Centerville, Louisiana

June 8, 2023

The St. Mary Parish School Board met in regular session on Thursday, June 8, 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:** Mr. Joseph C. Foulcard Jr., Ms. Tammie L. Moore, Mrs. Lindsey T. Anslem, Ms. Debra R. Jones, Ms. Marilyn P. LaSalle, Mr. Murphy J. Pontiff Jr., Mr. Chad M. Paradee, Mrs. Alaina L. Black, Mr. Andrew V. Mancuso, Mrs. Rhonda R. Dennis.

**Absent:** Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin

# Invocation

Ms. Estay 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.

# Appearances:

Mrs. Dennis made a motion and seconded by Ms. Moore to move appearances before approval of amended agenda. All in favor and the motion carried.

## Recognition of Berwick High School Baseball Class 3A Non-Select State Champs.

Mr. Ronnie Louis recognized the Berwick High School Panthers as a remarkable group of talented athletes who achieved success to claim the state championship title with their determination, dedication to the sport, and outstanding teamwork. They are the third baseball team in Berwick High’s history to earn a state championship. Thanks to coach Seth Henry, and assistant coaches Lud Henry, Toney Linn, and Zach Stewart, the Panthers overcame a season filled with challenges and exhibited a desire to overcome adversity in each game until the end.

## Recognition of Centerville High School Class A1 Non-Select State Champion Track and Field Discus Event.

Principal Jared Ross recognized Milton Schexnayder a graduate of Centerville High School in 2023. This year, Milton won the A1 state championship in the discus competition, as well as in 2022. He also placed 2nd in the shot put at the state meet. Milton finished his high school career earning All-State honors as a football player, All-District honors as a basketball player, and multiple track honors. Next year, Milton will attend Centenary College in Shreveport on a full athletic scholarship. He will major in kinesiology and participate in both the football and track teams.

## Recognition of newly appointed principals.

Newly appointed principals were recognized by Ms. Estay as follows:

### **A.** Toney Linn, Jr. (Berwick High School)

Mr. Toney Linn, Jr. has been an educator since 2005. Mr. Linn began his career as a physical education teacher and coach in Lafourche Parish. He has worked in various positions in Terrebonne Parish and St. Mary Parish. He is an educator at Berwick High School and has been an assistant and head coach in multiple sports. He has served as a vital member of the instructional leadership team, positive behavior and incentive team, and was selected as the 2022-2023 Berwick High School Teacher of the Year.

### **B.** Lacie Quintanilla (Morgan City High School)

Mrs. Lacie Quintanilla has been an educator since 2013 and was currently the assistant principal at Morgan City High School. She began her career as an English teacher at Morgan City High School and has served as an assistant coach for volleyball and softball, a mentor teacher for Nicholls State University, and a member of various Morgan City High School leadership teams.

### **C**. Amber Monceaux (Morgan City Junior High School)

Mrs. Amber Monceaux has been an educator since 2006 and was currently the acting principal of Berwick High School. She has been the St. Mary Parish Social Studies Program Manager since 2014. Recognitions include Nicholls State University Outstanding Student Teacher (2005), Berwick Junior High School Teacher of the Year (2008), and the Louisiana Council for Social Studies Outstanding Teacher (2009). She has served on multiple regional and state committees to support social studies instruction and best practices.

### **D.** Celeste Pipes (Wyandotte Elementary School)

Mrs. Pipes was currently the acting principal at Wyandotte Elementary School. Before her acting appointment, she served as the assistant principal of Hattie Watts Elementary for a year and a half. She began her career teaching for 18 years at the elementary level, having taught all grade levels and all subject levels at one time or another.

## Recognition of retirees for the 2022-2023 school year.

Retirees for the 2022-2023 school year were recognized and presented with a retirement gift and certificate.

## Recognition of Berwick High School 2023 National Merit Finalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

Ms. Grisel Torres recognized Evan White as the 2023 National Merit Finalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Evan scored a 25 on his ACT and was one of the 7,140 students across the country to be named a finalist. He was one of the 38 students in the State of Louisiana to earn the National Merit Scholarship in the amount of $2,500.

# Approval of Amended Agenda.

No amended agenda.

# Approval of Official School Board Minutes.

Mr. Mancuso offered the motion and Ms. Jones offered the second to approve the official school board minutes from the regular school board meeting held on May 11, 2023. All in favor and the motion carried.

