **Educator Effectiveness Committee** (Schedule 4)

- 6.3.1 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the 2022-2023 Teacher Exit Survey Report and directed the LDOE to submit the report to the House and Senate Committees on Education.

Mr. Morris requested that the LDOE bring an item to the January 2024 Educator Effectiveness Committee regarding development of a task force to gather teacher feedback in response to the Teacher Exit Survey Report.

- 6.3.2 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the report, per Louisiana Revised Statute 11:710, regarding the return of retired teachers to active service and the certification of teacher shortages in critical shortage areas, as submitted by Local Education Agencies (LEAs) from June 2023 to present.

- 6.3.3 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the minutes of the Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC) meeting held October 26, 2023.
- 6.3.4 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board received the 2023 Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC) Letters of Notification Annual Report.
- 6.3.5 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to Bulletin 746, *Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel*: §331. Content Knowledge Competencies; §333. Content Pedagogy Competencies; and §507. Professional Level Certificates.
- 6.3.6 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board recognized Ms. Brittany Bonnaffons, 2023 Louisiana Teacher of the Year, and introduced Ms. Kylie Altier, 2024 Louisiana Teacher of the Year.
- 6.3.7 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board revoked the Louisiana Type C teaching certificate #162088 issued to Mr. Eric Ball.
- 6.3.8 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board revoked the Louisiana Type B teaching certificate #051604 issued to Ms. Karen Blackwell.
- 6.3.9 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board revoked the Louisiana Temporary Authority to Teach (TAT) certificate #575838 issued to Mr. Edward Garriet.
- 6.3.10 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board revoked the Louisiana Type A teaching certificate #464134 issued to Ms. Ashleigh LeBoeuf.
- 6.3.11 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board granted the reinstatement of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Mr. Robert Tucker.  
  
Mr. Garvey was recorded as being opposed to the motion.
- 6.3.12 On motion of Ms. Ellis, seconded by Dr. Davis, the Board granted the issuance of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Ms. Sabrina James.

Agenda **School Innovation and Turnaround Committee** (Schedule 5)  
Item 6.4.

- 6.4.1 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board approved the initial renewal of the charter contract for Geo Next Generation, a Type 2 charter school, located in East Baton Rouge Parish and operated by GEO Academies EBR, Inc., for a term of four years, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.4.2 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board denied the initial renewal of the charter contract for Zion City, a Type 5 charter school, located in East Baton Rouge Parish and operated by Redesign Schools of Louisiana, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.4.3 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board denied the initial renewal of the charter contract for Red River Charter, a Type 2 charter school, located in Avoyelles Parish and operated by Red River Children's Alliance, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.4.4 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board approved the subsequent renewal of the charter contract for Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy, a Type 2 charter school, located in Lafayette Parish and operated by Lafayette Charter Foundation, for a term of six years, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.4.5 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board approved the subsequent renewal of the charter contract for Geo Prep Academy of Baton Rouge, a Type 2 charter school, located in East Baton Rouge Parish and operated by GEO Academies EBR, Inc., for a term of four years, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.4.6 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board approved the subsequent renewal of the charter contract for JCFA – East, a Type 2 charter school, located in Jefferson Parish and operated by JCFA, for a term of eight years, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.4.7 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board approved the subsequent renewal of the charter contract for Louisiana School for Agricultural Sciences, a Type 4 charter school, located in Avoyelles Parish and operated by Avoyelles Parish School Board, for a term of eight years, as recommended by the LDOE.

- 6.4.8 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board approved the subsequent renewal of the charter contract for Louisiana Key Academy Baton Rouge, a Type 2 charter school, located in East Baton Rouge Parish and operated by Louisiana Key Academy, for a term of three years, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.4.9 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board approved the subsequent renewal of the charter contract for The Max Charter, a Type 2 charter school, located in Lafourche Parish and operated by The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc., for a term of three years, as recommended by the LDOE and contingent upon the following:
- fully cooperate with any school improvement efforts initiated by the LDOE.
- 6.4.10 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board received the automatic renewal of the charter contract for D'Arbonne Woods Charter, a Type 2 charter school, located in Union Parish and operated by D'Arbonne Woods Charter School, Inc., for a term of eight years, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.4.11 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board received the automatic renewal of the charter contract for V.B. Glencoe Charter, a Type 2 charter school, located in St. Mary Parish and operated by Glencoe Education Foundation, Inc., for a term of six years, as recommended by the LDOE.
- 6.4.12 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Orange Jones, the Board received the monitoring report regarding Special Education Services provided to students enrolled in Learning Pods.

Agenda  
Item 7.

**Items for Consideration**

- 7.1 On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Garvey, the Board assigned Vice President, Mr. Preston Castille, the duties of BESE President effective January 8, 2024.
- 7.2 The Board recognized the following individuals for their service to the Board and dedication to improving the educational outcomes of Louisiana students: Dr. Holly Boffy, Dr. Belinda Davis, Ms. Ashley Ellis, Mr. Jim Garvey, Mr. Michael Melerine, Ms. Kira Orange Jones, Mr. Thomas Roque, and Ms. Doris Voitier.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

