Centerville, Louisiana

June 9, 2022

The St. Mary Parish School Board met in regular session on Thursday, June 9, 2022, at 5:00 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. Pearl B. Rack, Mr. Wayne J. Deslatte, Mr. Michael E. Taylor, Mrs. Alaina L. Black, Mr. Roland H. Verret, Mr. Kenneth E. Alfred.

**Absent:** Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin, Ms. Marilyn P. LaSalle, Mr. Dwight D. Barbier.

# Invocation

Mrs. Bergeron gave the Invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President Alfred led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United Stated of America.

# Approval of Amended Agenda

There were no amended agenda items to approve.

# Approval of Official School Board Minutes

Mr. Deslatte offered the motion and Mr. Verret offered the second to approve the official school board minutes from the regular meeting held on May 19, 2022, as presented. All in favor and the motion carried.

# Approval of Consent Agenda

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

# New Business

**Business Affairs:**

## **Item 1.** \*Award Bids:

A. \* Child Nutrition Department: Small Equipment.

## **Item 3.** \*Approve Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire of audit engagement entities.

## **Item 4.** \*Approve banking resolutions authorizing signatories at various schools as a result of recent appointments.

## **Item 7.** \*Approve Cooperative Agreement between the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service to assure continued informal educational programming from the LSU AgCenter in support of 4-H Youth Development.

## **Item 10.** \*Authorize official school board minutes to include 2021 board member transcriptsreflecting compliance with Act 705 requirements of meeting six (6) hours of annual training:

A. Mr. Joseph C. Foulcard, Jr. G. Mr. Wayne J. Deslatte

B. Ms. Sylvia K. Lockett (Posthumous Authorization) H. Mr. Michael E. Taylor

C. Mr. Kenneth E. “Kenny” Alfred I. Mrs. Alaina L. Black

D. Mrs. Pearl B. Rack J. Mr. Dwight D. Barbier

E. Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin K. Mr. Roland H. Verret

F. Ms. Marilyn P. LaSalle

President Alfred requested to remove Item 2 and 5 from the Consent Agenda for further clarification.

Mrs. Rack made a motion and Ms. Moore offered a second to approve the items on the Consent Agenda, with the exception of removing Item 2 and 5, as requested by President Alfred. All in favor and the motion carried.

# Appearances:

Recognition of Berwick High School state championship track and field winner and State runner-up baseball team.

Mr. Taylor recognized 12th grader Brett Bearb at Berwick High School, for an outstanding accomplishment of winning track in the State Championship Class 3A boys javelin at 167 feet. Mr. Taylor also acknowledged Coach Paul Gilder for his support.

Berwick High School baseball team as also recognized for the most winning record in history, which was quite an accomplishment. Berwick High School has won State Championships and runner-up in the district many times since the team got started in 1975. Mr. Taylor introduced and congratulated the baseball team, coaches, and principal as follows:

'

* **Seniors:** Luke Zerangue, Carter Williams, Clay Menard, Jude Vasquez, Owen Thorguson, Eston Rogers, Jackson Thorguson, Jude Guarisco, and Reece Vice
* **Juniors:** Hayden Robinson, Jayden Milton, Zack Gonzales, Mason Johnston, Dawson Richard, Cru Bella, Aaron Askew, Evan White, Zane Griffin, and Luke Thomas
* **Sophomores:** Zack Kitchen, Luc Leleux, Rhett Ratcliff, and Lane Rogers
* **Head Coach:** Seth Henry
* **Assistant Coaches:** Lud Henry, Tony Lynn, and Zack Stewart
* **Principal:** Paul Broussard

Mr. Taylor told the team, “You made the town of Berwick proud,.” “We have a tradition of great baseball in Berwick.”

Louisiana School Board Association Memorial Plaque in honor of Ms. Sylvia Lockett.

Mrs. Rack thanked President Alfred for allowing her the honor of accepting a memorial plaque in memory of the late Ms. Sylvia K. Lockett, at the Louisiana School Board Association 84th Annual Conference. President Alfred decided to have a larger plaque made that would include Ms. Lockett’s name on it. Mrs. Rack proudly presented the larger plaque to Ms. Lockett's daughter, Kaylynn Hurst who was present at the meeting, and Ms. Lockett’s son Charles Foulcard, Jr. who was not able to attend the meeting. The smaller plaque was presented to Ms. Lockett's sister, Arline Lockett Smith. Ms. Lockett also received a posthumous certificate from the Louisiana School Board Association for school board member training hours earned in 2021, which was also presented to the family.