# 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:

# Business Affairs:

## Item 3. \*Award Bids:

### \*A. Child Nutrition Department Items: Eggs, Juice, Milk, Produce, Dry and Canned Foods, Frozen Foods and Meat, Paper and Cleaning, Small Kitchen Equipment.

## Item 6. \*Approve a newspaper to serve as the official journal for the school board for the year commencing July 1, 2023.

## Item 7. \*Approve Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire of audit engagement entities.

## Item 8. \*Approve banking resolutions authorizing signatories at various schools as a result of recent appointments.

## Item 10. \*Permission to bid the sale of surplus buses and vehicles.

## Item 11. \*Permission to bid walk-through metal detectors.

## Item 12. \* Permission to Bid Franklin Sr. High roofing project using ESSER Funds.

Ms. LaSalle made a motion and seconded by Ms. Moore to approve the consent agenda, as presented by Dr. Fegenbush. All in favor the motion carried.

# New Business

# Personnel:

## Item 1. Approve job descriptions:

### A. Dean of Students

### B. Literacy Coach

### C. Instructional Specialist - Title I

### D. Public Information Manager (NEW)

Ms. LaSalle made a motion and seconded by Mr. Pontiff to approve the job description for Dean of Students, Literacy Coach, Instructional Specialist, and Public Information Manager, as presented by Ms. Estay. All in favor and the motion carried.

# Business Affairs:

## Item 2. Approve revised 200, 202, 212, 220, 222, 240, 242 Employee Calendars for 2023-2024 school year.

Ms. Moore made a motion and seconded by Mr. Mancuso to approve the revised 200, 202, 212, 220, 222, 240, 242 Employee Calendars for 2023-2024 school year, as presented by Ms. Estay. All in favor and the motion carried.

## Item 4. Approve proposed Employee Meal Prices for the 2023-2024 school year.

Mrs. Anslem made a motion and seconded by Ms. Jones to approve the proposed Employee Meal Prices for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented by Ms. Chaisson. All in favor and the motion carried.

## Item 5. Approve Community Eligibility Provision Participation for the 2023-2024 school year.

Ms. Moore made a motion and seconded by Ms. Jones to approve the Community Eligibility Provision Participation for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented by Ms. Chaisson. All in favor and the motion carried.

## Item 9. Receive Group Health Insurance Premium to Claims Summary Report.

Mr. James Perez with DJW Insurance Agency provided the Board with an update on the Group Health Insurance Plan for January – April 2023. There were two large claims that occurred in the month of February, one for $287,654 and another one for $1,319,144. Based on the unadjusted claims there was a loss ratio of 113 percent and an estimated loss ratio of 125 percent after expense adjustments. Mr. Perez indicated that he should the renewal information for the fully insured plan in early September, which will also include an option for a self-funded plan.

# Reports

## Committees:

### **1.** District I Maintenance Committee Report

The Maintenance District I Committee members met on May 11, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. in the Evans Medine Meeting Room at the Central Office Complex in Centerville, Louisiana, to consider the special projects list for the fiscal year 2023-2024, presented by Mr. Wiese the maintenance supervisor. The projects were reviewed on a school-by-school basis, amended in some instances, approved by the Maintenance District I Committee, and is now being recommended for the full Board’s approval. These approved projects will be presented at a later date as part of the St. Mary Parish School Board consolidated budget.

Ms. Jones made a motion and Mr. Foulcard made a second to approve recommendations of the District I Maintenance Committee. All in favor and the motion carried.

### **2.** Discipline Committee Report

The Discipline Committee met on May 24, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. in the Evans Medine Meeting Room at the Central Office Complex in Centerville, Louisiana, to discuss and take action regarding the Vaping and Tobacco Policy, Cell Phone Policy, and Gang Participation or Gang Paraphernalia Policy. At this time, the Board is being asked to consider approving the recommendations that were made by the Discipline Committee as follows:

* Vaping and tobacco violations will receive the same consequences for all nicotine and tobacco violations that ranges from in school suspension, 4 hours of Saturday morning health sessions to citations, Families in Need of Services (FINS) referrals, or suspensions pending the disciplinary hearing.

After a lengthy discussion, President Black indicated the only difference in the Tobacco and Vaping Policy would be to include nicotine vaping violations.

