Centerville, Louisiana

November 12, 2020

The St. Mary Parish School Board met in regular session on Thursday, November 12, 2020, 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. Sylvia K. Lockett, Mr. Kenneth E. Alfred, Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin, Mrs. Pearl B. Rack, Mr. Dwight Barbier, Mrs. Alaina Black, Mr. Roland H. Verret, Mr. Michael E. Taylor.

Absent: Ms. Marilyn P. LaSalle, Mr. Wayne J. Deslatte.

 Mrs. Bergeron gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the

United States of America.

# Introduction of Students and Employees of the Month

## Berwick High School:

 Principal Paul Broussard introduced 12th grader Bronwyn Colbert as “Student of the Month” at Berwick High School. She is accompanied by her parents. Bronwyn is a senior that maintains an excellent GPA, while also playing volleyball and softball. She has used the role as a leader on the field, court, and in the classroom to show others that not being perfect is okay and being your best is perfect. Mr. Broussard said, “he does not know what the future holds for Bronwyn, but without a doubt it will be great.”

 Principal Paul Broussard introduced SPED teacher Antoinette Watson-Small as “Employee of the Month” at Berwick High School. She is accompanied by her mother and sister. Ms. Small began her career as a resource teacher with the St. Mary Parish School Board in 2005. She serves as a co-sponsor of the BETA Club, the Acts of Random Kindness Club, and she is also part of the SBLC Committee. Mr. Broussard said the most fitting word for Ms. Small is “resilient.” No matter the adversity, or personal trials and tribulations, she keeps on smiling, giving, and working diligently for the students at Berwick High School.

Centerville High School:

 Principal Kristina Estay introduced 12th grader Chloe Lanclos as “Student of the Month” at Centerville High School. She is accompanied by her parents. Chloe has maintained a 4.0 GPA from 1st grade through 12th grade, has an ACT score of 33, and she is a multi-millionaire word reader with her highest being over 10 million words. She is a junior leader for the 4-H Club, the regional representative for the senior BETA Club in the 2019-2020 school year, and currently serves as the BETA Club president, and also the mascot “Tank the Bulldog” for Centerville High School. In her spare time, she likes to dance, read, and play with her animals. Chloe plans to attend college after graduation to major in biology and a concentration in pre-veterinary.

 Principal Kristina Estay introduced English teacher Judy Kraemer as “Employee of the Month” at Centerville High School. Ms. Kraemer has taught 6th through 12th grade reading and English in her 33 years as a teacher in St. Mary Parish. She is a team player always offering to assist in school events, and she is always willing to provide extra help to students when needed. In her spare time, she likes to travel, spend time with her family and cut grass. She would like to continue working and traveling after she retires. Centerville High School staff appreciate all she has done for the students and the school. She will be greatly missed when she decides to retire.

## Morgan City Junior High School:

 Principal Michelle South introduced 8th grader Sherley Perez as “Student of the Month” at Morgan City Junior High School. Sherley is an outstanding student who always has a smile on her face. She is in gifted programs which include: academic giftedness, talented art, talented music, vocal, and talented theater. She is cheerful and enthusiastic in the classroom, polite, and never had any disciplinary problems. Sherley was a Word Millionaire in the sixth and seventh grade, and she is on track to reading one million words again this year. Principal Michelle South stated she is immensely proud to have Sherley Perez at Morgan City High School.

 Principal Michelle South introduced 8th grade Math teacher Therra Williams as “Employee of the Month” at Morgan City Junior High School. Ms. Williams is a remarkable asset to Morgan City Junior High School, who has met every challenge this year with positivity and has made herself available to help in any capacity. She has managed to deal with her classes, help with other classes, and also help troubleshoot technology. She never missed a PBIS, PLC, or content leader meeting. Ms. Williams is full of energy and she has an immense love for students. Principal Michelle South stated she is immensely proud to have Ms. Williams as part of her staff at Morgan City Junior High School.

# Approval of Amended Agenda

Mrs. Rack made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Verret made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

# Approval of Official School Board Minutes

 Mrs. Griffin offered the motion, Mr. Barbier offered the second and the motion carried to approve the official school board minutes from the regular meeting held on October 15, 2020.

# Approval of Consent Agenda

 President Taylor 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:

## Item 8: \*Approve updated job descriptions for:

### A. Data Analyst

## Item 9: \*Permission to issue E-Rate Category 2 funded RFP for Wireless/LAN upgrade.

## Item 14: \* Permission to Advertise for bid the Morgan City High HVAC Replacement project for the following areas: 1st Floor Classroom Wing (right), Cafeteria/Kitchen and Band/Chorus.

