

ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

MARCH 1, 2023

BREAUX BRIDGE, LOUISIANA

MINUTES

The St. Martin Parish School Board convened on this day at 4:15 P.M. at the Administrative Office with the following members present: Messrs. Russel C. Foti, President, Steve Fuselier, Jimmy Durio, Frederic Stelly, Marlin d'Augereau, Mark Hebert, Mrs. Wanda B. Vital and Ms. Edna M. Johnson.

ABSENT: Mr. Mike Clay and Mr. Richard Potier

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

Mr. Rapheal Kately, Janitor at JCEP, was recognized as the February Employee of the Month sponsored by Southern Scripts.

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

- a) Minutes of the following meetings:
 - 1) Finance Committee Meeting of February 1, 2023
 - 2) Regular Meeting of February 1, 2023
 - 3) Special Meeting of February 14, 2023
- b) Request for permission to call for bids on the following:
 - 1) Produce
 - 2) Grocery
 - 3) Milk & Milk Related Products
 - 4) Meat & Frozen Food Products
 - 5) SN Small Equipment & Supplies
 - 6) SN Paper & Chemicals
- c) Request for waiver of sales tax penalties (1)
- d) Revisions to the Leave without Pay Policy (attached as Exhibit A)
- e) Renewal of Memorandum of Understanding between the Louisiana Department of Health/Office of Public Health and St. Martin Parish School Board
- f) Payment for Breaux Bridge High's Assistant Football Coach

ABSENT: Mr. Clay and Mr. Potier

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

- a) Head Start Policy Council Meeting agenda item:
 - 1) Finance Reports
- b) Authorization for the Superintendent and Bond Committee to accept the low bidder for the Cecilia High School Secure Entry project

ABSENT: Mr. Clay and Mr. Potier

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On the motion of Mrs. Vital, seconded by Mr. Durio, and carried, the Board approved the following Head Start Policy Council recommendations:

- a) PC Minutes 02/13/2023
- b) Updated Job Descriptions
- c) Advertisement for St. Martinville EHS Center Manager
- d) New Hire Recommendations
- e) Covid Mitigation Policy

OPPOSED: Mr. Hebert

ABSTAINED: Mr. Stelly

ABSENT: Mr. Clay and Mr. Potier

On the motion of Mr. Fuselier, seconded by Mrs. Vital, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the proposed 2023-2024 School Calendar for St. Martin Parish Schools (attached as Exhibit B).

ABSENT: Mr. Clay and Mr. Potier

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

ABSENT: Mr. Clay and Mr. Potier

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

ABSENT: None

A motion was made by Mr. Hebert and seconded by Mr. Fuselier to follow the recommendation of the administration regarding the student discussed in Executive Session.

A substitute motion was made by Mr. Potier and seconded by Mrs. Vital to follow the nicotine policy in lieu of the THC policy. The substitute motion was then voted on and failed, as follows:

FOR: Mrs. Vital, Ms. Johnson, and Mr. Richard Potier

OPPOSED: Mr. Fuselier, Mr. Durio, Mr. Foti, Mr. Clay, Mr. Stelly, Mr. d'Augereau, and Mr. Hebert

The original motion was then voted on and carried, as follows:

OPPOSED: Mrs. Vital and Mr. Potier

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

On the motion of Mr. Stelly, seconded by Ms. Johnson, and unanimously carried, the Board came out of Executive Session.

On the motion of Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Fuselier, and carried, the Board approved the following statement to be presented to Court in its desegregation case:

The Board previously voted to request that the Court approve the re-opening of Catahoula Elementary in the same grade configuration and with the same attendance zone boundaries as when the school was closed. The Board intended that this would include the same assignment pattern as when the school closed, that is with grades prek-1 within the original Catahoula zone and grades 2-5 from the original and the annexed zones and with the grades prek-1 in the annexed zone remaining at ELC. When the Board was presented with Mr. Hefner's Option 1, members were not aware that the numbers included the prek-1 students from the annexed zone and never intended for those younger students to be reassigned to Catahoula. The Board understands the confusion that may have arisen because of the error in the Option 1 data set and apologizes to the Court for its role in creating such confusion. The Board is committed to continuing to work in good faith and cooperatively as this matter moves forward.

OPPOSED: Mrs. Vital

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

SECRETARY

PRESIDENT