



**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 October 15, 2025

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

October 15, 2025

The Louisiana Purchase Room Baton Rouge, LA

The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education met in regular session on October 15, 2025, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, located in the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order at 9:12 a.m. by Board President Ronnie Morris.

Board members present were Mr. Conrad Appel, Dr. Judy Armstrong, Mr. Kevin Berken, Mr. Preston Castille, Ms. Simone Champagne, Dr. Sharon Clark, Mr. Lance Harris, Ms. Sandy Holloway, and Ms. Stacey Melerine.

Mr. Paul Hollis was not in attendance.

Father Josh Johnson, Sacred Heart of Jesus – Baton Rouge, led the opening prayer, and Ms. Charday Wilson, DeSoto Parish School District, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public comments were received from Mr. David Claxton, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents and Administrators; Mr. Jason VanMetre, Calcasieu Parish School District; and Dr. Edith Walker, Ascension Parish School District.

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| Agenda Item 2. | <u>Approval of the Agenda</u> | (Schedule 1) |
| 2.1 | On motion of Ms. Champagne, seconded by Dr. Armstrong, the Board approved the agenda. | |
| Agenda Item 3. | <u>Recognition of Guests</u> | |
| 3.1 | On motion of Ms. Melerine, seconded Dr. Clark, the Board recognized Community Partners. | |
| 3.2 | On motion of Ms. Melerine, seconded Dr. Clark, the Board recognized the 2024 Milken Educator Award honorees. | |
| 3.3 | On motion of Ms. Melerine, seconded Dr. Clark, the Board recognized the 2026 Principal of the Year honorees. | |
| 3.4 | On motion of Ms. Melerine, seconded Dr. Clark, the Board recognized the 2026 Teacher of the Year honorees. | |
| 3.5 | On motion of Ms. Melerine, seconded Dr. Clark, the Board recognized the 2026 New Teacher of the Year honoree. | |

- 3.6 On motion of Ms. Melerine, seconded Dr. Clark, the Board recognized the 2026 Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year honorees.
- 3.7 On motion of Ms. Melerine, seconded Dr. Clark, the Board recognized the 2025 Louisiana Public Interest Fellowship honoree.
- 3.8 On motion of Ms. Melerine, seconded Dr. Clark, the Board recognized the Louisiana Recruitment and Retention Fellowship Cohort 5.
- 3.9 On motion of Ms. Melerine, seconded Dr. Clark, the Board recognized Louisiana National Board Certified Teachers.

Agenda
Item 4.

Approval of the Minutes

4.1

On motion of Mr. Harris, seconded Ms. Holloway, the Board approved the minutes of August 20, 2025.

Agenda
Item 5.

Report by the State Superintendent of Education

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

- College Board released annual AP results 2/3 of AP exams taken earned qualifying college credit scores. 77% increase in students earning college credit in high school
- Federal Charter School launch program, Louisiana received \$13.5M additional funds
- Teacher Leader Summit (TLS) will be May 26-28 in New Orleans Fast Forward Summit will be incorporated into TLS.
- Blue Ribbon Schools program discontinued at federal level, but LDOE to award designation to the nominees.

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Item 6.

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

- Dr. Armstrong, BESE's representative on the Nonpublic School Council, stated that LDOE staff and the Governor's education policy director are incorporating Act 409 with nonpublic schools.
- Mr. Morris, SSD Board Member, shared that Dr. Shirley Lewis was appointed interim superintendent of the Louisiana Special School District.

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Item 7.

Board Committee Reports

Agenda
Item 7.1.

Academic Goals and Instructional Improvement Committee

(Schedule 2)

7.1.1

On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board created a BESE Artificial Intelligence (AI) Workgroup tasked with the following:

- Developing policy and implementation recommendations supporting the LDOE AI Comprehensive Plan and advancing the August 2025 BESE AI Resolution;
- Recommending a statewide AI Literacy Framework for educators, students, and system leaders;
- Establishing criteria for a state-approved clearinghouse of vetted AI tools to ensure safe, effective classroom use;
- Recommending an AI Index that defines competency levels and tracks proficiency growth across roles;
- Developing strategy for alignment and collaboration among K-12 education, higher education, industry, technology partners, the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the Department of Economic Development, and the Governor and state legislators; and
- Identifying and positioning Louisiana for federal and private funding opportunities to scale AI integration statewide.

Further, the Board appointed Louisiana Tech President Dr. Jim Henderson as Chair of the AI workgroup.

7.1.2

On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board received the report regarding the LDOE Comprehensive Plan for Artificial Intelligence in K-12 Education.

