FOUNDATION FOR LOUISIANA STUDENTS

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

3113 Valley Creek Drive

Baton Rouge, LA

First Floor Conference Room

October 20, 2026

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LOUISIANA OPEN MEETINGS LAW

- subject to approval at the next board meeting -

I. OPENING ITEMS

A. Call To Order

Board President Price called the meeting to order at 5:18 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Board 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.

Ex-officio member Present: Dr. Quentina Timoll

Guests present: Ms. Darah Husser, Mr. Michael Tran, Mr. Barry Harris, Mr. Michael Adams, Ms. Melissa Fox, Ms. Eugenia Cardozo, Ms. Krystle Dabney, Ms. Traci Payne, Ms. Elizabeth Minvielle, Ms. Beth Liner, Ms. Melissa Grand, and Judge Linda Holliday.

Conference Room & Online Guests: See attached list.

C. Recognition and Presentation of Distinguished Service

President Price presented former Board President Judge Linda Holliday with commemorative awards recognizing her years of dedication and service on the board from 2016 to 2026. President Price announced the establishment of the Judge Linda L. Holiday Legacy of Excellence Award,

an annual award presented to one exemplary employee. Judge Holliday expressed her gratitude and appreciation to the board, staff, and school community.

D. Approval of Agenda

On motion by Director Cavell, seconded by Director Nealsson, to approve the Board Meeting Agenda for October 20, 2026. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote (Ayes: Anderson, Biossat, Cavell, Esmail, Nealsson, Price; Nays: None). Public comment was requested; no public comment was offered.

II. ROUTINE BUSINESS

A. Approval of Prior Minutes

Approval of Minutes from the September 15, 2026, Regular Board Meeting. On motion by Director Biossat, seconded by Director Nealsson, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes for September 15, 2026. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote (Ayes: Anderson, Biossat, Cavell, Esmail, Nealsson, Price; Nays: None). Public comment was requested; no public comment was offered.

III. ORAL REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Quentina Timoll presented the Superintendent's Report:

Teachers & Support Person of the Year were recognized, including Melissa Vital-Liggans (Elementary), Jennifer Langlois (Middle), Christy Maurice (High School), and Sarah Hunt (Support). School leaders Kaleisha London, Brandy Garrett, and Jasmyn Watson were recognized for National Principals Month. Recent events included campus back-to-school dances with 239 attendees; Open House South at Lamar Dixon with roughly 530 families and 1,700 attendees; a National WWII Museum field trip with over 800 participants; and a High School College & Career Fair with 120 attendees. Student achievements highlighted 8th-grade gymnast Josiah Jordan's invitation to the

National Team Camp.

Enrollment & Attendance: Official October 1 enrollment stands at 3,963 students, with Micro Academy enrollment at 415 students. The number of students with disabilities increased to 556, and the number of gifted students increased by 21.

B. Financial Report for September 2026

Mr. Fox presented the financial report for the first quarter of the school year, highlighting a strong financial position with 167 days of cash on hand totaling $26.2 million. Year-to-date performance resulted in a $400,000 operating surplus, generated from $13 million in total revenue against $12.6 million in expenditures. Despite the current surplus, the organization is projecting an operating deficit of $6.7 million for the year, primarily due to a $6 million student laptop rollout and state-funded staff stipends, as well as increased professional technical service expenses for the micro academy expansion. The balance sheet reflects robust standing, closing the quarter with $47.1 million in total assets and $930,000 in total liabilities, resulting in total net assets of $46.2 million.

C. Finance Committee Report

Board President Price reported that the Finance Committee met and discussed staff stipends and the health insurance renewal.

Procedural Note: By consensus, the Board agreed to reorder the agenda items from their originally published order. For clarity, these minutes reflect the items in the order they were actively discussed during the meeting.

D. Facilities Report

Mr. Barry Harris provided the facilities update:

1. Academic Center: Elevator modifications are complete, returning the unit to service. Additionally, surge protectors are being installed on both elevators at a cost of $6,135 to prevent future electrical interference.

2. Bennington II: Phase II construction is nearing completion with only the gates remaining, at a cost of $46,000. Phase III is currently underway with an allocated cost of $36,500.

3. Campus-wide: Monthly building walkthroughs and inspections have officially commenced, with all general buildings reported in satisfactory condition and requiring only routine maintenance. Investigations into leaks at the Lynx Den and Academic Center remain ongoing, while final touches—including student art, signage, and documentation—are nearing completion in the Parent Center.

E. Facilities Committee Report

Facilities Committee Chair Mr. William Biossat reported that the Facilities Committee had no report to submit.

F. Governance Committee Report

Governance Committee Chair Mr. Thomas Nealsson reported that the Governance Committee interviewed three candidates for open board seats: Mr. Brian Bertucci, Dr. Sean Joffrion, and Dr. Tammy Hall, and recommended all three candidates for full board consideration.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Procedural Note: By consensus, the Board agreed to reorder the agenda items from their originally published order. For clarity, these minutes reflect the items in the order they were actively discussed during the meeting.

