Centerville, Louisiana

October 12, 2023

The St. Mary Parish School Board met in regular session on Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., in the Evans Medine Meeting Room at the Central Office Complex in Centerville, Louisiana, with the following members answering to roll call:

**Present:** Ms. Tammie L. Moore, Mrs. Lindsey T. Anslem, Ms. Debra R. Jones (via teleconference), Mr. Murphy J. Pontiff Jr., Mr. Chad M. Paradee, Mrs. Alaina L. Black, Mr. Andrew V. Mancuso and Mrs. Rhonda R. Dennis (via teleconference)

**Absent:** Mr. Joseph C. Foulcard Jr., Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin and Ms. Marilyn P. LaSalle.

**Invocation**

Mr. Kenneth Holmes gave the Invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.**

President Black led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**Introduction of Students and Employees of the Month**

**Berwick Junior High School:**

Principal Ryan Taylor introduced 8th grade student Stanley Aucoin, IV, as student of the month at Berwick Junior High School. Stanley is accompanied by his parents, sister, and brother. He is currently the president of the Beta Club, vice-president of the Student Council, he's on the quiz bowl team and a member of Berwick Junior High School track team. He also enjoys playing baseball and soccer outside of school. Stanley is also an avid reader. He has been a Word- Millionaire every year since 3rd grade, and he has also won the award for most read in the parish multiple times. Stanley is a role model for his peers and a perfect example of someone who strives to do the right thing with the right attitude. Principal Taylor proudly presented Stanley Aucoin as student of the month at Berwick Junior High School.

Principal Ryan Taylor introduced Travis Adams, resource teacher as employee of the month at Berwick Junior High School. Mr. Adams is accompanied by his parents and his sister. In October of 2021, Travis returned to St. Mary Parish after a stint in Colorado. Since then, he has been an asset to the St. Mary Parish community. He started as a substitute teacher and later took on the roles of a paraprofessional and ISS teacher. Mr. Adams is currently taking on the role of teaching 7th and 8th grade resource classes. Along with his teaching duties, his other contribution to the school included student council sponsor, working after school tutoring and detention, and always helping where needed. He is committed to his students, and he has a drive to see them succeed. Mr. Adams is currently enrolled at Reach University and maintains a perfect 4.0 grade point average. His positive energy, passion, enthusiasm, commitment and dedication to Berwick Junior High School are only a few words that are used to describe him. Principal Taylor proudly introduced Mr. Travis Adams as employee of the month at Berwick Junior High School.

**J. B. Maitland Elementary School:**

Principal Tanya Hills introduced 4th grade student Brixx Billiot, as student of the month at J. B. Maitland Elementary School. Brixx is accompanied by his grandmother, aunt, and sister. He is an honor roll student with a 3.75 grade point average. He scored mastery advance on LEAP through hard work and dedication. He loves riding his scooter and playing with his sister. Brixx is an active member of the Beta Club and 4-H Club. He is an amazing student, kindhearted, helpful, eager to learn and a joy to have in classrooms. He is extremely considerate of others and is always willing to do whatever he is asked to do. Principal Hills proudly introduced Brixx Billiot as student of the month at J. B. Maitland Elementary School.

Principal Tanya Hills introduced Rebecca Nguyen, Pre-K teacher as employee of the month at J. B. Maitland Elementary School. She is accompanied today by her husband, dad, and her two children. Mrs. Nguyen taught for 15 years in pre-K. Before coming to J. B. Maitland Elementary School, she taught for one year at Berwick Elementary School. In her time at J. B. Maitland Elementary, she received the class award from the state for highly effective teaching three years in a row. Outside of school, Mrs. Nguyen enjoys spending time with her family, either at home or taking vacations together. Her hobbies are shopping and crafting. Her colleagues want her to know that she has touched so many lives in her time as a teacher at J. B. Maitland Elementary. She is a great example of grace and patience, when it comes to teaching the youngest of all students in their first of many skills. Principal Hills thanked Mrs. Rebecca Nguyen for being such an inspiration to students, faculty, and staff at J. B. Maitland Elementary School.