In closing, Mrs. Rack read a quote from the Louisiana School Board Association Memorial Program as follows:

There is not a more honorable role of elected public service than the role of the locally elected school board member, and, the Louisiana School Board Association salutes each of our members that have left this world for their dedicated service to our most precious resource, our children.

**Business Affairs:**

## **Item 2.** \*Approve a newspaper to serve as the official journal for the school board for the year commencing July 1, 2022. (moved from Consent)

President Alfred stated that he requested to pull Item 2 from the Consent Agenda for clarification on the relationship between the Daily Review and the Franklin Banner. He asked if bids were being awarded to both newspapers and would the cost be doubled.

Mr. Perry responded that the Daily Review, which is now the Morgan City Review publishes two days of week. Although, bids were provided for the Morgan City Review and St. Mary Franklin Banner-Tribune, he is asking the Board to award bid to the Morgan City Review to serve as the official journal, which will be consistent with the past and it offers a greater circulation in the parish. Minutes are published in the Morgan City Review, and legal advertisements are published in the Morgan City Review and also in St. Mary Franklin Banner-Tribune.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the Morgan City Review newspaper bid to serve as the official journal for the school board for the year commencing July 1, 2022. Mrs. Black made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

## **Item 5.** \*Accept proposal of financial institutions in the parish to serve as joint fiscal agents for the school board for the two (2) year period commencing July 1, 2022. (moved from Consent)

President Alfred stated that he requested to pull Item 5 from the consent agenda for Mr. Perry to provided the Board with some important information.

Mr. Perry replied that the two-year agreement gets approved every other year by the Board. All banks in St. Mary Parish serves as Fiscal Agents, which provides the school board a level of certainty with interest rates and banking fees. Regions Bank serves as the Managing Fiscal Agent for the funds of St. Mary Parish School Board, who contacts the other banks to keep everything consistent between banks. Mr. Perry asked the Board to approve the agreement, effective July 1, 2022.

Mr. Deslatte made a motion to approve the proposal of financial institutions in the parish to serve as joint fiscal agents for the school board for the two (2) year period commencing July 1, 2022. Mr. Verret made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

## **Item 6.** Field Trips:

Dr. Sanders asked for the Board’s approval for all out-of-state field trips as follows:

**A.** Franklin High School Future Farmers of America travel to Decatur, Texas for the Eighter from Decatur Pig Show (June 24-26, 2022).

**B.** Franklin High School Future Farmers of America travel to Brenham, Texas for the Sift Pig Show (July 22-24, 2022).

**C.** Franklin High School Future Farmers of America travel to Bryan, Texas (Texas A&M) for the Saddle & Sirloin Livestock Show (August 12-14, 2022).

**D.** Morgan City High School Army JROTC travel to Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi for the Mississippi State STEM Camp (June 27-July 1, 2022).

**E.** Morgan City High School Army JROTC travel to Pensacola Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida for Flight Camp (July 31-August 5, 2022).

Mrs. Rack made a motion to approve all out-of-state field trips, as presented by Dr. Sanders. Ms. Moore made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

## **Item 8.** Receive an update on school security systems.

Lieutenant Oscar West stated throughout the years as the resource officer for St. Mary Parish Schools, he had the opportunity to work with the At-Risk Interventionist, and also had the privilege to attend many trainings and professional development courses. Unfortunately, he was not able to attend the 2022 Law Conference held at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, which provided new upcoming laws and security on school safety. After speaking with a colleague that attended the conference, he felt the need to share the information with the Board. His colleague said, “literally everything discussed at the Law Conference, St. Mary Parish Schools are already preforming best practices.” This summer, St. Mary Parish School Board spent over $2 million for making sure that the schools have the security that is needed. St. Mary Parish is also only second to Ascension Parish, which has reunification sites in place if there was to be an incident.

Mr. Taylor mentioned that the secured entranceway at Berwick High School and Patterson High School should be completed this summer.