A. Discussion and Approval of Health Insurance Renewal

Ms. Elizabeth Minvielle reviewed renewal proposals, noting medical increases were negotiated down to approximately 9%, dental to 9%, and vision to 6%, with life and disability renewing flat. The net impact is approximately $365,000, with the 80% employer contribution maintained.

On motion by Director Cavell, seconded by Director Anderson, to accept the recommendation by the Finance Committee for the Health Insurance Renewal. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote (Ayes: Anderson,

Biossat, Cavell, Esmail, Nealsson, Price; Nays: None). Public comment was requested; no public comment was offered.

B. Discussion and Election of Board Candidate Recommendations

On motion by Director Nealsson, seconded by Director Cavell, to elect Dr. Tammy Hall to fill the vacant 2-year term. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote (Ayes: Anderson, Biossat, Cavell, Esmail, Nealsson, Price; Nays: None). Public comment was requested; no public comment was offered.

On motion by Director Nealsson, seconded by Director Cavell, to elect Dr. Sean Joffrion to fill the second open 2-year term. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote (Ayes: Anderson, Biossat, Cavell, Esmail, Nealsson, Price; Nays: None). Public comment was requested; no public comment was offered.

On motion by Director Nealsson, seconded by Director Anderson, to elect Mr. Brian Bertucci to fill the open 3-year term. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote (Ayes: Anderson, Biossat, Cavell, Esmail, Nealsson, Price; Nays: None). Public comment was requested; no public comment was offered.

C. Discussion and Approval of 2026–2027 Executive Order Funding Release for Certificated and Support Staff Stipends

Executive Order funding covers $498,000 for eligible staff stipends. Per prior board directive, $112,000 in supplemental stipends for excluded positions will be covered with general fund dollars (total cost of $732,000, including employer benefits), with the payout set for November 15, 2026.

On motion by Director Anderson, seconded by Director Esmail, to approve the board resolution authorizing the stipend payments and necessary budget and salary schedule adjustments. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote (Ayes: Anderson, Biossat, Cavell, Esmail, Nealsson, Price; Nays: None). Public comment was requested; no public comment was offered.

Procedural Note: At 6:31 PM, Director Esmail stepped out of the meeting.

D. Discussion and Approval of 2026–2027 Pupil Progression Plan

On motion by Director Anderson, seconded by Director Biossat, to approve the 2026–2027 Pupil Progression Plan with a correction to the NCAA response language on page 12. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote (Ayes: Anderson, Biossat, Cavell, Nealsson, Price; Nays: None; Absent: Esmail). Public comment was requested; no public comment was offered.

Procedural Note: At 6:40 PM, Director Esmail returned to the meeting.

E. Discussion and Completion of Louisiana Audit Compliance Questionnaire

On motion by Director Cavell, seconded by Director Anderson, to accept and approve the Louisiana Audit Compliance Questionnaire. The motion passed by roll call vote (Ayes: Anderson, Biossat, Cavell, Nealsson, Price; Nays: None; Abstentions: Esmail). Public comment was requested; no public comment was offered.

F. Formal Establishment of the Academic Achievement Committee

On motion by Director Nealsson, seconded by Director Anderson, to formally establish the Academic Achievement Committee, with committee appointments to be made by the Board President. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote (Ayes: Anderson, Biossat, Cavell, Esmail, Nealsson, Price; Nays: None). Public comment was requested; no public comment was offered.

G. **Executive Session**

On motion by Director Nealsson, seconded by Director Cavell, to enter Executive Session pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(11) regarding a parent grievance and pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(2) & (A)(11) regarding pending EEOC Charge No. 461-2026-00444. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote (Ayes: Anderson, Biossat, Cavell, Esmail, Nealsson, Price; Nays: None). Public comment was requested; no public comment was offered.

Procedural Note: Director Anderson left the meeting at 6:50 PM.

On motion by Director Biossat, seconded by Director Nealsson, to return to open session. The motion passed by voice vote.

On motion by Director Cavell, seconded by Director Biossat, to authorize legal counsel to represent the board moving forward regarding the pending EEOC matter. The motion passed by roll call vote (Ayes: Biossat, Cavell, Esmail, Nealsson, Price; Nays: None; Absent: Anderson). Public comment was requested; no public comment was offered.

Regarding the parent grievance, no board action was taken.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. November Board Meeting: November 17, 2026

VI. CLOSING ITEMS

A. Adjournment

Hearing no objections, Board President Price adjourned the meeting by general consent at 7:33 p.m.

CONFERENCE ROOM & ONLINE GUESTS:

NAME	LOCATION
Katie Cali	Conference Room
17 individuals logged in to attend the meeting online.	