

**Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education  
NONPUBLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL  
Tuesday, September 10, 2013  
10:00 a.m.**

**Minutes**

The Nonpublic School Council was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Ms. Anna Larriviere, Chair. Members present were Ms. Marian Fertitta, Ms. Kimberlee Gazzolo, Dr. Laurita Guillory, Mr. Ed Hearron, Dr. Jan Lancaster, Mr. Joseph Peychaud, Sr. Carol Shively, Dr. Melanie Verges, and Mr. Bobby Welch.

Dr. Tom Middleton was recorded as excused.

BESE members present were Ms. Connie Bradford and Dr. Judith Miranti.

Representing the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) were Ms. Erin Bendily, Ms. Bridget Devlin, Ms. Nancy Beben, and Mr. Stephen Osborn.

The Board staff was represented by Ms. Shan Davis and Ms. Nina Ford, who recorded the minutes.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. Davis indicated that the LDE requested that the agenda be amended to include a discussion regarding the Education Excellence Fund (EEF) application packet.

Ms. Davis stated that, per R.S. 42:19, unanimous approval of the members present is required to amend the agenda. She indicated that there would be an opportunity for public comment on any such motion in accordance with R.S. 42:14.

Ms. Davis asked for a motion to amend the agenda.

Dr. Verges offered a motion, seconded by Ms. Gazzolo, to amend the agenda to include Agenda Item 5.3., "Consideration of a discussion regarding the Education Excellence Fund (EEF) application packet."

There were no requests for public comment.

Ms. Davis asked for a Roll Call Vote on the motion to amend the agenda.

\* \* \* \* \*

On motion of Dr. Verges, seconded by Ms. Gazzolo, the Nonpublic School Council amended the agenda to include Agenda Item 5.3., "Consideration of a discussion regarding the Education Excellence Fund (EEF) application packet."

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Yeas: Ms. Fertitta, Ms. Gazzolo, Dr. Guillory, Mr. Hearn, Dr. Lancaster, Mr. Peychaud, Sr. Carol, Dr. Verges, Mr. Welch, and Ms. Larriviere

Nays: None.

Abstentions: None.

Absences: Dr. Middleton.

The motion passed.

Ms. Davis indicated that this agenda item would be taken last on the agenda.

1 On motion of Ms. Fertitta, seconded by Sr. Carol, the Nonpublic School Council elected Ms. Anna Larriviere as Chair of the Nonpublic School Council for FY 2013-2014.

2 On motion of Dr. Verges, seconded by Mr. Hearn, the Nonpublic School Council elected Sr. Carol Shively as Vice-Chair of the Nonpublic School Council for FY 2013-2014.

3 On motion of Ms. Fertitta, seconded by Dr. Lancaster, the Nonpublic School Council approved the minutes of the meeting held November 13, 2012.

4 On motion of Sr. Carol, seconded by Ms. Gazzolo, the Nonpublic School Council received the BESE response to the minutes of November 13, 2012.

\* \* \* \* \*

The LDE provided the Council with a copy of Act 50 of the 2013 Regular Legislative Session, reviewed the Act with the Council, and responded to questions. It was noted that in November 2013 the LDE will provide the Council with proposed revisions to Nonpublic Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for Nonpublic School Administrators*, in accordance with Act 50 of the 2013 Regular Legislative Session.

- 5 On motion of Dr. Verges, seconded by Sr. Carol, the Nonpublic School Council received the report regarding revisions to Nonpublic Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for Nonpublic School Administrators*, and retained the item on the agenda.

\* \* \* \* \*

The LDE provided the Council with a copy of Act 136 of the 2013 Regular Legislative Session, reviewed the Act with the Council, and responded to questions. It was noted that in November 2013 the LDE will provide the Council with proposed revisions to Nonpublic Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for Nonpublic School Administrators*, in accordance with Act 136 of the 2013 Regular Legislative Session.

The LDE also provided the Council with a handout entitled, "TOPS Core Curriculum," prepared by the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance, noting that this information was provided to and reviewed with the Council for informational purposes only.

- 6 On motion of Mr. Hearron, seconded by Dr. Verges, the Nonpublic School Council received the update regarding 2013 legislation related to nonpublic schools.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. Larriviere stated that correspondence regarding the Education Excellence Fund (EEF) application packet was distributed by the LDE at the school level, rather than to diocesan school superintendents, private school headmasters, or other nonpublic school central administrators. She stated that the LDE has assured her that future communications from LDE will be directed to diocesan school superintendents, private school headmasters, or other nonpublic school central administrators.

Mr. Osburn affirmed the LDE's commitment to communicate as requested and responded to the Council's questions regarding the Education Excellence Fund.

Ms. Larriviere requested that the LDE provide Council members with a list of contact information for LDE staff who handle various programs pertaining to nonpublic schools. Ms. Bendily stated that the LDE would provide this information to Council members and invited Council members to contact the LDE Policy Office on any topic for which assistance is needed.

With no further business to come before the Nonpublic School Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.