7.1.3

On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board approved the local education agency *Bulletin 1530—Louisiana's IEP Handbook for Students with Exceptionalities*: §127. Three Year Age Span waiver request for the 2025-2026 school year for the following school systems:

- Avoyelles, Franklin, Jackson, Orleans, Rapides, St. James, St. John, St. Landry, Terrebonne, and West Feliciana.

- 7.1.4 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board approved the local education agency *Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*: §2313. Foreign Language waiver request for the 2025-2026 school year for the following school systems:
- Bienville, Desoto, East Feliciana, Pointe Coupee, St. Landry, St. Mary, Vernon, and West Carroll.
- 7.1.5 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board approved the local education agency *Bulletin 1706—Regulations for Implementation of the Children with Exceptionalities Act*: Subpart 2. Regulations for Gifted/Talented Students waiver request for the 2025-2026 school year for the following schools in St. Mary Parish School District:
- Aucoin, Wyandotte, Raintree, and Hattie Watts Elementary Schools;
 - Berwick, Morgan City, Patterson, and E. Edward Boudreaux Junior High Schools; and
 - Berwick, Patterson, West St. Mary, and Morgan City High Schools.
- 7.1.6 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board approved the LA 4 Collaborative Agreement waiver requests submitted by Lincoln and Natchitoches Parish School Districts.
- 7.1.7 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board approved the membership to the Physical Education Content Standards Review Committee, as presented.
- 7.1.8 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board approved YouthForce NOLA as a course choice provider for an authorization period of three years.
- 7.1.9 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board received the report regarding numeracy key performance indicators (KPIs).
- 7.1.10 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board received the minutes of the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Advisory Council meeting held September 17, 2025.
- 7.1.11 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board appointed Tara Baudean to the membership of the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council as the representative of an LEA program other than Head Start.

- 7.1.12 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board received the minutes of the Nonpublic School Council (NPSC) meeting held September 16, 2025.
- 7.1.13 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board received the minutes of the Superintendents' Advisory Council (SAC) meeting held September 18, 2025.
- 7.1.14 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board received the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) meeting held September 11, 2025.
- 7.1.15 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to *Bulletin 137—Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations*: §1715. Staff Records and Personnel Files, and §1727. Child Neglect and Abuse Mandatory Reporter Training.
- 7.1.16 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to *Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*: §1301. Disciplinary Regulations.
- 7.1.17 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to *Bulletin 111—The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System*: §1707. Student Growth Methodology, and §1903. Inclusion of Students.
- 7.1.18 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to *Bulletin 118—Louisiana Statewide Assessment Standards and Practices*: §5107. Assessment Programs, §5701. Louisiana Assessment Programs, §6803. Introduction, §6821. High School Test Cohorts, §6827. LEAP 2025 Retest Administration, and §6829. LEAP 2025 Transfer Rules.
- 7.1.19 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to *Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*: §323. Louisiana Educational Assessment Program, and §2316. Assessment Requirements.

- 7.1.20 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to *Bulletin 111—The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System*: §1903. Inclusion of Students, specifically related to banking of scores for students who score mastery or advanced on high school LEAP 2025 (English and Algebra) assessments during middle school.

Further, the Board directed the LDOE to submit a waiver request of ESEA requirements to the US Department of Education until new comprehensive assessments are administered.

A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Dr. Armstrong, Mr. Castille, Dr. Clark, Mr. Harris, Ms. Holloway, and Ms. Melerine.

Nays: Mr. Appel, Mr. Berken, Ms. Champagne, and Mr. Morris.

Abstentions: None.

Absences: Mr. Hollis.

The motion passed.

- 7.1.21 On motion of Dr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Castille, the Board received discussion regarding attendance data collection.

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

- 7.2.1 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board received the report from the LDOE Director of Internal Audit.

- 7.2.2 On motion by Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, 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. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board received the report regarding in-state travel for Board members to be reimbursed from the BESE budget.

- 7.2.4 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board received the following audit reports:
- 2nd Follow-up Audit of the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Fraud Investigation;
 - Review of School District and Charter School Single Audit reports: FYE June 30, 2024; and
 - Annual Risk Assessment of LDOE programs.
- 7.2.5 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board received the quarterly report of expenditures and budget balances of 8(g) projects for FY 2024-2025.
- 7.2.6 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board received the report from Education Finance staff concerning BESE-authorized charter school budgets and expenditure reports, including irregularities or concerns, for FY 2025-2026.
- 7.2.7 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:
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|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Contractor: | Avione Pichon |
| Contract Period: | 11/01/2025 - 07/31/2026 |
| Contract Amount: | \$72,400.00 |
| Fund: | Federal – LPCSP Grant |
| Competitive Process: | Non-Competitive |
- Description of Service: This contract provides an assessment of enrollment, retention, and engagement of the schools receiving CSP funds. The CSP Grant is awarded to eligible charter schools to expand, grow, or replicate. The CSP Grant's focus is to create more quality choice options for Louisiana families.

- 7.2.8 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Louisiana Tech University - certification of STEM and computer science teachers
Contract Period: 11/02/2025 - 06/30/2026
Contract Amount: \$85,000.00
Fund: State – AC/Comp Sci
Competitive Process: Non-Competitive

Description of Service: This interagency agreement provides for the planning and structure to support the portfolio-based certification of STEM and computer science teachers. This will increase the number of certified teachers in STEM and computer science.

- 7.2.9 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools (LAPCS)
Contract Period: 11/01/2025 - 09/30/2028
Contract Amount: \$77,100.00
Fund: Federal - LPCSP Grant
Competitive Process: Non-Competitive

Description of Service: This contract will provide post-training follow-up, board meeting observations, feedback and debrief cycles to charter boards involved in the Charter School Programs Grant (CSP). LAPCS will also provide a final report for each board to the LDOE by the end of the contract period.

- 7.2.10 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the following LDOE contract:

Contractor: University of Texas at Austin
Contract Period: 11/01/2025 - 05/31/2026
Contract Amount: \$210,000.00
Fund: IAG - 8(g)
Competitive Process: Non-Competitive

Description of Service: This Interagency Agreement (IAG) will pay vendors for professional learning for educators. This includes developing expertise for math and numeracy coaches through various learning methods (e.g., peer gatherings, asynchronous modules, mentorship), and providing resources for teachers to implement numeracy professional development.

- 7.2.11 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Early Childhood Curriculum Reimbursement
Type: Other
Amount: \$350,000.00
Period: 11/01/2025 – 06/30/2026
Source of Funds: Federal - CCDF

Purpose: The purpose of the Early Childhood Curriculum Reimbursement is to support teachers in publicly funded childcare classrooms by providing funding to implement a Tier 1 curriculum and high-quality curriculum supports (literacy and numeracy). This will increase the number of children that are ready for kindergarten. The LDOE will allocate funding to the regional Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) agencies to reimburse Type III childcare providers up to 100 percent of their purchases of Tier 1 infant/toddler and pre-K curricula and curriculum supports for literacy and numeracy. Eligible childcare centers will be responsible for providing applications/assurances, curriculum purchase invoices, and packing labels. CCR&R agencies will be responsible for providing overview training on curriculum implementation and necessary follow-up support.

Basis of Allocation: Allocations will be made to CCR&R agencies to reimburse Type III childcare providers for the purchase of age-appropriate Tier 1 Curricula and curriculum supports. Allocation amounts are based on the number of publicly funded childcare centers located within each CCR&R region.

- 7.2.12 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: High-Dosage Tutoring
Type: Other
Amount: \$2,434,909.00
Period: 07/01/2025 – 06/30/2026
Source of Funds: State General Fund

Purpose: High Dosage Tutoring (HDT) is a research-based instructional model that explicitly addresses students' unfinished learning from core instruction and leverages extra time to prepare students for grade-level content in math and reading. Act 771 of the 2024 Louisiana Legislative Session requires school day embedded tutoring for certain Kindergarten through 5th-grade students.

Basis of Allocation: School systems receive funding based on the number of K–5 students who qualify for HDT. Qualification is determined by assessment performance: K–2 students scoring below proficient on DIBELS, and grades 3–5 students scoring below mastery on LEAP ELA and/or Math.

- 7.2.13 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation:	New Teacher Experience: Mentor Expansion Pilot
Type:	Other
Amount:	\$48,500.00
Period:	07/01/2025 – 06/15/2026
Source of Funds:	State – 8(g)

Purpose: The purpose of this allocation is to fund The New Teacher Experience: Mentor Expansion Pilot. This allocation will provide school systems that applied to be a part of the pilot, with strategies to increase their Mentor pool and enhance the work of the Mentors through guidance from the best practices in supporting new teachers.

This allocation is necessary to fund the credentialing and criminal background check of educators who meet the requirements for the add-on Mentor credential through the updated policy.

The pilot will aid in fostering a community of best practices and create conditions for effective mentoring to enhance teaching and learning with new teachers. Pilot participants will identify educators who meet the requirements, identify the gaps in the number of mentors based on the grade level and content, attend monthly support calls to discuss the piloted guidance document, share experiences, and collaborate with other pilot participant leads, utilize the updated guidance document on best practices in Mentoring outlined in The Mentor Scope and Sequence of Responsibilities, and be available for site visits to observe the work in real time.

