

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2013

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 seventeenth day of October 2013, in regular-session convened. The President called the meeting to order with the following members present: Mr. David Tatman, President; Mr. Tarvald A. Smith, Vice-President; Mr. G. Thomas "Jerry" Arbour; Mrs. Connie Bernard; Ms. Jill C. Dyason; Mr. Craig Freeman; Mrs. Barbara Freiberg; Mr. Randy Lamana; Ms. Vereta T. Lee; Dr. Kenyetta Nelson-Smith; and Ms. Evelyn Ware-Jackson.

Others present were: Dr. Bernard Taylor, Jr., Superintendent; Mr. Michael Hagen, Deputy Superintendent for Innovation and Reform; Ms. Diane Atkins, Associate Superintendent for Instructional Support and Pupil Services; Mr. Carlos Sam, Associate Superintendent; Dr. Herman Brister, Associate Superintendent for Student 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; and Mr. Domoine Rutledge, General Counsel.

School Board Member, Jerry Arbour, gave the invocation. Cadet Major Patricia Marshall, Northeast High School, accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Shirley Sutton, Senior Army Instructor, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of School Board Minutes of the September 19, 2013, (regular), and October 3, 2013, Committee of the Whole meetings

By Dr. Nelson-Smith

Resolved, that, the reading of the minutes of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Meetings of September 19, 2013, (regular), and October 3, 2013, Committee of the Whole, be dispensed with and that they be approved as published in the Official Journal.

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

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

Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming the Month of October 2013, as "I Care Red Ribbon Month" in Conjunction with National Red Ribbon Week, October 23-31, 2013

By Mrs. Freiberg

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby adopt a resolution proclaiming the month of October 2013, as "I Care Red Ribbon Month" in conjunction with National Red Ribbon Week, October 23-31, 2013. **(A copy of the Resolution has been marked "Official Copy" and placed in the files of the Board.)**

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.

Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming October 21-25, 2013, as "School Bus Safety Week and School Bus Driver Appreciation Week"

By Dr. Nelson-Smith

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby adopt a resolution proclaiming October 21-25, 2013, as "School Bus Safety Week and School Bus Driver Appreciation Week." **(A copy of the Resolution has been marked "Official Copy" and placed in the files of the Board.)**

Seconded by Ms. Lee

Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the Consent Agenda items.

Seconded by Vice-President Smith

Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.

The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

Items approved by the Committee of the Whole for recommendation to the Board:

Authorization for staff to advertise, accept the bids received, and refer to the full Board for approval of the contract for the Lee High School Project in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law; Louisiana Revised Statutes, Title 38; Chapter 10.

Approval of the AlwaysCare contract renewal for voluntary, fully-insured dental and vision insurance for a period of January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2015.

Approval of a professional services agreement between the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board and the Intercultural Development Research Association regarding external evaluation services for the English as a Second Language (ESL) program in the amount of \$25,000.00. (Funding Source: Title III).

Approval of the following items:

Approval of the Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application to expend and/or withdraw project funds from the EEF account to support the following areas: assessment and curriculum, school and teacher collaboration, observation and feedback, instructional technology, and leader and teacher goal-setting.

Approval of the Cecil Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Grant in the amount of \$4,946,400.00.

Approval of the National FFA Foundation Living to Serve: Environmental Grant in the amount of \$2,000.00. (Recipient: Milton Wall – Northeast High School)

Approval of litigation and a request from the Board’s General Counsel to file any claims on behalf of the School Board in the matter of the cross claim filed by MAPP Construction, LLC, in the matter of Bernhard Mechanical Contractors, Inc. v. MAPP Construction, LLC, et al, Suit No. 615,513, Sec. 26; 19th JDC, and to pursue and file any claims against Chenevert Architects and Remson-Haley-Herpin Architects, APAC, a Joint Venture, LLC, and their insurers arising out of the construction of Baton Rouge Magnet High School.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Approval to Submit School Name Changes

By Mrs. Freiberg

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give approval to submit the following school name changes to the Louisiana Department of Education, in compliance with Board policy for naming schools:

1. North Banks Middle School of Excellence (formerly Banks Elementary)

2. East Baton Rouge Readiness Superintendent's Academy (formerly Valley Park)
3. Christa McAuliffe Superintendent's Academy (formerly Christa McAuliffe Center)
4. Greenville Superintendent's Academy (formerly Staring Education Center)
5. Eden Park Superintendent's Academy (formerly Mohican Center)
6. Beechwood Superintendent's Academy (formerly Scotlandville Middle Magnet)
7. Northdale Superintendent's Academy (formerly Northdale Magnet Academy)

Seconded by Mrs. Bernard

Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.