## Item 15: \*Permission to expend capital funds set aside for HVAC replacement and improvements at the Central Office Complex.

 Mr. Alfred made a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented by Dr. Bagwell. Ms. Lockett made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

# Business Affairs:

## Item 1: Approve group voluntary vision plan renewal for the year commencing January 1, 2021.

 Mr. James Perez reported that the group voluntary vision plan will be renewed by Blue Cross Davis Vision Plan with no changes in premium and no changes in benefits.

 Mr. Barbier made a motion to approve the group voluntary vision plan renewal for the year commencing January 1, 2021. Mrs. Black made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

## Item 2: Receive update on virtual open enrollment process.

 Mr. James Perez reported in the past during the benefits open enrollment which takes place beginning in late October through early December. Normally, enrollment teams would visit with employees at each location throughout the school system to complete their benefit elections. This year’s open enrollment was processed using an online virtual portal, which was a great success. Mr. Perez indicated that the virtual method may be used as an enrollment tool for next year, not as an exclusive method but as a supplement to the traditional ways of doing open enrollment.

 Mrs. Rack inquired when is the deadline for open enrollment using the virtual portal. Mr. Perez responded that the virtual enrollment deadline has passed. However, changes can be made until the first week of December by calling the St. Mary Parish School Board, or his office.

## Item 3: Receive quarterly Group Health Insurance premium to claims summary.

 Mr. James Perez provided the Board with a premium to claims summary report updated through July 2020. Mr. Perez stated that the renewal is completed with set rates for 2020-2021. The year-to-date unadjusted medical loss ratio through July 2020 is 90.56 percent and after adjustments for expenses is just under 100 percent, which was better than last year.

 Mr. Alfred asked Mr. Perez if he expects claims to be high in August-October. Mr. Perez responded that he expects it to stay high for August through September, due to the effects you will see from COVID.

## Item 4: Approve distribution of insurance rebate.

 Mr. James Perez reported that the St. Mary Parish School Board has received a medical loss ratio premium rebate check in the amount of $295,694.75, since the Affordable Care Act became law, and the medical loss ratio rebate became part of that law. This is based on United Health Care 2019 medical loss ratio for the entire block of large group business in the State of Louisiana. The law requires that insurance carriers pay 85 percent of the premiums collected in benefits, and anything short of that they have to rebate back to the groups. In 2019 benefits paid for that entire block of large group business in Louisiana was 81.9 percent. There are certain requirements that the groups must abide by in distribution or sharing the funds with employees. The proposal is that the entire amount be related back to the employees and retirees who were on the health plan in 2019 for at least six months and currently employed as of October 1st by the St. Mary Parish School Board. The result of that is about 850 active employees and retirees for the Commercial Plan only, will receive a check estimated between $325 to $350.

 Mr. Perry noted that based on the employee’s criteria, will determine if they qualify for a rebate check. If approved by the Board, employees that meet the criteria will receive the rebate check before Christmas.

 Mrs. Griffin made a motion, and Mrs. Rack made a second to approve distribution of the insurance rebate to current employees who were insured for six months or longer in 2019 and employed as of October 1, 2020. All in favor and the motion carried.

## Item 5: Consider and take action with respect to adopting a resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, for school purposes, to authorize the levy of a .45 percent sales and use tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

 President Taylor read aloud Item 5 as described above. He also read a statement before starting discussion on the sales tax announcement as follows:

 The announcement of a .45 percent sales tax proposition of the St. Mary Parish School Board to support salary increases to teachers and staff has been long overdue. The last time a sales tax proposition passed to support school personnel salary adjustments in St. Mary Parish was 32 years ago back in 1988. There is never a good time for a tax increase, but this board has an obligation to provide the best public education possible and that cannot be accomplished without providing competitive pay for our teachers**.** The simple fact is that our teachers are underpaid, and they deserve a competitive salary**.** According to the information provided by the Louisiana Association of Tax Administrators, St. Mary is the seventh lowest parish or municipality reporting tax data in the percentage of tax collections that is allocated for the public-school system. St. Mary’s sales tax is 4 percent (except for Morgan City at 4.3 percent), Assumption is 5 percent, Houma/Terrebonne is 5.5 percent, New Iberia is 5 percent, Lafayette is 5 percent, and Thibodaux is 4.95 percent. Even with the passage of this .45 percent sales tax, St. Mary sales tax rate will be less that these other communities and all of them dedicate more of their sales tax collections to education. Ironically, most people in St. Mary shop in Houma or Lafayette and pay their higher sales tax and support their teachers.

 According to state accountability data, St. Mary’s District Performance Score has ranked the school system among the top districts in the state for the last seven years. As of 2019, St. Mary was seventeenth among seventy-two school systems who receive a District Performance Score.

 However, when comparing average teacher salary, the Louisiana Department of Education ranks St. Mary as forty-second among the state’s public education systems. This is a vast difference in the effectiveness of teachers to impact student achievement and the rate at which they are compensated. Additionally, starting teacher pay falls thousands of dollars below the school systems we compete with to recruit teachers such as, Terrebonne, Iberia and Lafayette parishes making it difficult to entice newly certified educators to consider coming to work in St. Mary.

Our teachers have done an outstanding job in moving the school district forward. It is time that we pay them accordingly with a competitive salary. The revenue generated by this sales tax would allow the St. Mary Parish School Board to increase teacher salaries in St. Mary Parish by $3,000 per year and support personnel by $1,500 per year.

 Mr. Alfred made a motion, and Mr. Foulcard made a second to approve a resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, for school purposes, to authorize the levy of a .45 percent sales and use tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Joseph C. Foulcard Jr., Ms. Sylvia K. Lockett, Mr. Kenneth E. Alfred, Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin, Mrs. Pearl B. Rack, Mr. Dwight Barbier, Mrs. Alaina Black, Mr. Roland H. Verret, Mr. Michael E. Taylor.

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENTS:** Ms. Marilyn LaSalle, Mr. Wayne J. Deslatte

**ABSTAINS:** None

The motion passed with 9 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absents, 0 abstains

The following resolution was offered by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and seconded \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_by:

~RESOLUTION~

 A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of St. Mary, State

of Louisiana, for school purposes, to authorize the levy of a sales and use tax therein; making

application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other

matters in connection therewith.

 BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish School Board of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana (the

"Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, for

school purposes (the "Parish"), that:

 SECTION 1. Election Call. Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, and under the

authority conferred by the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, including Article VI, Section 29

thereof, the applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, and other constitutional and statutory authority, a special election is hereby called and ordered to be held in the Parish on SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2021, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La.

 R.S. 18:541, and at the said election there shall be submitted to all registered voters qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and laws of this State and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

 PROPOSITION (SALES TAX)

 Shall the Parish School Board of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana (the "School Board”),

under the applicable provisions of Louisiana law, be authorized to levy and collect a tax of

.45 of one percent (.45%) (the "Tax"), for a period of five years, beginning July 1, 2021, upon

the sale at retail, the use, the lease or rental, the consumption, and the storage for use or

consumption, of tangible personal property and on sales of services in the jurisdiction of the

School Board, all as defined by law (an estimated $3,850,000 reasonably expected at this time

to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), with the proceeds of the Tax (after

paying the reasonable and necessary expenses of collecting and administering the Tax) to

be dedicated and used to supplement salaries and benefits paid by the School Board for teachers

and other personnel employed by the School Board?

 SECTION 2. Publication of Notice of Election. A Notice of Special Election shall be published

in the *Daily Review*, a newspaper of general circulation within the Parish, published in Morgan City, Louisiana, and being the official journal of the Parish, once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election,

 which Notice shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference the same as if it were set forth herein in full.

 Notwithstanding the foregoing, prior to the publication of the Notice of Election, the President is authorized and directed to make any amendments to the foregoing proposition that may be required to comply with any state or federal regulatory agencies.

 SECTION 3. Canvass. This Governing Authority shall meet at its regular meeting place, the Evans

Medine Meeting Room, Central Office Complex, 474 Hwy. 317, Centerville, Louisiana, on THURSDAY,

APRIL 8, 2021, at FIVE O'CLOCK (5:00) P.M., and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election.

 SECTION 4. Polling Places. The polling places for the precincts set forth in the Parish are hereby

designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and

Commissioners, respectively, will be the same persons as those designated in accordance with law.

 SECTION 5. Election Commissioners; Voting Machines. The officers designated to serve as

Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners pursuant to Section 4 hereof, or such substitutes therefor as

may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, shall hold the said special election as

herein provided, and shall make due returns of said election for the meeting of the Governing Authority to

be held as provided in Section 3 hereof. All registered voters in the Parish will be entitled to vote at the special election, and voting machines shall be used.

 SECTION 6. Authorization of Officers. The Secretary of the Governing Authority is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for and to furnish to said election officers in ample time for the holding of said election, the necessary equipment, forms and other paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said election and the President and/or Secretary of the Governing Authority are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal law to arrange for the election.