Ms. LaSalle made a motion and Mr. Foulcard made a second to approve recommendations of the Discipline Committee, as presented by Dr. Fegenbush. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

**Yeas:** Mr. Joseph C. Foulcard Jr., Mr. Murphy J. Pontiff Jr., Mrs. Alaina L. Black, Mrs. Rhonda R. Dennis, Ms. Debra R. Jones, Ms. Marilyn P. LaSalle, Ms. Tammie L. Moore.

**Nays:** Mr. Chad M. Paradee, Mrs. Lindsey T. Anslem.

**Abstain:** Mr. Andrew V. Mancuso.

**Absent:** Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin.

The motion passed with 7 yeas, 2 nays, 1 abstain, and 1 absent.

* THC or any other illegal dangerous controlled substance vaping device will result in possession of an arrest and other punitive consequences in accordance with State laws.

Ms. LaSalle made a motion and seconded by Mr. Foulcard to approve the update of the policy that states possession of THC or any other illegal dangerous controlled substance vaping device in K-12 will result in an arrest and other punitive consequences in accordance with State laws. All in favor and the motion carried.

* Unauthorized pictures or videos - students will be given punitive consequences ranging from in school suspension to suspensions pending a disciplinary hearing for violating the electronic telecommunication policy by taking unauthorized pictures or videos and or sharing or posting those pictures or videos on social media, etc.

Ms. LaSalle made a motion and seconded by Ms. Jones to add unauthorized pictures or videos to the policy, as presented. All in favor and the motion carried.

* Electronics telecommunication device policy - currently there is no policy is place for K-5. Changes or consequences will be the same for all students in K-12 that violates the policy.

Ms. LaSalle made a motion to add the electronics telecommunication device to the policy making changes or consequences the same for all students in K-12 that violates the policy. Motion not seconded; motion failed.

* Gang membership and paraphernalia policy - due to safety reasons and an effort to strongly discourage students from becoming members of community or school related gangs after a thorough investigation any student that creates a campus disturbance related to gang affiliation or by displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia will receive punitive consequences ranging from in school suspension, the suspension pending a disciplinary hearing, or referral to the School Resource Officer/law enforcement.

Ms. Jones made a motion and seconded by Ms. LaSalle to approve adding the Gang Membership and Paraphernalia portion of the policy to the student code of conduct. All in favor and the motion carried.

## Staff Report:

## Chief Financial Officer's Report:

## Sale Tax Update

Mr. Perry reported that the sales tax collections for eleven months into the fiscal year collected $1,505,431 versus a budget of $1,445,833.

## Financial Statements (Major Funds Only):

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

## Other Significant Items:

Set time and date for the budget workshop at the Thursday, July 13th board meeting.

## Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Fegenbush reported that May 22nd concluded the regular instructional year for students. For the four days following student release, administrators and school-level faculty took advantage of the time by completing formal evaluations, meeting in teams and grade-level meetings, and attending any planned professional development. Summer professional development activities have already begun with many St. Mary Parish educators attending the annual Teacher Leader Summit this past week in New Orleans. Learning from that summit will be redelivered in future leadership meetings.

Educational Leaders Master's Cohort will be presenting their standards events on June 20th and 21st. Upon completion eleven St. Mary Parish educators will be eligible to receive the Educational Leader – Level 1 certificate once associated Praxis requirements are satisfied. This will make them eligible to apply for St. Mary Parish administrative roles. The partnership between St. Mary Parish and the University of Louisiana at Lafayette has been a long-standing and fruitful effort. A 4th cohort will begin in August. Meetings of interest were held at the end of May. However, any eligible certified personnel who is still interested should contact Ms. Kristina Estay for more information.

Recently, two St. Mary Parish School paraprofessionals earned degrees. The Oxford Teachers College is an initiative of Reach University designed to help school districts to "grow their own" teachers by offering a degree program based on job-embedded teaching experiences. These paraprofessionals have been serving as long-term substitute teachers and have successfully completed all requirements to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies and were recognized during the graduation ceremonies of Reach University on May 23, 2023. Congratulations to Crystal Knope at Wyandotte Elementary and Teresa Rodriguez at J. B. Maitland Elementary, St. Mary's first two candidates to complete Reach University's undergraduate degree program.

## Any other Business as Allowed by Act 131

None

## Closing

## Resolutions of Respect

Ms. Estay read the Resolutions of Respect for the late 0. W. "Wally" Griffin (retired supervisor of child welfare and attendance), and Glenda Gros (retired school nurse).

## Adjournment:

With there being no further business to address, Ms. Moore made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Anslem made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.