

Louisiana Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline

Friday, September 20, 2019
Claiborne State Office Building, Rapides Room, 3-230
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Official Minutes

The September 20, 2019 meeting of the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline was called to order at 10:17 A.M. by Ms. Lisa French. Members present were: Dr. Amanda Austin, Dr. Alan Coulter, Ms. Tamara Cupit, Ms. Gina Easterly, Mr. Shawn Fleming, Ms. Lisa French, Mr. Dannie Garrett, Mr. Dana Henry, Ms. Melanie Jacobs, Supt. Darwan Lazard, Mr. Michael Ortego, Ms. Julie Comeaux for Ms. Laci Polotzola, Mr. Brad Prudhomme, Ms. Glyn Butler for Mr. Tory Rocca, Ms. Caroline Roemer, Mr. Robert Schaff, Ms. Ariel Test, and Ms. Gina Womack.

Ms. Brenda Cosse', Ms. Tia Edwards, Ms. Liz Gary, Mr. Raymond Jetson, Mr. Victor Jones, Ms. Laci Polotzola, Mr. Tory Rocca, Ms. Cyndy Rutherford, Mr. Al Simmons, Judge Kim Stansbury, and Mr. Marc Turner were absent.

- 1 Ms. French opened the floor for nominations for chair. Mr. Prudhomme nominated Mr. Schaff and he accepted. Ms. Womack nominated herself. There were no other nominations for chair. A roll call vote for Mr. Schaff to be elected chair was taken and the votes were as follows:

Yeas: Dr. Austin, Dr. Coulter, Ms. Easterly, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Jacobs, Supt. Lazard, Mr. Ortego, Mr. Prudhomme, and Mr. Schaff.

Nays: Ms. Cupit, Ms. French, Ms. Roemer, Ms. Test, and Ms. Womack.

With a vote of nine yeas and five nays, Mr. Schaff was elected as the new chair of Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline.

- 2 A motion was made by Ms. Womack to approve the February 1, 2019 meeting minutes. Mr. Prudhomme seconded the motion and all approved without objection.

- 3 A motion was made by Mr. Prudhomme to resubmit R.S. 17:416 as it was originally written by the Legislative Work Group, and passed by the full Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline, to the legislature to be filed as a bill in the 2020 Regular Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Womack and all approved without objection.

Dr. Erin Bendily with the Department of Education gave an update on discipline-related legislation proposed in the 2019 Legislative Session. Members engaged in questions and discussion about the charge of the council as outlined in statute. Mr. Schaff directed members to come to the next meeting with suggestions for best practices for school discipline plans in order to make recommendations to the House and Senate Education Committees and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education as directed by R.S. 17:253.

Ms. French, with the Department of Education, gave a presentation on the Identification of Schools as “Urgent Intervention Required for Discipline.”

4 On motion by Supt. Lazard and seconded by Mr. Ortego the meeting was adjourned at 1:02 P.M.