

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2020 First Extraordinary Session
September 4, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Raymond E. Garofalo, Jr., chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:28 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Raymond E. Garofalo, Jr., chairman
Representative Beryl A. Amedée
Representative Kendricks "Ken" Brass
Representative Gary M. Carter Jr.
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Aimee Adatto Freeman
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg
Representative Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III
Representative Polly Thomas
Representative Mark Wright, vice chairman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Patrick O. Jefferson
Representative Blake Miguez
Representative Charles Anthony Owen
Representative Tammy T. Phelps
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Elizabeth L. Borne, legislative analyst
Lisa Lovello, legislative analyst
Jacqueline Snowden, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS

To receive information from Dr. Cade Brumley, state superintendent of education; Dr. Courtney Phillips, secretary, Louisiana Department of Health; Sandy Holloway, president, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; H. "Butch" Browning, Jr., state fire marshal; and Eddie Bonine, executive director, Louisiana High School Athletic Association, on issues relative to high school athletic activities during the 2020-2021 school year

Speaker Schexnayder gave an opening statement relative to high school athletic activities before the committee.

Kevin Hayes, 412 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, 263-2725, spoke in support of high school athletics.

Claire Harvison, 6402 Audubon Square, Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 806-2438, spoke in support of high school athletics.

Gabriel Fertitta, Catholic High School of Baton Rouge, 445 Whitehead Boulevard, Port Allen, LA, (205) 790-1800, spoke in support of high school athletics.

Tanner Istre, Jennings High School, 13997 Touchet Road, no city or state given, (337) 329-0922, spoke in support of high school athletics.

Cade Brumley, Louisiana Department of Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA, discussed Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education's (BESE) COVID-19 guidelines for high school athletics.

Sandra Holloway, Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, no witness card provided, spoke for information only on high school athletics.

Eddie Bonine, Louisiana High School Athletic Association, 12220 Old Hammond Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 250-7480, discussed the safety measures taken for athletes regarding COVID-19 with the committee.

Wilbur Styles, no address provided, (225) 572-1862, spoke for information only on high school athletics.

Erik Kearns, Fontainebleau High School, 44 Colony Trail Drive, (905) 373-6169, spoke for information only on high school athletics.

Kevin Lemoine, Silliman Institute, 10308 Brook Street, Clinton, LA 70722, (225) 226-7181, spoke for information only on high school athletics.

Ryan Talley, 208 Rue Mon Jardin, Madisonville, LA 70447, (985) 415-9286, spoke for information only on high school athletics.

Representative Hilferty asked about differing COVID-19 guidelines between parishes regarding high school athletics.

Eddie Bonine, Louisiana High School Athletic Association, 12220 Old Hammond Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 250-7480, answered that the Louisiana High School Athletic Association's COVID-19 guidelines were applicable to all Louisiana schools. Mr. Bonine discussed the logistics of those guidelines with the committee.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 279 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

To receive an update from Dr. Cade Brumley, state superintendent of education, on education issues with respect to the impacts of Hurricane Laura

Cade Brumley, Louisiana Department of Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA, discussed challenges and best practices in education with respect to the impacts of Hurricane Laura with the committee.

Wes Watts, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, 3761 Rosedale Road, Port Allen, LA 70767, (225) 343-8309, spoke for information only on an emergency school reporting and data-sharing order from the Louisiana Department of Health regarding COVID-19. Mr. Watts provided a handout, "Emergency School Reporting and Data Sharing Order", Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Raymond E. Garofalo, Jr.
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: