

**ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD**

**JANUARY 11, 2023**

**BREAUX BRIDGE, LOUISIANA**

**MINUTES**

The St. Martin Parish School Board convened on this day at 4:25 P.M. at the Administrative Office with the following members present: Messrs. Richard Potier, President, Steve Fuselier, Jimmy Durio, Russel C. Foti, Mike Clay, Frederic Stelly, Marlin d'Augereau, and Mark Hebert.

ABSENT: Mrs. Wanda B. Vital and Ms. Edna M. Johnson

The meeting was called to order by Richard Potier, President. Mr. Allen Blanchard, Jr., Superintendent, opened the meeting with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

Board President Richard Potier opened the floor for nominations for President of the Board. A motion was made by Mr. Clay and seconded by Mr. Fuselier to nominate Russel Foti for the office of President.

The nominations for the office of President were closed unanimously.

Mr. Russel Foti was elected President of the St. Martin Parish School Board for the year 2023.

Board President Russel Foti called for the acceptance of nominations for Vice-President of the Board. A motion was made by Mr. Foti and seconded by Mr. Fuselier to nominate Mark Hebert for the office of Vice-President.

The nominations for the office of Vice-President were closed unanimously.

Mr. Mark Hebert was re-elected Vice-President of the St. Martin Parish School Board for the year 2023.

Board President Russel Foti made the following appointments:

Mike Clay, Finance and Insurance Committee Chairman  
Edna Johnson, Education Committee Meeting  
Frederic Stelly, Maintenance Committee Chairman  
Steve Fuselier, Transportation Committee Chairman

Ms. Chenneval Washington, Principal of Breaux Bridge Junior High School, was recognized as the December Employee of the Month sponsored by Southern Scripts.

On the motion of Mr. Fuselier, seconded by Mr. Potier, and unanimously carried, consider and/or approve the addendum to the Pupil Progression Plan was added to the agenda.

ABSENT: Mrs. Vital and Ms. Johnson

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On the motion of Mr. Hebert, seconded by Mr. Fuselier, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following consent agenda items:

- a) Minutes of the following meetings:
  - 1) Finance Committee Meeting of December 7, 2022
  - 2) Regular Meeting of December 7, 2022
  - 3) Special Meeting of January 5, 2023
- b) Memorandum of Understanding between the Louisiana Department of Health and St. Martin Parish School Board
- c) Request for Testers Only Day (10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> graders) at the three high schools for the 2023 State ACT Testing Day (March 7<sup>th</sup>)
- d) Adopting the LSBA Code of Conduct
- e) Resolutions: (attached as Exhibit A)
  - 1) Louisiana School Board Recognition Month, January 2023
  - 2) Certifying President and Vice-President to conduct transactions for and on behalf of the School Board
- f) Payment of stipend for Cecilia High's Assistant Football Coaches for the 2022-2023 School Year
- g) Payment of stipend for Breaux Bridge High's Assistant Football Coaches for the 2022-2023 School Year
- h) Joining in the Mass Action lawsuit against JUUL

ABSENT: Mrs. Vital and Ms. Johnson

On the motion of Mr. Potier, seconded by Mr. Clay, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following Finance Committee recommendations:

- a) Head Start Policy Council Meeting agenda items:
  - 1) Finance Reports
  - 2) March Supplement
  - 3) Supplement Spending Plan
- b) Advertising and soliciting bids for maintenance trucks
- c) Adding Forms and Time and Attendance modules to Frontline
- d) Approving a 3-year Audit Engagement Letter with Champagne & Company

ABSENT: Mrs. Vital and Ms. Johnson

Mr. Russel Champagne with Champagne & Company presented the audit report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.

On the motion of Mr. Fuselier, seconded by Mr. Hebert, and unanimously carried, the Board approved to receive the audit report from Champagne & Company for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.

ABSENT: Mrs. Vital and Ms. Johnson

On the motion of Mr. Potier, seconded by Mr. Fuselier, and carried, the Board approved the following Head Start Policy Council recommendation:

- 1) PC Minutes 12/19/2022

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OPPOSED: Mr. Hebert

ABSTAINED: Mr. Stelly

ABSENT: Mrs. Vital and Ms. Johnson

Superintendent Al Blanchard announced his retirement, effective June 30, 2023. A motion was made by Mr. Potier and seconded by Mr. Clay to begin advertising for the Superintendent position. An amendment to the motion was made to hire Board Attorney Mark Boyer to conduct the search. The Board unanimously approved the motion as amended.

ABSENT: Mrs. Vital and Ms. Johnson

On the motion of Mr. Stelly, seconded by Mr. Potier, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the addendum to the Pupil Progression Plan.

ABSENT: Mrs. Vital and Ms. Johnson

On the motion of Mr. Hebert, seconded by Mr. Potier, and unanimously carried, the Board went into Executive Session.

ABSENT: Mrs. Vital and Ms. Johnson

On the motion of Mr. Hebert, seconded by Mr. Potier, and unanimously carried, the Board came out of Executive Session.

ABSENT: Mrs. Vital and Ms. Johnson

On the motion of Mr. Potier, seconded by Mr. Hebert, and unanimously carried, the Board approved to accept the recommendation of the administration regarding the insurance concern for Employee A.

ABSENT: Mrs. Vital and Ms. Johnson

No action was necessary for the pending litigation entitled Thomas, et. al vs. St. Martin Parish School Board, et. al, Civil Action No. 6:65-cv-11314 on the docket of the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana.

On the motion of Mr. Hebert, seconded by Mr. Stelly, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned.

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SECRETARY

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PRESIDENT