
FOUNDATION FOR LOUISIANA STUDENTS

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

3113 Valley Creek Drive

Baton Rouge, LA

First Floor Conference Room

April 21, 2026

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LOUISIANA OPEN MEETINGS LAW

I. OPENING ITEMS

- A. Board Vice President John Price called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.
- B. Board Vice President Price requested a roll call vote. The following Directors, by voice vote, were recorded as present: Mr. John Price, Mr. William Biossat, Ms. Grace Anderson, Mr. Thomas Nealsson, Dr. Hala Esmail, and Mr. John Cavell.

Guests present: Ms. Darah Husser, Mr. Michael Tran, Ms. Traci Payne, Ms. Krystle Dabney, Mr. Barry Harris, Mr. Michael Adams, Ms. Melissa Fox, and Ms. Eugenia Cardozo.

Conference Room & Online Guests: See attached list.

- C. On motion by Director Cavell, seconded by Director Nealsson, to approve the Regular Board meeting agenda for April 21, 2026. The motion passed by voice vote, with Directors Price, Biossat, Anderson, Nealsson, Esmail, and Cavell voting in favor. The Board requested public comment. No public comment.

II. ROUTINE BUSINESS

- A. Approval of Minutes from the March 17, 2026, Regular Board meeting. On motion by Director Nealsson and seconded by Director Anderson, to approve the Regular Board meeting minutes for March 17, 2026. The motion passed by voice vote, with Directors Price, Anderson, Nealsson, and Cavell voting in favor. Directors Biossat and Esmail abstained. The

Board requested public comment. No public comment.

III. ORAL REPORTS

A. Dr. Quentina Timoll delivered the Superintendent's Report, beginning with the announcement of the passing of a senior student and extending condolences to the family. She noted that the school will honor the student with a posthumous diploma. She reported that the school is in a strong position as it approaches the end of the academic year, highlighting significant enrollment growth of over 500 students compared to the previous year, with current enrollment at 3,666, and continued expansion through partnerships and micro academies. Dr. Timoll provided updates on statewide testing, noting the complexity and coordination required, and expressed appreciation for staff, MIS, and support teams for their all-hands-on-deck efforts. She also highlighted upcoming Teacher Appreciation Week activities, along with numerous student activities and achievements. No vote was taken.

B. Board Vice President Price led the Discussion of the Financial Report for March 2026. Ms. Melissa Fox presented the financial report through March 2026, noting that the organization is nearing the end of the third quarter with one quarter remaining. Total revenues are slightly over \$37 million against an annual budget of \$49.8 million, leaving approximately \$12.7 million (26%) remaining, which she indicated is on target.

Ms. Fox also shared that final state allocations for additional MFP per-pupil funding were received in March and will be reflected in the next report, adding just over \$1 million. She explained that higher remaining percentages in certain categories, such as travel and rental facilities, are due to timing related to upcoming testing activities. She reported that total assets stand at approximately \$48 million, and total liabilities are approximately \$830,000. Overall, total net assets are reported at \$47.2 million. She concluded that financial performance remains strong, with no unusual trends expected for the remainder of the fiscal year. No vote was taken.

- C. Treasurer Grace Anderson presented the Finance Committee Report. Director Anderson informed the Board that the Finance Committee met and verified that funds are available to purchase Houghton Mifflin ELA Curriculum Resources and Renaissance Learning Resources. No vote was taken.
- D. Governance Committee Chair Thomas Nealsson reported that the Governance Committee has nothing to report. No vote was taken.
- E. Facilities Committee Chair William Biossat reported that the Facilities Committee has nothing to report. No vote was taken.
- F. Mr. Barry Harris and Ms. Eugenia Cardozo provided a status update on current facility projects.
 - 1. Lynx Den: Ms. Eugenia Cardozo reported that at the Lynx Den campus, the Solar Canopy Project Phases 2 and 3 are 100% complete, and the storage building is currently powered by solar energy. The only remaining item is the completion of final inspections by the City and Entergy to finalize the Lynx Den connection. The total contract price is \$405,775, paid to date, with a retainer of \$37,142 being held pending final inspections and confirmation of full functionality. Mr. Michael Adams shared new concerns related to drainage and potential flooding near the parking lot improvements. He explained that engineers and architects have been engaged to conduct a topographic survey to assess whether the recent parking lot work contributed to water flow issues affecting neighboring properties. The design team is currently evaluating the situation and working alongside legal counsel and external parties to determine the cause and appropriate resolution. Mr. Adams noted that the engineers are actively involved and prepared to address any necessary corrective actions, with further updates expected at the next meeting.
 - 2. Bennington II: Mr. Harris reported that the fencing project at the Bennington II location has been completed. The total project cost

for this work was \$47,325.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Approval to Purchase Houghton Mifflin ELA Curriculum and Resources. Dr. Quentina Timoll presented a discussion regarding the purchase of the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) ELA curriculum and resources for grades K–8. She explained that the curriculum was initially adopted approximately 2 years ago and has been brought to the board annually for approval because it exceeds the \$100,000 threshold. The program provides students with print materials, digital textbook access, and licensing, while K–3 students also receive access to Amira, an AI-based reading support tool introduced through a state literacy initiative.

Dr. Timoll noted that the total cost for the upcoming school year is approximately \$115,811.71, which is slightly lower than the prior year due to adjustments in vendor services. It was also noted that the curriculum is aligned with the Louisiana Department of Education’s high-quality instructional materials list.

On motion by Director Anderson and seconded by Director Biossat, to approve the purchase of Houghton Mifflin ELA Curriculum and Resources. The motion passed by voice vote, with Directors Price, Biossat, Anderson, Nealsson, Esmail, and Cavell voting in favor. The Board requested public comment. No public comment.

- B. Discussion and Approval to Purchase Renaissance Learning Resources. Dr. Quentina Timoll presented the Renaissance Learning software subscription package, which includes several instructional tools designed to support student learning across grade levels. She explained that FastBridge is used to support students in the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) by addressing learning gaps, particularly at the elementary level. Nearpod provides interactive, student-centered lessons across all grades, while Accelerated Reader promotes reading engagement, primarily for elementary and middle school students.

Dr. Timoll noted that the total cost of the package is \$133,709.20, which is lower than the previous year despite the addition of a new vocabulary component for elementary students, costing approximately \$2,250.

On motion by Director Anderson and seconded by Director Biossat, to approve the purchase of Renaissance Learning Resources. The motion passed by voice vote, with Directors Price, Biossat, Anderson, Nealsson, Esmail, and Cavell voting in favor. The Board requested public comment. No public comment.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. May Board Meeting: May 26, 2026

VI. CLOSING ITEMS

- A. On motion by Director Anderson, seconded by Director Nealsson, and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m. The motion passed by voice vote, with Directors Price, Biossat, Anderson, Nealsson, Esmail, and Cavell voting in favor.

CONFERENCE ROOM & ONLINE GUESTS:

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	LOCATION
		Conference Room
8 individuals logged in to attend the meeting online.		