



Mr. Michael Melerine
4th BESE District

STATE BOARD of ELEMENTARY and SECONDARY EDUCATION

P.O. Box 94064, Capitol Station, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064 · PHONE: 225-342-5840 · FAX: 225-342-5843

BESE SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICER RESOLUTION 1

To urge and request the governing authorities of the public elementary and secondary schools in the State of Louisiana provide for a school resource officer for all schools under its jurisdiction.

WHEREAS, the Constitution of Louisiana states that the goal of the public education system is to provide learning environments and experiences, at all stages of human development, that are humane, just, and designed to promote excellence in order that every individual may be afforded an equal opportunity to develop to his full potential; and

WHEREAS, incidences of shooting and other acts of violence and terrorism continue to occur in schools, on school buses, and at school-related activities and pose a significant threat to the safety and well-being of students, teachers, and school employees; and

WHEREAS, incidences of shooting and other acts of violence and terrorism foster a climate of fear that can seriously impair and affect the physical and psychological health of students, faculty, and staff and create conditions that negatively affect teaching and learning; and

WHEREAS, protecting the school environment and preventing the loss of life and injury to students and teachers and other school employees are governmental interests of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, LA R. S. 17:416.9, provides that any city, parish, or other local public school system and any nonpublic school may make or enter into agreements with a local law enforcement agency to provide for school resource officers; and

WHEREAS, a school resource officer shall be certified by a nationally accredited school resource officer program or a state school resource officer training program certified by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training; and

WHEREAS, a school resource officer can work in collaboration with schools, law enforcement agencies, and community-based organizations in order to implement school safety and security practices and procedures to prevent crime and protect students, faculty, and staff; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education does hereby urge and request that each Louisiana public school system enter into agreements with a local law enforcement agency to provide for a school resource officer at every public school and to annually report to the state Department of Education the total number of school resource officers provided to the system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the governing authority of each public Louisiana Education Agency (LEA).



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BESE SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICER RESOLUTION 2

To urge and request the Legislature of Louisiana to provide adequate funding to the governing authorities of the public elementary and secondary schools in the State of Louisiana in order to provide for a school resource officer in every public school.

WHEREAS, the Constitution of Louisiana states that the goal of the public education system is to provide learning environments and experiences, at all stages of human development, that are humane, just, and designed to promote excellence in order that every individual may be afforded an equal opportunity to develop to his full potential; and

WHEREAS, incidences of shooting and other acts of violence and terrorism continue to occur in schools, on school buses, and at school-related activities and pose a significant threat to the safety and well-being of students, teachers, and school employees; and

WHEREAS, incidences of shooting and other acts of violence and terrorism foster a climate of fear that can seriously impair and affect the physical and psychological health of students and create conditions that negatively affect learning; and

WHEREAS, protecting the school environment and preventing the loss of life and injury to students and teachers and other school employees are governmental interests of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, LA R. S. 17:416.9, provides that any city, parish, or other local public school system and any nonpublic school may make or enter into agreements with a local law enforcement agency to provide for school resource officers; and

WHEREAS. A school resource officer shall be certified by a nationally accredited school resource officer program or a state school resource officer training program, certified by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training; and

WHEREAS, a school resource officer can work in collaboration with schools, law enforcement agencies, and community-based organizations in order to implement school safety and security practices and procedures to prevent crime and protect students, faculty, and staff.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education does hereby urge and request that each Louisiana public school system be allocated adequate funding to enter into agreements with a local law enforcement agency to provide for a school resource officer at every public school.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to each member of the Louisiana Legislature.

BESE Resolution regarding School Safety Officers considered at the April 2023 Special Called Meeting of the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE).

The resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

On Motion of Mr. Melering, seconded by Ms. Holloway, the board approved the resolution 1 and 2 regarding school safety officers, as presented, and directed the BESE Executive Director to process accordingly.

YEAS:

NAYS:

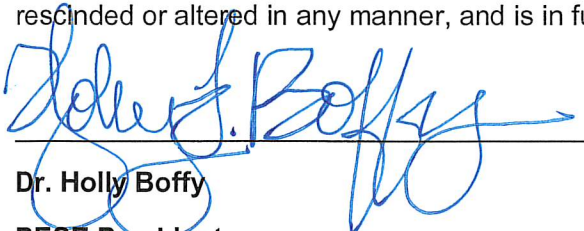
ABSENT:

RECUSALS

ABSTENTION:

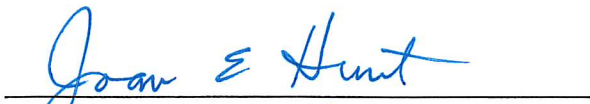
Whereupon the Resolution was declared adopted by the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education on the 5th day of April, 2023.

I, **Dr. Holly Boffy**, President/Chairman of The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), hereby certify the above and foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the said Board at its meeting held April 5, 2023 at which a quorum was present, and the same has not been revoked, rescinded or altered in any manner, and is in full force and effect.



Dr. Holly Boffy
BESE President

Witness my hand this 5th day of April 2023.



Notary Public #1428