City of Baker School Board Meeting

March 3, 2026

MINUTES

The City of Baker School Board held a meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at the School Board Office.

President Butler called the meeting to order and explained to visitors that the process for speaking on action agenda items is to request a comment card from Ms. Blackmore, write your name and the number of the agenda item you wish to speak on, and return the card to Ms. Blackmore. Visitors will be allowed two (2) minutes to speak.

President Butler welcomed all visitors and called the public meeting to order. She then took roll:

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

Ms. Butler announced there was a quorum, and the meeting would proceed.

Ms. Butler requested that everyone stand for a moment of silent meditation/prayer led by Mrs. Profit, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognitions / Visitors:

No recognitions were noted.

Approval of Agenda:

The Superintendent noted that the School Board Member Training Hours item was removed from the agenda, as it was approved at the prior meeting. On motion of Mrs. Profit seconded by Mrs. Burges, the Board voted to approve the meeting agenda. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Burges, Joseph, and Butler. Voting no: None.

Action Items:

1. Consideration and Approval of Minutes from the School Board Meeting of February 3, 2026

On motion of Mrs. Profit seconded by Mrs. Burges, the Board voted to approve the minutes from the Board meeting of February 3, 2026. Voting yes: Perkins, Profit, Burges, Joseph, and Butler. Voting no: None.

2. Consideration and Acceptance of Monthly Financial Reports including Budget to Actual Comparisons for the Period Ending January 31, 2026

The monthly financial report, including Budget to Actual comparisons for the period ending January 31, 2026, was presented. On motion of Mrs. Burges seconded by Mrs. Profit, the Board voted to accept the monthly financial reports. Voting yes: Profit, Burges, and Butler. Voting no: Perkins and Joseph.

3. Consideration and Adoption of Policies

The Superintendent advised that the policies presented were recommended updates from Forethought Consulting. The policies included: B-12.1 (Notification of School Board Meetings), D-3.9 (Sale of Surplus Equipment and Supplies), D-7.4 (Purchasing), E-1.1B (Emergency/Crisis Management), F-9.4 (Recruitment), F-9.15 (Dismissal of Employees), F-12.8 (Employee Conduct), and H-3.6 (Behavioral Health Services Support for Students) (new policy).

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

4. Consideration of Public Participation Time Limits (B-12.8 Public Participation at School Board Meetings)

At the request of Ms. Perkins, the Board discussed whether to amend the public comment time limit currently set at two (2) minutes per agenda item. The Board received clarification from legal counsel that the time limitation applies to public comments, and that the Board may, at its discretion, adjust time limits as circumstances warrant.

A motion to change the time limit to three (3) minutes was proposed but did not receive a second.

On motion of Ms. Perkins seconded by Ms. Joseph, the Board voted on a proposal to change the public comment time limit from two (2) minutes to five (5) minutes. Voting yes: Perkins and Joseph. Voting no: Profit, Burges, and Butler. The motion failed; the public comment time limit remained two (2) minutes per agenda item.

Informational Items:

1. Superintendent Report

The Superintendent provided an update regarding the retirement of Ms. Sidney Stewart and the transition plan for business/finance operations. A CPA firm, Erickson Crentel (New Orleans), is assisting to complete the current year audit and reviewing whether they may assume certain duties, with the possibility of presenting an engagement letter for Board consideration.

2. Report from Preston Castille

Mr. Castille provided district updates including athletics, facility use and events, enrollment growth and space constraints, and planning for the upcoming school year. He discussed continued work regarding the Harmony and Justice program and an application to the Louisiana Department of Education to convert the program into a school, as well as initiatives to strengthen student and family supports and early-childhood planning.

3. Policy Review / Student Handbook (2026–2027)

The Superintendent reviewed proposed updates to the 2026–2027 Student Handbook related to special education and disciplinary procedures. The District is awaiting approval from the Louisiana Department of Education; the item will return under information at a future meeting.

Announcements:

1. Date of Next Meeting: The Board discussed the April meeting date due to spring break and the LSBA conference and agreed to hold the next meeting on April 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

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

Board President

Secretary