

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

**THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2009**

**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 nineteenth day of March, 2009 in regular-session convened. The President called the meeting to order with the following members present: President Mr. G. Thomas "Jerry" Arbour; Mr. Jonathan C. Augustine, Vice-President; Mr. Greg Baldwin; Mr. William P. "Bill" Black; Ms. Jill Dyason; Mr. Noel Hammatt; Mr. Randy Lamana; Ms. Vereta T. Lee; Mr. Darryl Robertson; Mr. Tarvald A. Smith; Derrick W. Spell, M.D. and Mr. W. T. Winfield.

Others present were: Mrs. Charlotte D. Placide, Superintendent; Ms. Angela Lee, Special Assistant to the Superintendent; Dr. Herman Brister, Interim Chief Academic Officer and Associate Superintendent for Instructional Support Services; Ms. Catherine Fletcher, Chief Business Operations Officer; Mr. James Crochet, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Paula Fabre, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, Area I; Ms. Paula Johnson, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, Area IV; Dr. Liz Duran Swinford, Associate Superintendent for Human Resources; Ms. Millie Williams, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Lizabeth Frischhertz, Chief Officer of Accountability, Assessment and Evaluation; Mr. Jesse Noble, Chief Technology Officer; Mr. Carlos Sam, Director of Magnet Programs; Mr. Lee Dixon, Director of Exceptional Student Services; Mr. Richard Capps, Administrative Director of Federal Programs; Mr. Chris Trahan, Director of Communications and Community Engagement; and Mr. Domoine Rutledge, General Counsel.

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Reverend Charles H. Gordon, Richardson Chapel Church of God in Christ, gave the invocation. Cadet First Lieutenant Adrian Augustus, Belaire High School, and Lieutenant Colonel (U.S. Army Retired) Ronald L. Logan, Senior Army Instructor, led the pledge of allegiance.

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**Approval of School Board Minutes  
of February 19 (Regular), March  
2 (Special), March 3 (Special), and  
March 4 (Special), 2009 Board Meetings**

**By Mr. Hammatt**

Resolved, That, the reading of the minutes of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Meetings of February 19 (Regular), March 2 (Special), March 3 (Special), and March 4 (Special), 2009 be dispensed with, and that they be approved as published in the Official Journal.

**Seconded by Mr. Baldwin**

**Comments were requested from the audience and from the Board. No comments were forthcoming, and therefore the minutes were accepted and declared to be approved.**

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**Adoption of Resolution**

**By Mr. Hammatt**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby adopt a Resolution relative to the proposed limitations on school board service and other related matters.

**Seconded by Mr. Smith**

**Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Dr. Spell was absent.)**

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**Approval of Personnel Changes  
Since School Board Meeting of  
February 19, 2009**

**By Mr. Smith**

Resolved, That, the changes in personnel since the School Board Meeting of February 19, 2009, 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 Mr. Robertson**

**Unanimously adopted by a vote of the members present. (Dr. Spell was absent.)**

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**Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming  
April 2009, as "School Library Media  
Month" and April 12-18, 2009 as  
"National Library Week"**

**By Mr. Robertson**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby adopt a resolution proclaiming April 2009, as "School Library Media Month" and April 12-18, 2009 as "National Library Week." **(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. (Mr. Smith was absent.)**

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**Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming  
March 30 – April 3, 2009 as  
“Attendance Awareness Week”**

**By Mr. Winfield**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby adopt a resolution proclaiming March 30 – April 3, 2009 as “Attendance Awareness Week.” **(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 all the members.**

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**Approval of the Renewal  
of a Lease Agreement**

**By Mr. Winfield**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the renewal of a lease agreement between the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board and the School for a New Millennium, dba, Children’s Charter School and Children’s Charter Middle School as modified.

**Seconded by Mr. Hammatt**

**Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.**

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**Authorization to Advertise, Accept  
Low Bid Meeting Specifications and  
Award Contract**

**By Mr. Hammatt**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby authorize staff to advertise, accept the low bids meeting specifications and make the award of a contract for a Replacement Freezer at the School Food Service Warehouse or reject any and all bids for just cause in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law; Louisiana Revised Statutes, Title 38, Chapter 10.