Approval of a Professional Services Contract(s)

By Mrs. Freiberg

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give approval of three (3) professional services contracts with the Institute for Learning, University of Pittsburgh, Center for Development and Learning, and The Leadership and Learning Center (The Center). The total of all three (3) contracts will not exceed \$1.2 million for the first year.

Seconded by Ms. Ware-Jackson

Discussion followed.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Ms. Lee

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby defer this item to the Committee of the Whole meeting on November 7, 2013.

Seconded by Mr. Lamana

Discussion continued.

Call the Question

By Mr. Arbour

Objection by Mrs. Freiberg

The vote on "Call the Question" was as follows:

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

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

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

“Call the Question” failed.

Discussion continued.

Ms. Lee amended her substitute motion as follows:

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby defer the vote on the contracts until a Special Meeting prior to the Committee of the Whole meeting on November 7, 2013.

The seconder of the motion agreed to the amendment.

The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:

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

Nays: (4) Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, and Ms. Ware-Jackson

Abstained: (1) President Tatman

Absent: (1) Vice-President Smith

The substitute motion failed.

Discussion continued.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Mr. Freeman

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby authorize the Superintendent to engage the services of these firms (Institute for Learning, University of Pittsburgh, Center for Development and Learning, and The Leadership and Learning Center (The Center)) in an amount not to exceed \$100,000. The remaining amounts will be brought back to the Board at a meeting yet to be determined, the engagement of their services for the balance of \$1.2 million.

Seconded by Mrs. Freiberg

The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:

Yeas: (5) Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Bernard, Mrs. Freiberg, President Tatman, and Ms. Ware-Jackson

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

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (1) Vice-President Smith

The substitute motion failed.

Discussion continued.

The original motion was amended as follows:

By Mrs. Freiberg

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby give approval of three (3) professional services contracts with Institute for Learning, University of Pittsburgh, Center for Development and Learning, and The Leadership and Learning Center (The Center). The total of all three (3) contracts will not exceed \$1.2 million for the first year. The Superintendent shall bring the three (3) contracts back to the full Board for final approval at the Special Meeting on November 7, 2013.

Amendment was agreed upon by the seconder, Ms. Ware-Jackson

Discussion continued.

The following substitute motion was made:

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby authorize the Superintendent to negotiate and enter into a contract with Center for Development and Learning for the entire program and limit the amount to \$1.2 million.

Seconded by Mr. Lamana

Discussion continued.

Mr. Arbour withdrew his substitute motion and the seconder of the motion agreed to the withdrawal.

The following substitute motion was made.

By Mr. Lamana

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby request the School Board Secretary, Mrs. West, poll the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board members to find a date specific to hold a meeting to further review all data concerning the proposals. However, if Mrs. West is unsuccessful at acquiring a quorum for a date prior to November 7, 2013, then the Board will consider the item prior to the Committee of the Whole on November 7, 2013 at a Special School Board meeting.

Seconded by Mr. Arbour

The vote on the substitute motion was as follows:

Yeas: (9) **Mr. Arbour, Mrs. Bernard, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Freiberg, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Dr. Nelson-Smith, and President Tatman,**

Nays: (1) **Ms. Ware-Jackson**

Abstained: (0) **None**

Absent: (1) **Vice-President Smith**

The substitute motion was approved.

Approval of an Agreement

By Mr. Arbour

Resolved, that, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) LA Gear Up Agreement to provide funds in the amount of \$278,501.12 to provide services and financial assistance to improve school achievement in science, math, literacy, and social studies and to enhance student and parental awareness of post-secondary education options.

Seconded by Ms. Dyason

Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Vice-President Smith was absent.)

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

**Dr. Bernard Taylor, Jr.,
Secretary/Treasurer to the Board**