**W. P. Foster Elementary School:**

Dr. Angela Steward introduced 5th grade student Ailyn Hernandez, as student of the month at W. P. Foster Elementary School. She is accompanied by her parents, family members, and friends that are cheering her on as she received this honor. She is a candidate for student of the year, and she is the president of the Beta Club. Ailyn is a kind and compassionate student who is always willing to help her fellow students. She is loved and appreciated by all who are blessed to know her. In addition to being a good citizen, Ailyn excels in academics, and she is a 4.0 student. Her favorite subject is math. Some of her favorite things to do include traveling with her family and watching movies. Ailyn also has some personal goals for this school year and beyond. She wants to be a Word-Millionaire and to continue getting all A's. Her dream is to become an architect and travel the world with her family.

Dr. Angela Steward introduced Leona Guilbeaux, head custodian as employee of the month at W. P. Foster Elementary School. She is accompanied by her husband and three sisters. She is very family oriented and very proud of her two children. She also has two beautiful grandchildren who are her pride and joy. Mrs. Guilbeaux has many gifts, one of which is her amazing singing voice. She has shared this talent for many years as a member of her church choir. Mrs. Guilbeaux has worked in St. Mary Parish for 22 years, all of which have been spent at W. P. Foster Elementary School. She takes pride in her work, and it shows. She has an endless supply of energy that is simply amazing, and she ensures that everything is handled in a timely manner. Nothing goes unnoticed by Mrs. Guilbeaux, which contributes greatly to the safety of W. P. Foster Elementary. Her hard work and dedication are greatly appreciated. She is very deserving of this honor and her peers are blessed to have Mrs. Guilbeaux as a member of the W. P. Foster Elementary family.

**Appearances:**

**Franklin-Jeanerette Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**

Ms. Alexis Rack, the chapter president of the Franklin-Jeanerette Alumnae Chapter, announced that the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. would like to celebrate “Red and White Day” with the St. Mary Parish School Board. The Sorority appreciates school board members, administrators, teachers, and staff for the work they do on behalf of students in St. Mary Parish. The Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. provides an extensive array of public service initiatives through its Five-Point Program Thrust of Economic Development, Educational Development, International Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health, and Political Awareness and Involvement. Since 1990, the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. has given Scholarships to high school students throughout St. Mary Parish and Jeanerette, every year except for one year due to COVID. The sorority is serious about helping any student, no matter of race, creed or ethnic background. They work through programs that will help children to become productive citizens. They will continue with watchful eyes and ardent efforts in public service to help meet the challenging times in education.

**Approval of Amended Agenda.**

No amended agenda.

**Approval of Official School Board Minutes.**

Mrs. Anslem offered the motion and Mr. Mancuso offered the second to approve the official school board minutes from the public health plan workshop, public hearing, and regular school board meeting held on September 14, 2023. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

**Yes:** Mr. Chad M. Paradee, Mr. Andrew V. Mancuso, Mr. Murphy J. Pontiff Jr., Mrs. Alaina L. Black, Mrs. Lindsey T. Anslem, Mrs. Rhonda R. Dennis, Ms. Debra R. Jones, Ms. Tammie L. Moore.

**Absent:** Mr. Joseph C. Foulcard Jr., Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin, Ms. Marilyn P. LaSalle.

**Vote**: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote with 8 yes and 3 absents.

**Approval of Consent Agenda.**

President Black stated that Board Members can remove any of the items on the consent agenda for further discussion in the regular proceedings. Dr. Fegenbush read aloud the items on the consent agenda as follows:

**New Business**

**Personnel:**

**Item 1.** \*Approve updated job descriptions for:

A. Bus Driver

B. Computer Technician

**Item 3.** \*Proclamation(s):

A. \*National Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15- October 15, 2023)

B. \*National Native American Heritage Month (November 2023)

**Item 4.** \*Permission to advertise bid for roofing project at Morgan City High School, Morgan City Junior High School, and J. S. Aucoin Elementary School using ESSER Funds.

**Item 7.** \*Field Trips:

1. \*Franklin Junior High School, Student Council travel to Historical Sites,

Martin Luther King, Tyler Perry Studios, Museum, Zoo, Atlanta, Georgia

(March 19 – March 22, 2024)

B. \*B. Edward Boudreaux Middle and West St. Mary High School, Bands travel to

National Show Band Association’s Battle of the Bands, Beaumont, Texas

(November 11, 2023)

**Item 8.** \*Permission to issue E-Rate Category 2 funded RFP for Wireless/LAN upgrade.

Mr. Mancuso requested to pull Item 2 A-I from the consent agenda for discussion.

