



SBESE NEWSLETTER



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Date of Meeting: August 17, 2021
Next Meeting: October 12, 2021

PRIMARY TOPICS

1. UPDATE REPORT REGARDING A KINDERGARTEN THROUGH SECOND GRADE (K-2) ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM
2. REPORT REGARDING LOUISIANA STATUTES REGARDING COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AND TRUANCY
3. CONSIDERATION OF THE APPROVAL OF COURSE OFFERINGS FOR THE LOUISIANA SCHOOL FOR MATH, SCIENCE, AND THE ARTS

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ACADEMIC GOALS AND INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENTS

A Word From Me:

Hello everyone! It's that time of year again. Ready or not: school is back in session! I wish each of Louisiana's students, as well as teachers, administration, faculty and staff, a great start to the 2021-2022 school year! If any questions or concerns regarding the content of my newsletter arise, please feel free to contact me via email or phone.

Update Report Regarding a Kindergarten Through Second Grade (K-2) Accountability System:

This item was deferred at the June 2021 BESE meeting. State Superintendent of Education Dr. Cade Brumley provided an update report of a proposed K-2 accountability system to be implemented over a 4 year timeline. BESE is currently considering the formation of a workgroup composed of a

subgroup of BESE members to work alongside a set of national experts to consider expectations for student growth in Louisiana. This workgroup would be responsible for reviewing the K-2 accountability system and revising the system's mandates. LDE recommended an endorsement of the proposed system ; however, after careful deliberation, the Board voted to defer the approval of the proposal until BESE convenes again in October hoping that the proposed workgroup be established prior to the meeting date.

Report Regarding Louisiana Statutes Regarding Compulsory Attendance and Truancy:

BESE member Mr. Ronnie Morris requested that the Louisiana Department of Education provide a report regarding Louisiana



Next AGII Committee Meeting:
October 12, 2021



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statutes that define and direct compulsory attendance and truancy. The Board moved to accept the report given by Executive Counsel, Joan Hunt, and Assistant Superintendent for the Office of Career and College Readiness, Ken Bradford. Truancy is defined as any student having either 5 unexcused days tardy or 5 unexcused days absent within a school semester. Truancy should be programmatically flagged based on reported/recorded attendance data, not manually updated or overridden. According to LDE, the following data was recorded for the 2019-2020 school year: Number of Truants- 211,319; Percent of Truants- 28.19. The LSU-Social Research and Evaluation Center (SREC) plans to support school systems through LSU Attendance Specialists who will promote better attendance practices.

Consideration of the Approval of Course Offerings For the Louisiana School For Math, Science, and the Arts:

The Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts is an academically distinguished, state-supported residential high school with competitive admissions for high-achieving young scholars. At the August AGII Committee Meeting, BESE approved the following new courses for the 2021-2022 school year: CL Literature and Gender Studies, Latin Paleography, and Classical Scholars: Classical Gymnasium. Each of these courses underwent extensive review by the LSMSA Board of Directors before being presented. Additionally, BESE approved new faculty and textbooks for the school that can be found on the LSMSA website at www.lsmsa.edu.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” - Nelson Mandela

KEEP WORKING LA!

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RESOURCES:

COVID-19 Resources:



Louisiana Department of Health:



Love Our Schools Website:



BoardDocs Site:



Learning Connectivity Tool:



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