

CLAIBORNE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 9, 2023

The Finance Committee met at the Claiborne Parish School Board, Homer, Louisiana, at five o'clock p.m. on Tuesday, May 9, 2023.

Present: FINANCE COMMITTEE: Linda Knox, Tommy Davidson, Mark Perot

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Stevens, Stewart Griffin, Yolanda Coleman, William Maddox, Roy Mardis, David Nokes

Mr. Maddox, Board President, opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent Kennedy stated he would like to discuss the 2021-22 Audit Report, which will be presented by Ms. Amy Tynes with Allen, Green and Williamson in more detail on Thursday, May 11th, at the Regular Called Meeting. There will be two findings in the audit report. The first is in regards to our district filing an extension of the School Board's audit report, which is due by December 31st each year to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor. The extension was requested due to the transitioning to a newly appointed Business Manager; however, during the transition process, the outgoing Business Manager had gotten ill. We are taking corrective measures to make every effort to complete in a timely manner in order to complete the audit within 6 months of the close of the fiscal year. The second finding was for failure to incorporate the Davis-Bacon Act language and adhering to the guidelines in our bidding process, when using federal funds (ESSER grant). This applies to construction contracts in excess of \$2,000. Our district used ESSER funds to add HVAC systems, ionizers, touchless sinks and water fountains during the 2021-22 school year. The corrective action planned is to research any requirements for spending Federal funds going forward. All appropriate employees have been made aware of the Davis-Bacon requirements. There are several comments, not considered findings, also in the audit report. We have taken measures to ensure the corrective actions improve the internal controls in place.

Next, Superintendent Kennedy discussed the substitute pay schedule with the Board. He presented the current substitute pay schedule, along with comparison information from other parishes to the Board. He asked for discussion on whether the amounts should be increased or remain as is. The Board asked questions and will consider some possible options for a more in-depth dialogue at the June board meeting.

Mr. Kennedy discussed a couple of ideas on future teacher pay incentives. He suggested possibly earmarking indirect monies received through grants and surpluses in accounts to support the TAP performance

pay and possible stipends for all district employees. This would be a way to reinvest back into our employees. He asked the Board to begin thinking about this topic for discussion at a later date.

Lastly, Superintendent Kennedy asked the Board if they had any further discussion or questions from the previous Finance Committee Meeting held last month in regards to the monthly financial summaries provided in their board packets. There were no questions.

Mr. William Kennedy, Secretary
Claiborne Parish School Board