**Seconded by Mr. Black and Ms. Dyason**

**Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.**

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**Authorization for Staff to Request  
a Change Order to the McKinley  
High School Major Renovation Contract**

**By Mr. Hammatt**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby authorize staff to request a change order to the McKinley High School major renovation contract to add HVAC systems to the auditorium, gymnasium, and locker room.

**Seconded by Mr. Winfield**

**Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.**

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**Authorization to Advertise, Accept  
Low Bid Meeting Specifications and  
Award Contract**

**By Mr. Hammatt**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby authorize staff to advertise, accept the low bids meeting specifications and make the award of a four (4) classroom addition at Parkview Elementary School or reject any and all bids for just cause in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law; Louisiana Revised Statutes, Title 38, Chapter 10.

**Seconded by Mr. Lamana**

**Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.**

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**Approval of Proposed School  
Performance Rewards**

**By Mr. Hammatt**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the proposed school performance rewards and the subsequent distribution to schools, effective immediately.

**Seconded by Mr. Smith**

**Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.**

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**Approval of Proposed Recommendations to Close Greenville Elementary School and Related Grade Level Reconfiguration with Melrose Elementary School**

**By Mr. Winfield**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the proposed recommendation to close Greenville Elementary School, effective June 30, 2009, and the related grade level reconfiguration with Melrose Elementary School.

**Seconded by Mr. Smith**

**Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.**

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**Approval of Proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

**By Mr. Hammatt**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for AUS 4 Support and Innovation approved by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) for the following schools: Claiborne Elementary, Greenville Elementary, Winbourne Elementary, and Istrouma High, with modifications.

**Seconded by Mr. Winfield**

**The vote on the motion was as follows:**

**Yeas: (11)            Mr. Arbour, Mr. Augustine, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Black, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Hammatt, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Mr. Smith, Dr. Spell and Mr. Winfield**

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

**Abstained: (0)      None**

**Absent: (0)          None**

**The motion was declared adopted.**

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**Approval of Proposed School Progress Plans (SPP) and Budgets for AUS 4 schools**

**By Mr. Hammatt**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve the proposed School Progress Plans (SPP) and Budgets for AUS 4 schools approved by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE).

**Seconded by Mr. Lamana**

**Unanimously adopted by a vote of all the members.**

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**Review of Superintendent’s  
Recommendation for Expulsion  
Of a Student**

The President asked the Board Members to indicate whether or not they had the opportunity to review the case of the student at Glen Oaks High School. Upon affirmation by the Members, the President inquired as to whether or not any Member wished to request a hearing of the case.

A motion was made by Ms. Lee with a second by Mr. Robertson to schedule a hearing before the Board at the next regularly-scheduled School Board meeting as it relates to the student at Glen Oaks High School.

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**Objection to the Ruling of the Chair**

Ms. Dyason inquired of the Chair if she could vote “neither” on superintendent candidates since she did not like either candidate. The Chair advised that members could vote for either candidate or “abstain”. The Chair made the advice the ruling of the Chair. Ms. Dyason challenged the ruling of the Chair. The challenge was seconded by Dr. Spell. The vote on the challenge was:

- Yeas: (9)                      Mr. Arbour, Mr. Augustine, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Black, Mr. Hammatt, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Mr. Robertson and Mr. Smith
- Nays: (2)                      Ms. Dyason and Dr. Spell
- Abstained: (1)                Mr. Winfield
- Absent: (0)                    None

**The challenge failed.**

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**Appointment of Superintendent  
of the East Baton Rouge Parish  
School System**

The President of the School Board, Mr. Jerry Arbour, opened the floor for nominations for Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System.

Mr. Baldwin nominated Mr. John Dilworth

Mr. Smith nominated Dr. Bonita Coleman-Potter

Mr. Smith made a motion to close the nominations with a second by Mr. Augustine with consensus from the Board.