 SECTION 7. Furnishing Election Call to Election Officials. Certified copies of this resolution shall

be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Parish Custodian of Voting Machines of St. Mary Parish and the Registrar of Voters of St. Mary Parish, as notification of the special election, in order that each may prepare for said election and perform their respective functions as required by law.

 SECTION 8. Application to State Bond Commission. Application is made to the State Bond Commission for consent and authority to hold the special election as herein provided, and in the event said election carries for further consent and authority to levy and collect the sales and use tax provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of this Governing Authority,

together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 12th day of November, 2020.

/s/ Teresa T. Bagwell /s/ Michael E. Taylor

 Secretary President

 EXHIBIT "A"

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

 Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Parish School Board of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, for school purposes (the "Parish"), on November 12, 2020, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held within the Parish on SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2021, and that at the said

election there will be submitted to all registered voters in the Parish qualified and entitled to vote at the said

election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States,

the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION (SALES TAX)

 Shall the Parish School Board of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana (the "School Board”),

under the applicable provisions of Louisiana law, be authorized to levy and collect a tax of

.45 of one percent (.45%) (the "Tax"), for a period of five years, beginning July 1, 2021, upon

the sale at retail, the use, the lease or rental, the consumption, and the storage for use or

consumption, of tangible personal property and on sales of services in the jurisdiction of the

School Board, all as defined by law (an estimated $3,850,000 reasonably expected at this time

to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), with the proceeds of the Tax (after

paying the reasonable and necessary expenses of collecting and administering the Tax) to

be dedicated and used to supplement salaries and benefits paid by the School Board for teachers

and other personnel employed by the School Board?

 Said special election will be held at each and every polling place in the Parish of St. Mary, which polls will open at seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and close at eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541.

 The polling places at the precincts in the Parish are hereby designated as the polling places at which

to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, shall be those

persons designated according to law.

 The estimated cost of this election as determined by the Secretary of State based upon the provisions

of Chapter 8-A of Title 18 and actual costs of similar elections is $67,000.

 The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5, Chapter 6-A and Chapter 6-B of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to said Governing Authority, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will meet at its regular meeting place, the Evans Medine Meeting Room, Central Office Complex, 474 Hwy. 317, Centerville, Louisiana, on THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021, at FIVE O'CLOCK (5:00) P.M., and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election. All registered voters of the Parish are entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Centerville, Louisiana, on this, the 12th day of November, 2020.

ATTEST:

 /s/ Teresa T. Bagwell /s/ Michael E. Taylor

 Secretary President

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF ST. MARY

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Parish School Board of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana

(the "Governing Authority"), the governing authority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, for school

purposes (the "Parish"), do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of the

proceedings taken by the Governing Authority on November 12, 2020, ordering and calling a special election

to be held in the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a sales and use tax therein;

making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters

in connection therewith.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature at Centerville, Louisiana, on this, the 12th day

of November, 2020.

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **Secretary**

## Item 6: Approve reinstatement of monthly stipend for notary services.

 Dr. Bagwell indicated for several years the St. Mary Parish School Board had an employee who also served as an in-house notary. Upon the employee’s retirement, the School Board had to seek outside notaries to process legal documentation. At this point, an employee at the Central Office has passed the notary exam, and the School Board would like to compensate that person for in-house notary services. Dr. Bagwell asked the Board to reinstate the same level of stipend for notary services as it occurred in the past.

 Mrs. Rack moved to approve reinstatement of monthly stipend for notary services. Ms. Lockett made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

## Item 7: Select and approve board member representative to serve on the St. Mary Schools Discipline Review Committee.

 Dr. Bagwell reported that in the Second Extraordinary Session of the Louisiana Legislature an Act 48 was passed and requires school districts to have a Disciplinary Committee. Basically, it reinstates a statue that already required Disciplinary Committee that was passed in 1994. When that statue was put into place in 1994, the St. Mary Parish School Board had a Disciplinary Review Committee to review its policies annually before it was presented to the Board. However, there is nothing that shows where the Disciplinary Committee has met since 1994. Dr. Bagwell stated with the passage of Act 48, the Disciplinary Committee needs to be reinstated to meet annually and review policies. This is particularly important now that the School District has students who are attending school at home, where certain rules and regulations may apply. Dr. Bagwell asked the Board to select a school board member to represent the Disciplinary Policy Review Committee.

