

**Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists**  
**School Specialist Task Force Meeting**  
**MEETING MINUTES: July 26, 2013**  
***APPROVED: September 6, 2013***

The second meeting of the School Specialist Task Force established by the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (Board) was called to order by Dr. Culross at 10:00 a.m., Friday, July 26, 2013, at 8280 YMCA Plaza Drive, Building 8-B, Baton Rouge, LA 70810. The following task force members were present: Dr. Culross, Dr. Welsh, Dr. Broussard, Dr. Patterson, Ms. Françoise Parr; and Executive Director, Kelly Parker. David White, LPA Representative, and Susan Ratterree, National School Psychology Representative were absent. Deborah Harkins, Esquire, legislative consultant for LSBEP was also present for the meeting.

Dr. Broussard moved to accept the July 26, 2013 agenda. Ms. Parr moved to accept the June 28, 2013 minutes.

The group reviewed and discussed the School Specialist Survey summary responses. At the time of the meeting, the survey had gotten approximately 160 responses. Ms. Parr moved to leave the survey open until August 15, 2013 for additional feedback. The motion passed unanimously. The group also reviewed the detailed responses from individual survey participants.

The group discussed some of the general concerns reported in the survey responses to date, such as the name of the licensure, the Board structure, and grandfathering. Dr. Culross suggested that if the LSBEP creates this level of licensure, they should be called "Licensed School Specialist" similar to the licensure title in Texas. Dr. Welsh and Dr. Broussard agreed that the title needed to distinguish to the consumer the difference between a licensed school psychologist and licensed school specialist. Dr. Culross also suggested that there be no grandfathering clause. Dr. Broussard opined that only those who completed specialist programs would qualify for licensure, and suggested that there should be no option for adding additional coursework to qualify.

Dr. Patterson inquired about qualifications of applicants of online programs. The group discussed concerns and agreed it could be addressed appropriately in the future.

The group discussed briefly the potential oversight for licensure of school specialists. Dr. Broussard and Dr. Welsh both noted that the LSBEP was the most appropriate Board to provide oversight to the school specialist group. Dr. Culross commented that she would recommend an advisory committee under the Board with possibly requiring 1 LSBEP board member position to be a doctoral level school psychologist.

The group discussed a potential meeting with BESE and planning strategies with Ms. Harkins. Ms. Harkins suggested the group wait until all the survey results were received before meeting with BESE. Ms. Harkins also suggested the appropriate BESE contacts for meeting purposes.

Dr. Welsh mentioned educating the school specialists and school psychology community about the potential legislation at the LSPA fall conference or LPA fall conference. Ms. Harkins recommended not doing anything until the LSBEP made a final decision and a meeting with BESE. The whole group agreed that should the LSBEP choose to proceed with this level of licensure that community education would be needed.

School Specialist Minutes

July 26, 2013

Page 2 of 2

Dr. Culross set the next meeting date for Friday, September 6, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. Dr. Broussard moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m.