

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2012

5:00 P.M.

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board met at the School Board Office at 1050 South Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at 5:00 p.m. on this the sixteenth day of February, 2012, in regular-session convened. The President called the meeting to order with the following members present: Mrs. Barbara Freiberg, President; Mr. Tarvald A. Smith, Vice-President; Mr. G. Thomas "Jerry" Arbour; Mrs. Connie Bernard; Ms. Jill C. Dyason; Mr. Craig Freeman; Mr. Randy Lamana; Ms. Vereta T. Lee; Dr. Kenyetta Nelson-Smith; Mr. David Tatman; and Mrs. Evelyn Ware-Jackson.

Others present were: Mr. John L. Dilworth, Superintendent; Dr. Herman Brister, Chief Academic Officer; Ms. Diane Atkins, Associate Superintendent for Instructional Support Services; Ms. Catherine Fletcher, Chief Business Operations Officer; Ms. Millie Williams, Interim Executive Director of Human Resources; Ms. Lizabeth Frischhertz, Chief Officer of Accountability, Assessment and Evaluation; Mr. Chris Trahan, Director of Communications and Community Engagement; and Mr. Domoine Rutledge, General Counsel.

Reverend S. C. Dixon, Greater Mt. Olive Church, gave the invocation. Cadet Staff Sergeant Sharron Dupleche, Tara High School, and Colonel Fulton Johnson, Senior Army Instructor, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of School Board Minutes of the January 19, 2012, Regular School Board meeting, January 10, 2012, Special Board meeting, January 25, 2012, Special Board meeting, and the February 8, 2012, Special Board meeting

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the reading of the minutes of the January 19, 2012, Regular School Board meeting, January 10, 2012, Special Board meeting, January 25, 2012, Special Board meeting, and the February 8, 2012, Special Board meeting, be dispensed with and that they be approved as published in the Official Journal.

Seconded by Mr. Tatman

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Ms. Dyason and Mr. Lamana were absent.)

Approval of Personnel Changes Since School Board Meeting of January 19, 2012

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the changes in personnel since the School Board Meeting of January 19, 2012, be, and they are, hereby approved. **(A copy of the Changes has been marked "Official Copy" and placed in the files of the Board.)**

Seconded by Ms. Lee

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Ms. Dyason and Mr. Lamana were absent.)

Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming the Month of March, 2012 as "Music in our Schools" Month

By Mrs. Bernard

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby adopt a resolution proclaiming March, 2012, as "Music in our Schools" month. **(A copy of the Resolution has been marked "Official Copy" and placed in the files of the Board.)**

Seconded by Mr. Smith

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Ms. Dyason was absent.)

Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming March 4-10, 2012, as "National School Social Work" Week

By Dr. Nelson-Smith

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby adopt a resolution proclaiming March 4-10, 2012, as "National School Social Work" Week." **(A copy of the Resolution has been marked "Official Copy" and placed in the files of the Board.)**

Seconded by Mr. Lamana

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Ms. Dyason was absent.)

Approval of Interim Superintendent

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve naming Carlos Sam as Interim Superintendent for East Baton Rouge Parish School System. Mr. Sam will take this position when the current superintendent, John Dilworth, leaves and will remain in this position until a new superintendent is named. Mr. Sam will be paid a flat salary of the current superintendent. When a permanent superintendent is named, Mr. Sam will return to his current position as Director of Magnet Programs.

Seconded by Mr. Freeman

Discussion followed.

The following "friendly" amendment was offered.

By Mrs. Bernard

Mr. Sam cannot apply for the permanent position of East Baton Rouge Parish School System superintendent.

The "friendly" amendment was accepted by Mr. Arbour and Mr. Freeman.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: (10) Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tatman and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (0) None

Abstained: (1) Mrs. Freiberg

Absent: (0) None

The motion was declared adopted.

Approval of a Contract

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give approval of a contract for professional services between the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board and the Intercultural Development Research Association.

Seconded by Ms. Lee

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: (9) Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Mr. Smith, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Nays: (0) None

Abstained: (2) Dr. Nelson-Smith and Mr. Tatman

Absent: (0) None

The motion was declared adopted.

Approval of Application of Thrive Charter School

By Mr. Tatman

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the application of the Thrive Charter School.

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

Discussion followed.

The motion was withdrawn.

Discussion continued.

The following motion was made.

By Mr. Tatman

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the application of the Thrive Charter School.

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

Discussion continued.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Mr. Smith

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School System does hereby approve the recommendation of staff to deny the application of the Thrive Charter School.

Seconded by Mr. Arbour

Call the Question

By Ms. Dyason

The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:

Yeas: (5) **Mr. Arbour, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, and Mr. Smith**

Nays: (6) **Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson**

Abstained: (0) **None**

Absent: (0) **None**

The substitute motion failed.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: (6) **Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson**

Nays: (4) **Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, and Mr. Smith**

Abstained: (1) **Mr. Arbour**

Absent: (0) **None**

The motion was declared adopted.

Approval of Louisiana Restoration Tax Abatement Program

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give approval to delete this agenda item.

Seconded by Mr. Tatman

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Mrs. Bernard and Ms. Dyason were absent.)

Approval of Revision(s) to Board Policy GBNA (Reduction in Force)

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve to defer this item to the Committee of the Whole meeting on February 29, 2012.

Seconded by Mr. Freeman

The vote on the item was as follows:

Yeas: (10) **Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, Mr. Tatman, and Mrs. Ware-Jackson**

Nays: (1) **Mr. Smith**

Abstained: (0) **None**

Absent: (0) **None**

The motion was declared adopted.

Executive Session:

By Mrs. Bernard

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby go into Executive Session under the provisions of L.R.S. 42:17 (A) (2).

Seconded by Mrs. Ware-Jackson

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, and Mr. Smith were absent.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and reconvened. No action was taken in or after the Executive Session.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned by acclamation.

John L. Dilworth
Secretary/Treasurer to the Board