Basis of Allocation: Allocations to LEAs are to fund the credentialing and CBC of educators who meet the requirements for the add-on Mentor credential through updated policy. Through an application process, LEAs indicated an interest in increasing their number of Mentors and supporting those Mentors who will provide support to new teachers. Chosen systems indicated the number of educators they had on staff who would qualify for the add-on Mentor credential. Each chosen system will be allocated \$1,000 for their participation and yearlong feedback. Additionally, the allocations will provide funding for the add-on Mentor credential and the CBC. Those funds were

determined by the number of educators they would commit to obtaining the add-on credential.

- 7.2.14 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: PBIS
Type: Other
Amount: \$425,000.00
Period: 07/01/2025 – 06/30/2026
Source of Funds: Federal - IDEA

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.

PBIS provides a positive and effective alternative to the traditional methods of discipline. PBIS methods are research-based and proven to significantly reduce the occurrence of problem behaviors in the school, resulting in a more positive school climate and increased academic performance. PBIS is consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and Act 1225, Juvenile Justice Reform Act (R.S. 17:252), which advocates the use of positive behavior interventions and supports and school-based disciplinary strategies.

Basis of Allocation: Eight 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 total of \$53,125.

- 7.2.15 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Special Education Camera Maintenance
Type: Other
Amount: \$794,228.00
Period: 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2026
Source of Funds: State General Fund

Purpose: This funding is to provide for maintenance costs of cameras in certain special education classrooms across Louisiana per legislation.

Basis of Allocation: School systems are receiving this SPED camera allocation to support maintenance costs.

- 7.2.16 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: Early Childhood Education Fund
Type: Correction
Amount: \$26,928.00
Period: 07/01/2025 – 06/30/2026
Source of Funds: State General Fund

Purpose: These funds are allocated to serve children ages birth to three years old in tuition-free childcare seats, based on family eligibility aligned with the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP). The Louisiana Early Childhood Education (ECE) Fund was established by the Louisiana Legislature during the 2017 Regular Legislative Session. Funding sources were identified and dedicated to the ECE Fund during the 2019 Regular Legislative Session. The ECE 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.

Basis of Allocation: Community Network Lead Agencies applied for the ECE Fund State Match in September 2024, claiming the amount of local funding they expected to raise by or before January 2025. Each Community Network Lead Agency was required to submit proof of their raised funds to the Early Childhood Strategy team. The requirements for that proof live in Bulletin 140, Chapter 9.

Funds are being reverted from Avoyelles Parish as this was the incorrect lead agency and reallocated to Volunteers of America. The allocation is adjusted to the correct amount that was raised.

- 7.2.17 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation: School Redesign (Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies)
Type: Competitive
Amount: \$90,000.00
Period: 04/19/2025 – 09/30/2026
Source of Funds: Federal

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

improvement.

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

- 7.2.18 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the following allocation:

Allocation:	Stronger Connections
Type:	Other
Amount:	\$392,000.00
Period:	09/15/2022 – 09/30/2026
Source of Funds:	Federal

Purpose: On June 25, 2022, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) was signed into law. One 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).

LEAs receiving this allocation will use the funding in alignment with 20 USC 7118 to foster safe, healthy, supportive, and drug-free environments that support student academic achievement; provide mentoring to all students, including children who are at risk of academic failure, dropping out of school, involvement in criminal or delinquent activities, or drug use and abuse; establish or improve school dropout and re-entry programs; and establish learning environments and enhance students' effective learning skills that are essential for school readiness and academic success, such as by providing integrated systems of student and family supports.

Basis of Allocation: Reserved funds for State-level activities may be used to support safe and healthy students under section 4108 of ESEA.

Dr. Clark recused herself from voting on this item.

- 7.2.19 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the annual LDOE budgets (LDOE and RSD) and authorized LDOE to submit to the Division of Administration by October 31, 2025.