Mr. Paradee made a motion and seconded by Mr. Mancuso to approve remaining items on the consent agenda, with the exception of pulling Item 2 A-I for discussion. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

**Yes:** Mr. Chad M. Paradee, Mr. Andrew V. Mancuso, Mr. Murphy J. Pontiff Jr., Mrs. Alaina L. Black, Mrs. Lindsey T. Anslem, Mrs. Rhonda R. Dennis, Ms. Debra R. Jones, Ms. Tammie L. Moore.

**Absent:** Mr. Joseph C. Foulcard Jr., Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin, Ms. Marilyn P. LaSalle.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote with 8 yes and 3 absents.

**Business Affairs:**

**Item 2.** \*Review policies from Forethought Consulting as revised by Hammonds and Sills: (pulled from Consent)

A. \*Executive Sessions (BCBK)

B. \*Annual Operation Budget (DC)

C. \*Audits (DID)

D. \*Emergency/Crisis Management (EBBC)

E. \*Public Health Emergency (EBBI)

F. \*Video/Audio Monitoring of School Board Property (EBCB)

G. \*Student Transportation Management (ED)

H. \*Sick Leave (GBRIB)

I. \*Maternity and Adoptive Leave (GBRIC)

Mr. Mancuso requested to pull Item 2 A-I\* from the consent agenda for discussion on revised policies.

After discussion, a deadline was set to send recommendations of policies to the Superintendent by October 19, 2023. No action was required at this time from the Board.

**Item 5.** Discuss and take necessary action on bids received for Franklin High Phase II roofing project using ESSER Funds.

Ms. Moore made a motion and seconded by Mrs. Anslem to award bid for Franklin High School Phase II roofing project using ESSER Funds to Supreme Roofing and Construction LLC., of Destrehan in the amount $2,229,844.00, as presented by Mr. Wiese. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

**Yes:** Mr. Chad M. Paradee, Mr. Andrew V. Mancuso, Mr. Murphy J. Pontiff Jr., Mrs. Alaina L. Black, Mrs. Lindsey T. Anslem, Mrs. Rhonda R. Dennis, Ms. Debra R. Jones, Ms. Tammie L. Moore.

**Absent:** Mr. Joseph C. Foulcard Jr., Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin, Ms. Marilyn P. LaSalle.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote with 8 yes and 3 absents.

**Item 6.** Approve the St. Mary Parish School Board Memorandum of Understanding for outside Behavioral Health Providers.

Mr. Andrew made a motion and seconded by Ms. Moore to approve the St. Mary Parish School Board Memorandum of Understanding for outside Behavior Health providers, as presented by Dr. Sanders. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

**Yes:** Mr. Chad M. Paradee, Mr. Andrew V. Mancuso, Mr. Murphy J. Pontiff Jr., Mrs. Alaina L. Black, Mrs. Lindsey T. Anslem, Mrs. Rhonda R. Dennis, Ms. Debra R. Jones, Ms. Tammie L. Moore.

**Absent:** Mr. Joseph C. Foulcard, Jr., Ms. Marilyn LaSalle, and Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote with 8 yes and 3 absents.

**Reports**

**Committees:**

**The Maintenance District III Committee**

Mr. Mancuso reported that the Maintenance District III Committee met today at 4:45 p.m., prior to the regular school board meeting in the Evans Medine Meeting Room at the Central Office Complex in Centerville, Louisiana.

The committee received updates from Architect Carl Blum, regarding ongoing projects in District III. The roofing project at Morgan City High School, Morgan City Junior High School, and J. S. Aucoin Elementary School using ESSER Funds completion date is estimated by August 2024. The Morgan City High School Stadium renovation that was approved in January 2023, had a few challenges that Mr. Blum has been working through. The estimated completion date for the Morgan City High School Stadium is early July of 2024. No action was required at this time from the Board.

**Staff Report:**

**Chief Financial Officer’s Report:**

**Sale Tax Update**

Mr. Perry reported that the sales tax collections for three months into the fiscal year collected $1,634,000 versus a budget of $1,559,000.