**A roll call vote was taken:**

**Mr. Dilworth (6)**

**Mr. Arbour, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Black, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee and Mr. Winfield,**

**Dr. Coleman-Potter (6)**

**Mr. Augustine, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Hammatt, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Smith and Dr. Spell**

**Discussion followed.**

**The following motion was made.**

**Approval to Continue Superintendent Search**

**By Ms. Dyason**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby approve continuing the search for a candidate for Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System, but not eliminate the candidates already presented to the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board.

**Seconded by Dr. Spell**

**The vote on the motion was as follows:**

**Yeas: (2)**

**Ms. Dyason and Dr. Spell**

**Nays: (9)**

**Mr. Arbour, Mr. Augustine, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Black, Mr. Hammatt, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Mr. Robertson and Mr. Smith**

**Abstained: (1)**

**Mr. Winfield**

**Absent: (0)**

**None**

**The motion failed.**

**The President of the School Board, Mr. Jerry Arbour, opened the floor again for nominations for Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System.**

Mr. Hammatt nominated Dr. Bonita Coleman-Potter

**Discussion followed.**

**The following motion was made.**

**By Mr. Black**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby go into Executive Session under the provisions of L.R.S. 42:6.1 (A)(1) to discuss the professional performance of candidates for the position of Superintendent of Schools.

**Seconded by Ms. Lee**

**The vote on the motion was as follows:**

**Yeas: (7) Mr. Arbour, Mr. Black, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Hammatt, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee and Mr. Winfield**

**Nays: (5) Mr. Augustine, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Smith and Dr. Spell**

**Abstained: (0) None**

**Absent: (0) None**

**The motion failed.**

**Discussion followed.**

Mr. Baldwin nominated Mr. John Dilworth

Mr. Robertson made a motion to close the nominations with a second by Mr. Smith with consensus from the Board.

**A roll call vote was taken:**

**Mr. Dilworth (6) Mr. Arbour, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Black, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee and Mr. Winfield**

**Dr. Coleman-Potter (6) Mr. Augustine, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Hammatt, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Smith and Dr. Spell**

**Discussion followed.**

Mr. Hammatt nominated Mr. John Dilworth

Mr. Smith nominated Dr. Bonita Coleman-Potter

**A roll call vote was taken:**

**Mr. Dilworth (7)**

**Mr. Arbour, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Black, Mr. Hammatt, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee and Mr. Winfield**

**Dr. Coleman-Potter (5)**

**Mr. Augustine, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Smith and Dr. Spell**

**Mr. John Dilworth was selected as Superintendent of Schools for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System by acclamation.**

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**Executive Session:**

**By Mr. Baldwin**

Resolved, That, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board does hereby go into Executive Session under the provisions of L.R.S. 42:6.1 (A) (7) to conduct appeal hearings regarding the expulsion of two (2) students.

**Seconded by Ms. Lee**

**The vote on the motion was as follows:**

**Yeas: (10)**

**Mr. Arbour, Mr. Augustine, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Black, Ms. Dyason, Mr. Hammatt, Mr. Lamana, Ms. Lee, Mr. Smith and Mr. Winfield**

**Nays: (0)**

**None**

**Abstained: (1)**

**Mr. Robertson**

**Absent: (1)**

**Dr. Spell**

**The motion was declared adopted.**

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

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**Affirmation of Student Expulsions**

**The Board came out of Executive Session and reconvened. Mr. Arbour asked if there was any motion to modify or reverse the Superintendent's recommendation with respect to the Student at Glen Oaks High School. There being no such motion, the Superintendent's recommendation was affirmed, and the expulsion was upheld.**

**Mr. Arbour asked if there was any motion to modify or reverse the Superintendent's recommendation with respect to the Student at Westdale Middle School. There being no**

**such motion, the Superintendent's recommendation was affirmed, and the expulsion was upheld.**

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

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**Charlotte D. Placide**  
**Secretary/Treasurer to the Board**