



**City of Baker School Board Meeting  
May 7, 2024**

**MINUTES**

The City of Baker School Board held a public meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 7, 2024.

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 two (2) minutes to speak.

Mrs. Burges welcomed all visitors to the meeting and took roll call:

Perkins: Present  
Profit: Present  
Joseph: Present  
Butler: Present  
Burges: Present

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

Silent Meditation/Prayer was led by Councilman Robert Young, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilwoman Rochelle Dunn.

**Recognitions:**

1. Middle School Support Employee of the Year, Mr. Christopher Stevenson was unable to attend the meeting.

President Burges requested the agenda be amended to include "Consideration of House Bill #6 and Possible Resolution" as Agenda Item E.7., and asked for a motion. A motion was made by Ms. Butler. The motion died for lack of a second.

On motion of Ms. Butler seconded by Mrs. Profit, the Board voted to approve the meeting agenda. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, and Burges. Voting no: Joseph.

**Action Items:**

1. Consideration and Approval of Minutes from the School Board Meeting of April 16, 2024  
On motion of Mrs. Profit seconded by Ms. Butler, the Board voted to approve the minutes from the School Board Meeting of April 16, 2024. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: None.
2. Consideration and Acceptance of Monthly Financial Report including Budget to Actual Comparisons for the Period Ending March 31, 2024

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 March 31, 2024, as presented by Mrs. Sidney Stewart, Business Manager. Voting yes: Profit, Butler, and Burges. Voting no: Perkins, and Joseph.

3. Consideration and Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip to Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas for Baker Middle School

Item tabled.

4. Consideration and Approval of Change Order No. 7 for Baker High School Construction Project

The Board was informed that Change Order No. 7 was in the amount of zero (0) dollars. On motion of Mrs. Profit seconded by Ms. Butler, the Board voted to approve Change Order No. 7 for the Baker High School Construction Project. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: None.

5. Consideration and Approval of Contract with First Choice Therapy for Occupational Therapy Services.

Item tabled.

6. Consideration and Approval of Contract with LSU Social Research Evaluation Center (SREC) for Grant Funding.

Superintendent Stroder explained the grant fund is in the amount of \$50,000 to continue the district's work in addressing and reducing chronic absenteeism. Last school year Baker High School had an attendance rate of 70% percent. This year, with the work that has been done so far, the attendance rate at Baker High School has increased to 90%. On motion of Mrs. Profit seconded by Ms. Butler, the Board voted to approve a contract with LSU Social Research Evaluation Center (SREC) for Grant Funding. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Butler, Joseph, and Burges. Voting no: None.

**Information Items:**

1. Superintendent's Report on Personnel

A report on all personnel actions was provided to the Board prior to the meeting.

2. Update from CSRS on Baker High School Construction

Mr. Brian Budd with the CSRS Program Management Team provided information on the Baker High School Construction Project. The current schedule for completion of the project is as follows:

- Building D (Band Room) is slated to be completed June 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Building A, which is the building to the right of the auditorium is slated to be completed July 5<sup>th</sup>.

- Building B (Main Building) should be completed around July 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Furniture is slated to be delivered by July 18<sup>th</sup>
- By the first week of August, they will be wrapping up, touching up, and making sure everything is connected and working.

**Announcements:**

1. Date of Next Meeting -- June 4, 2024
2. President Burges gave a shout-out to all Principals in recognition of Principals' Day which was May 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. President Burges acknowledged Mr. Frederic Mack, a senior at Baker High School, for being awarded an \$80,000 scholarship by the Army National Guard.
4. President Burges announced May 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> is Teacher Appreciation Week and thanked them for their hard work and dedication.
5. President Burges recognized the district's school nurses, Ms. Muriel Miller and Ms. April Taplin for all they do for our children. School Nurses week is May 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>. She is sending certificates to them.
6. Superintendent Stroder announced the Ambassador to the United Nations, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, will be visiting Baker High School and touring the construction site on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.
7. Superintendent Stroder has been invited to the White House to attend the "Every Day Counts Summit: Addressing Chronic Absenteeism and Increasing Student Achievement" on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Board Comments:**

1. Mrs. Joseph briefly explained her request to have the following items on the agenda: (1) New Policy for Members of the Public/Community to Add Items to the Monthly School Board Meeting Agenda, (2) Proposed Legislative Bills, and (3) Committee Meetings.

**Adjournment:**

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

Submitted by: J.T. Stroder, Secretary.