**Financial Statements (Major Funds Only):**

The Board was provided financial statements for major funds only to review at their leisure.

**Other Significant Items:**

Mr. Perry provided the Board with a spreadsheet for the Group Health Insurance Plan to review prior to the November 9, 2023 regular school board meeting.

**Superintendent’s Report**:

Dr. Fegenbush reported that the St. Mary Parish School Board recognized School Lunch Week, “*LEVEL UP WITH SCHOOL LUNCH*” the week of October 9-13, 2023. Dr. Fegenbush thanked cafeteria technicians and managers for all that they do each day.

On September 28th and 29th, instructional staff and members of school leadership teams explored Jill Jackson's coaching model. The goal of the two-day Professional Development session was to help develop and enhance plans in supporting St. Mary Parish teachers through classroom and instructional coaching, both at the school and district levels.

On October 5th and 6th, several school board liaisons represented at the Louisiana School Facility Managers Association Conference. It was an excellent opportunity for school officials to learn about the latest safety and security measures. The event featured expert speakers who share their knowledge on various topics related to school safety and security. Knowledge gained from this conference will assist with St. Mary Parish School district crisis plan revisions.

St. Mary Parish Red Ribbon Week, “*TOO SMART TO START, BE DRUG FREE*” will begin activities the week of October 20 – October 29, 2023. Times and events throughout the week will be presented on the St. Mary Parish School Board’s Facebook page and the St. Mary Parish Schools’ Facebook pages.

The 2023-2024 Annual St. Mary Parish School Board budget was posted on September 30, 2023, on the St. Mary Parish School Board district website and also shared on social media.

National School Bus Safety Week, “Safely Rolling to my Destination”, begins the week of October 16-20, 2023.

October 13, 2023 is the end of the first nine weeks of school. Report cards will be distributed on Monday, October 16th, and parents are encouraged to reach out to schools and teachers with any concerns or questions that they may have.

The St. Mary Parish College and Career Fair will be held on Monday, October 16th.

On Tuesday, October 24th, at 9:00 a.m., Franklin Junior High School will have a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the STAR Academy program. The recognition of the fact that Franklin Junior High School is the recipient of two grants, each for $1 million that will be in place for three years. Currently, the Star Academy grant funding supports 7th and 8th grade students and their adventures in STEM.

Lastly, the Special Olympic Bowling event will be held on Friday, October 27th at 10:00 a.m., at Steelwood Lanes Bowling Alley in Morgan City, Louisiana.

**Executive Session**

Strategy session and/or action concerning pending litigation\*

\*As authorized by La.R.S. 42:17(A)(2), there may be an executive session to discuss

strategy in litigation entitled “Boudreaux, et al vs. School Board of St. Mary Parish,”

bearing Civil Action No. 6:65-11351 on the docket of the United States District Court

for the Western District of Louisiana.

**Board Enters Closed Session:**

With a motion from Mr. Mancuso and a second from Mr. Paradee the Board entered closed session. A roll call vote was taken was follows:

**Yes:** Mr. Chad M. Paradee, Mr. Andrew V. Mancuso, Mr. Murphy J. Pontiff Jr., Mrs. Alaina L. Black, Mrs. Lindsey T. Anslem, Mrs. Rhonda R. Dennis, Ms. Debra R. Jones, Ms. Tammie L. Moore.

**Absent:** Mr. Joseph C. Foulcard, Jr., Ms. Marilyn LaSalle, and Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote with 8 yes and 3 absents.

**Board Returns to Regular Session:**

Ms. Moore moved that the Board return to regular session.  Mrs. Anslem gave a second and the meeting resumed. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

**Yes:** Mr. Chad M. Paradee, Mr. Andrew V. Mancuso, Mr. Murphy J. Pontiff Jr., Mrs. Alaina L. Black, Mrs. Lindsey T. Anslem, Mrs. Rhonda R. Dennis, Ms. Tammie L. Moore.

**Absent:** Ms. Debra R. Jones (ended teleconference), Mr. Joseph C. Foulcard, Jr., Ms. Marilyn LaSalle, and Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin .

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote with 7 yes and 4 absents.

**Closing:**

**Resolutions of Respect**

None

**Adjournment:**

With there being no further business to address, Mr. Mancuso made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m. Ms. Moore made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.