 Mrs. Griffin stated with Mr. Alfred’s approval, she would like to nominate him as the board member representative to serve on the St. Mary Schools Discipline Review Committee.

 President Taylor asked Mr. Alfred if he is accepting to serve on the Discipline Review Committee. Mr. Alfred responded, “Yes sir.”

 Mrs. Griffin made a motion, and Mr. Barbier made a second to appoint Mr. Alfred as the board member representative to serve on the St. Mary Schools Discipline Review Committee.

## Item 10: Award Substantial Completion for Maintenance District II Schools (Berwick Junior High) Security Modifications.

 Mr. Wiese asked the Board to approve the Substantial Completion for Maintenance District II School Berwick Junior High Security Modifications.

 Mr. Alfred made a motion, and Mrs. Griffin made a second to award Substantial Completion for Maintenance District II School Berwick Junior High School Security Modifications. All in favor and the motion carried.

## Item 11: Award change order for Maintenance District I Schools (Franklin Junior, Franklin Senior, B. E. Boudreaux, and West St. Mary) Security Modifications in the amount of $13,355.90.

 Architect Carl Blum asked the Board to approve the change order for Maintenance District I School Security Modifications for the amount of $13,355.90.

Mrs. Rack moved to approve change order for Maintenance District I Schools (Franklin Junior, Franklin Senior, B. E. Boudreaux, and West St. Mary) Security Modifications for the amount of $13,355.90. Mr. Foulcard made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

## Item 12: Award change order for Maintenance District II Schools (Hattie Watts, Berwick Elementary, and Berwick Junior) Security Modifications in the amount of $9,322.32.

 Architect Carl Blum asked the Board to award change order for Maintenance District II Schools Security Modifications for the amount of $9,322.32, which included new ceilings and lighting in the lobby area.

 Mrs. Griffin made a motion to award change order for Maintenance District II Schools (Hattie Watts, Berwick Elementary, and Berwick Junior) Security Modifications for the amount of $9,322.32. Mr. Alfred made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

## Item 13: Award change order for Maintenance District III Schools (J. S. Aucoin Elementary and Wyandotte Elementary) Security Modifications in the amount of $5,728.97.

 Architect Carl Blum asked that the Board approve the change order for Maintenance District III Schools for the amount of $5,728.97, which included replacement of tiles and other minor repairs.

 Mr. Barbier made a motion to award change order Maintenance District III Schools (J. S. Aucoin Elementary and Wyandotte Elementary) Security Modifications for the amount of $5,728.97. Mr. Verret made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

## Item 16: Consider and take action regarding a servitude agreement of the Sixteenth Section Land at Cypremort Point State Park for improvements.

 Mr. Wiese asked the Board for permission to consider a servitude agreement of the Sixteenth Section Land at Cypremont Point State Park for improvements.

 Mrs. Griffin made a motion to approve a servitude agreement of Sixteenth Section Land at Cypremort Point State Park for improvements. Mr. Alfred made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

## Item 17: 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.

 Dr. Bagwell asked that the Board consider entering into executive session to hear updates on the desegregation case, which will be offered by Attorney, Bob Hammonds.

### Enter Closed Session:

 With a motion from Mrs. Rack and a second from Mr. Verret, the Board went into closed session to address the litigation as listed above.

### Return to Regular Session:

 Mr. Barbier moved that the Board return to regular session.  Mrs. Rack gave a second and the meeting resumed.

# Staff Reports

## Chief Financial Officer’s Report:

### Sales Tax Update

Mr. Perry reported that the October 2020 sales tax collections of $1,361,425.38 are $126,000 over in the current month and $188,000 over year-to-date.

### Financial Statements (Major Funds Only)

 Financial statements were not available.

### Other Significant Items:

 Mr. Perry announced that regular monthly payroll will be paid on Friday, November 20, 2020 before the Thanksgiving break instead of November 30th after Thanksgiving.

 Mr. Perry reported that the IRS travel reimbursement rate will be released soon and will be disclosed once he receives it.

# Superintendent’s Report:

 Dr. Bagwell wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. She also reminded everyone to continue taking the steps necessary in keeping the staff, students, and board members of the St. Mary Parish School Board safe during the holiday season.

# Other Business as Allowed by Act 131.

 None

# Closing:

## Resolution of Respect

 With there being no further business to address, the meeting adjourned out of respect for the late Delores Lewis (retired bus driver), Suzanne Lipari (retired curriculum facilitator), Bertha Mann (retired elementary teacher), Aris Stacy (active custodian), Elizabeth Swanson (retired school librarian), and Bertresia Thomas (retired science teacher).