## **Item 9.** Permission to name Berwick High School’s baseball field in honor of Lud Henry.

Mr. Taylor stated that Mr. Lud Henry was a freshman at Berwick High School when baseball got started there in 1975. Three years later, they went to State Championship in 1978, when he was a player. After college, he starting coaching at Berwick High in 1984 and took over the team in 85 to 89. During the period of 84 to 91, the record was 140 wins and 47 losses. District champs in 84, 86, 88, 89, 90, and 91, quarterfinals in 86, 87, and 91, semifinalist in 1984, and state runner-up in 1990. Lud Henry served as district coach in the year of 86, 88, 89, and 90. He also served as athletic director from 1988-91 and became principal from 1995 to 2002. Then he went back to being an assistant coach from 2002 - 2012, to present. During that stint, the team won State Championship in 2018, runner-up in 1994, and 2022, semi-finalists in 2017 and 2019, and district champs in 2017, 2018, and 2022. Lud does summer programs and most of the year he is maintaining the field, which is beyond the call of duty. Mr. Taylor stated that a lot of people in the community has asked about naming the Berwick High School baseball field in honor of Lud Henry.

Mr. Taylor made a motion and Mr. Deslatte made a second to approved naming of Berwick High School’s baseball field in honor of Lud Henry.

President Alfred stated he met Lud Henry in 1975 when Morgan City High School played baseball against Berwick High School. Over the years, he was really impressed by Lud, and he gives 100 percent support in naming Berwick High School’s baseball field in honor of Lud Henry.

Mrs. Rack congratulated Mr. Lud Henry after hearing the presentation, which provided more information than what she had previously heard. She further commented that after being contacted by a parent on the matter, she responded to them by saying that when items such as this are brought before the board by another member, she defers the item as they know their district better than a member from another district. Mr. Lud Henry was an honorable gentleman when she first met him, and she wishes him well. Previously, the Board was addressed to name the Morgan City track after a gentleman that was alive, and she was confused after hearing that. When she was appointed as school board member, she recommendedCoach Demby’s name to the Board in regard to naming Franklin Junior High School’s gym floor in honor of him while he was alive, but was told the School Board did not honor anyone unless they were deceased. Mrs. Rack asked Attorney Hammonds and Dr. Bagwell to give her a clear understanding on the process of when and when not to submit a person’s name. Once again, she congratulated Mr. Lud Henry and said, “Now all that I have heard about you, I am not going to vote no, but will abstain from voting.”

With no further discussion, the motion carried with Mrs. Rack abstaining to vote.

# Committee Report:

The Athletic Committee Meeting will meet on Thursday, July 14, 2022, at 4:00 p.m., in the Evans Medine Meeting Room at the Central Office Complex in Centerville, Louisiana.

# Staff Report:

Mr. Wiese reported that the large HVAC summer project at Morgan City High School is in progress and should be completed before the starting of the new school year. He does expect some delays with the Front Door Security Projects at Berwick High, Patterson High, Centerville, St. Mary Alternative, and LaGrange Elementary, due to issues with getting supplies. Centerville’s roofing project and other ESSER projects should be starting shortly. The generator for the Central Office Complex has been received and will hopefully be installed within a month or two. Mr. Wiese indicated there has also been a delay in received maintenance vehicles that he ordered since last year.

# Chief Financial Officer’s Report

**Sales Tax Update**

Mr. Perry reported that the sales tax collections for eleven months through the fiscal year was projected at $ 1,517,948 versus $1,300,000 budgeted.

**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 stated that the Internal Revenue Service will increase its mileage rates from 58.5 to 62.5 for the remainder of the year, effective July 1, 2022. The Board agreed years ago to follow the Internal Revenue Service’s guidelines, which requires no action from the Board at this time. The new travel forms will be updated on the school board’s website and available before July 1st.

# Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Bagwell initiated her report by recognizing eight teachers in the audience for the District's 3rd Educational Leadership Cohort. These teachers have been working all year in efforts to complete their master's degree to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, who will be ready to step into leadership roles in the next couple of years. Governor John Bel Edwards has issued a proclamation declaring Friday June 17th, as a state holiday in observance of Juneteenth, honoring events of June 19, 1865, when news was delivered to the enslaved people of Texas, that the Civil War had ended, and the Emancipation Proclamation was in effect. According to the proclamation from the governor, observance of Juneteenth in the state of Louisiana, improved the nation's promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. In closing, Dr. Bagwell recognized and thanked two retiring school board leaders for their service served in the school district, Mrs. Suzanne Bergeron, the Director of Human Resources, who is present this evening, and Mr. Joseph Stadalis, the Assistant Superintendent, who is actually away learning about the Hope Squad in Salt Lake City, Utah.

# Any other Business as Allowed by Act 131

None

**Closing**

# Resolutions of Respect

None

With there being no further business to address, Mr. Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Moore made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.