



## City of Baker School Board Meeting May 2, 2023

### MINUTES

The City of Baker School Board held a public meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2023.

President Burges called the meeting to order and explained to visitors the process for speaking on action agenda items is to request a comment card from Mrs. Debbie Dedeaux. Write your name on the card as well as the number of the agenda item you wish to speak on and return the card to Mrs. Dedeaux. She will bring the card up to the Board President at the appropriate time. Visitors will be allowed three (3) minutes to speak.

Roll call was taken by President Burges:

|          |         |
|----------|---------|
| Perkins: | Present |
| Profit:  | Present |
| Butler:  | Present |
| Joseph:  | Present |
| Burges:  | Present |

President Burges announced there was a quorum and the meeting would proceed.

Silent Meditation was led by Mrs. Profit followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mrs. Joseph.

President Burges welcomed all visitors to the meeting.

Dr. Lisa Smothers, Supervisor of Accountability, Assessment, and Evaluation announced the City of Baker School System 2023 Teachers of the Year:

- Ms. Nicole Michelle Butler, Baker Heights Elementary School
- Ms. Laura Lee O'Dell, Park Ridge Academic Magnet School
- Ms. Makeba Angel Scott, Baker Middle School
- Ms. Regina Elizabeth Bornslater, Baker High School

Mr. John Arrasmith, English Language Arts Specialist announced the City of Baker School System 2023 Students of the Year:

- Mr. Luis Enrique Morales, Baker Heights Elementary School
- Miss Gabrielle Taylor, Park Ridge Academic Magnet School
- Mr. Kelly Terell Rice, III, Baker Middle School
- Miss Cesia Calix, Baker High School

The Teachers of the Year and Students of the Year each received a plaque presented by their school principal.

The 2023 King and Queen of the Baker High School Prom were recognized, and each presented with a certificate by President Burges:

- Mr. Alec Wooders, Baker High School Prom King
- Miss Amber Harris, Baker High School Prom Queen

On motion of Mrs. Profit seconded by Ms. Butler, the Board voted to approve the agenda. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: None.

**Action Items:**

1. On motion of Mrs. Perkins seconded by Mrs. Profit, the Board voted to approve the minutes from the City of Baker School Board Meetings of March 14, 2023 and April 4, 2023. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: None.
2. Mr. Matthew Margaglio with Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC presented the City of Baker School Board Annual Financial Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2022. On motion of Ms. Butler seconded by Mrs. Profit, the Board voted to approve the City of Baker School Board Financial Audit for the 2022-2023 school year. Voting yes: Profit, Butler, and Burges. Voting no: Perkins and Joseph.
3. On motion of Mrs. Profit seconded by Ms. Butler, the Board voted to approve an engagement letter with Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC to provide audit services for the City of Baker School Board for the year ended June 30, 2023 and 2024. Voting yes: Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: Perkins.
4. On motion of Ms. Butler seconded by Mrs. Profit, the Board voted to approve a change order for the Baker High School construction project. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: None.
5. On motion of Ms. Butler seconded by Mrs. Profit, the Board voted to accept the monthly financial report including budget to actual comparisons for the period ending February 28, 2023, and the monthly financial report including budget to actual comparisons for the period ending March 31, 2023, as presented by Mrs. Sidney Stewart, Business Manager. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, and Burges. Voting no: Joseph.
6. A motion was made by Ms. Butler for the approval of the City of Baker School System *Student Rights & Responsibilities Handbook and Discipline Policy* for 2023-2024. The motion failed for lack of a second. On motion of Mrs. Profit seconded by Mrs. Perkins, the Board voted to table the item until the next Board Meeting. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: None.

7. On motion of Ms. Butler seconded by Mrs. Perkins, the Board voted to approve a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Southern University for Dual Credit classes. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: None.
8. On motion of Ms. Butler seconded by Mrs. Joseph, the Board voted to approve a memorandum of understanding with LSU STEM Pathways. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: None.
9. On motion of Ms. Butler seconded by Mrs. Joseph, the Board voted to approve a memorandum of understanding with Rosebud Healthcare and Training, LLC for a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: None.
10. On motion of Mrs. Perkins seconded by Mrs. Joseph, the Board voted to approve a field trip for Baker Heights Elementary students to visit the Aquarium in Houston, Texas on May 12, 2023. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: None.
11. On motion of Ms. Butler seconded by Mrs. Profit, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Mr. J.T. Stroder as Interim Superintendent of the City of Baker School System effective July 1, 2023, and his contract. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Burges. Voting no: Joseph.

### **Information Items:**

1. Superintendent's Report on Personnel – A list of the Superintendent's personnel actions was given to the Board.
2. CLEP/Dual Enrollment – Dr. Lisa Smothers, Supervisor of Accountability, Assessment and Evaluation, provided information on CLEP (College Level Examination Program). This is a program where students can take exams in various subjects and if they pass the exam, they can earn college credit while they are still in high school. We currently have 3 students who will be taking the Spanish Level I CLEP this spring. We currently have 18 students in Dual Enrollment through Southern University.
3. Baker Final Corrective Action Plan to Louisiana Department of Education – Federal Programs under the direction of Mrs. Candace Bailey, and IDEA under the direction of Mrs. Tammy Hill were both audited recently by the Louisiana Department of Education. Both programs had minor findings, and corrective action plans have been submitted.
4. Discussion of Permanent City of Baker School System Superintendent – This was an initial discussion of how the search for a permanent superintendent should be handled. Some members felt that a search should begin immediately without the assistance of a consultant by advertising in the newspaper, while others felt a consultant should be hired to conduct a superintendent search.

5. 4-H Programming – Mr. Stroder informed the Board that he and President Burges have been talking with 4-H representatives about piloting a 4-H Science Program for City of Baker School System students as well as students in surrounding areas.

**Announcements:**

1. The next meeting of the City of Baker School Board is scheduled for Tuesday, June 6, 2023, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the School Board Office.

**Superintendent's Report:**

1. Baker School Bus Transportation GPS System – We have been working with the vendor that we bought the GPS units for our buses from to get the software for the bus routes to the vendor. We had hoped to have this done by the end of this school year, but it looks as though it will be ready for the upcoming school year.

Mr. Stroder suggested the Board pick a date to have a work session to discuss the millage process. President Burges will get with members and come up with a date.

There being no further business, on motion of Mrs. Joseph seconded by Ms. Buter, the Board voted to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: None.

Submitted by J.T. Stroder, Acting Secretary.