- 7.2.20 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the 8(g) Statewide Program, LSVI Builds Fluency Through Teacher Readiness and Technology (LSVI) for FY 2025-2026.
- 7.2.21 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board authorized BESE staff to develop the FY 2026-2027 Budget Request for the BESE agency and to submit the budget request to the Office of Planning and Budget (OPB) by the October 31, 2025 deadline.
- 7.2.22 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the BESE contract amounts for 8(g) evaluation services for FY 2025-2026.
- 7.2.23 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the proposed 2027 BESE Committee and Board meeting date schedule.
- 7.2.24 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board received the following legislative reports:
- R.S. 17:416.14: Bullying Compliance;
 - R.S. 17:151: Student/Teacher Ratio Waivers; and
 - R.S. 17:407.101: Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Commission
- 7.2.25 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the R.S. 17:4035.1: Student Transfers Report and directed the LDOE to submit the report to the House and Senate Committees on Education.
- 7.2.26 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board received the report regarding the contract process.
- 7.2.27 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board approved the cooperative endeavor agreement regarding the Louisiana Healthy Schools Community Project.
- 7.2.28 On motion of Mr. Berken, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board referred the school bus speed limit rulemaking discussion to the LDOE and directed the LDOE to collaborate with the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) and the Louisiana State Police (LSP) to conduct data research and, if appropriate, develop proposed policy language. The LDOE shall report its findings and recommendations to the Board Administration and Education Finance Committee in December 2025.

Agenda
Item 7.3.**Educator Effectiveness Committee**

(Schedule 4)

- 7.3.1 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Board received the mentor and content leader provider effectiveness report.
- 7.3.2 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Educator Effectiveness Committee recommends that the Board approved the third party entity evaluators as follows:
- Northwestern State University Gallaspy College of Education and Human Development; and
 - K12 Learning Academy (Stride, Inc.).
- 7.3.3 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Board approved the following certification preparation pathway proposals:
- Louisiana State University - Post-Baccalaureate: Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)
 - Health & Physical Education (K-12)
 - Teach for America - Post-Baccalaureate: Practitioner Teacher Program
 - English (4-8)
 - English (6-12)
 - University of Holy Cross New Orleans - Post-Baccalaureate: Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)
 - Business (6-12)
 - Elementary Education (1-5)
 - English (6-12)
 - English (4-8)
 - Mathematics (4-8)
 - Mathematics (6-12)
 - Science (4-8)
 - General Science (6-12)
 - Science: Biology (6-12)
 - Social Studies (4-8)
 - Social Studies (6-12)
 - Special Education Mild Moderate (6-12)
 - Special Education Mild Moderate (4-8)
 - Special Education Mild Moderate (1-5)
 - World Language: French (K-12)
 - World Language: Spanish (K-12)
 - Health and Physical Education (K-12)

- The New Teacher Project (TNTP) - Add-On Certification
 - English as a Second Language
- St. Tammany Parish School System - Science Content Leader

- 7.3.4 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Board received the minutes of the Teacher Certification Appeals Council meeting held August 28, 2025.
- 7.3.5 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Board approved, as a Notice of Intent, revisions to *Bulletin 746—Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel*: §1353. Educational Diagnostician (Special Education).
- 7.3.6 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Board revoked the Louisiana Level 2 teaching certificate #594528 issued to Mr. John Corley.
- 7.3.7 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Board revoked the Louisiana Level 3 teaching certificate #547894 issued to Ms. Conmernita Ross.
- 7.3.8 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Board revoked the Louisiana Level 1 teaching certificate #632826 issued to Ms. Alexa Wingerter.
- 7.3.9 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Board granted the reinstatement of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Ms. Carolyn Burrell.
- 7.3.10 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the granted the issuance of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Mr. Jarrod Dyess.
- 7.3.11 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Board granted the reinstatement of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Ms. Deivory Smith.
- 7.3.12 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Board granted the issuance of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Ms. Shante Wise.
- 7.3.13 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Board granted the issuance of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Ms. Savannah Alexander.

- 7.3.14 On motion of Dr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Melerine, the Board granted the issuance of a Louisiana teaching credential appropriate to the credentials of Mr. Damon Vlahos.

Agenda Item 7.4. **Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee** (Schedule 5)

- 7.4.1 On motion of Mr. Harris, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board received the presentation from Louisiana Public Broadcasting (LPB) regarding Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

- 7.4.2 On motion of Mr. Harris, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the Board received the report regarding the impact of the elimination of the Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund/Louisiana Quality Education Support Fund on BESE operations and programs.

Agenda Item 7.5. **School Innovation and Turnaround Committee** (Schedule 6)

- 7.5.1 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board received the charter application proposals, submitted in response to the 2025 Mid-Year Charter School Request for Applications for Audubon Baton Rouge, Bridge Academy, GEO North Baton Rouge Elementary, and GEO North Baton Rouge Upper Academy.

- 7.5.2 On motion of Mr. Castille, seconded by Ms. Champagne, the Board received the report regarding the LA GATOR scholarship program.

Agenda Item 8.1. **Items for Consideration** (Schedule 7)

- 8.1.1 On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Berken, the Board received the update report regarding BESE Tours 2.0

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m.