

ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

JANUARY 10, 2024

BREAUX BRIDGE, LOUISIANA

MINUTES

The St. Martin Parish School Board convened on this day at 4:10 P.M. at the Administrative Office with the following members present: Messrs. Russel C. Foti, President, Steve Fuselier, Jimmy Durio, Mike Clay, Richard Potier, Frederic Stelly, Marlin d'Augereau, Mark Hebert, Mrs. Wanda B. Vital and Ms. Edna M. Johnson.

ABSENT: None

The meeting was called to order by Russel C. Foti, President. Mr. Frederick Wiltz, Superintendent, opened the meeting with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

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

A substitute motion was made by Ms. Johnson to nominate Mark Hebert. Mr. Hebert respectfully declined. Mrs. Vital nominated Mike Clay for the office of President. Mr. Clay respectfully declined.

On the motion Mr. Fuselier, seconded Mr. Clay, and unanimously carried, nominations for the office of President were closed.

Mr. Russel Foti was re-elected President of the St. Martin Parish School Board for the year 2024.

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. Clay to nominate Mark Hebert for the office of Vice-President.

On the motion of Mr. Fuselier, seconded by Mr. Clay, and unanimously carried, nominations for the office of Vice-President were closed.

Mr. Mark Hebert was re-elected Vice-President of the St. Martin Parish School Board for the year 2024.

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

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Ms. Pamela Verrett, Fifth Grade Teacher at Stephenville Elementary School, was recognized as the December Employee of the Month sponsored by Southern Scripts.

Consider and/or approve job description for Operations and Maintenance Supervisor was added to the agenda.

Presentation by Dr. Janet Pope, LSBA Executive Director, regarding Board Members was removed from the agenda.

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

- a) Minutes of the following meetings:
 - 1) Finance Committee Meeting of December 6, 2023
 - 2) Regular Meeting of December 6, 2023
- b) Request for waiver of sales tax penalties, as follows:
 - 1) Approval of Waiver (3)
 - 2) Denial of Waiver (2)
- c) Renewal of agreement with Electronic Information Systems (EIS) Medclaims
- d) Adopting the LSBA Code of Conduct
- e) Resolutions: (attached as Exhibit A)
 - 1) Louisiana School Board Recognition Month, January 2024
 - 2) School Board Member Training Resolution
 - 3) Certifying President and Vice-President to conduct transactions for and on behalf of the School Board
- f) Payment for Breaux Bridge High's Assistant Football Coaches

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

- a) Head Start Policy Council Meeting agenda items:
 - 1) Finance Reports
 - 2) Low Cost extension for Supplemental Funds
- b) Table the item in regards to accepting Tax Compliance & Recovery's New Audit Contract
- c) Authorizing School Board Attorney Mark Boyer to request a legal opinion from the attorney general on how to move forward with supplements based on attendance

Mr. Russel Champagne with Champagne & Company presented the audit report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

On the motion of Mr. Potier, seconded by Mr. Stelly, and unanimously carried, the Board approved to receive the audit report from Champagne & Company for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

On the motion of Mr. Hebert, seconded by Mr. Stelly, and unanimously carried, the Board approved to table the following Head Start Policy Council recommendations:

- a) PC Minutes 11/27/2023
- b) Request for use of School Board property for Head Start Program for facility upgrades

On the motion of Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Stelly, and unanimously carried, the Board approved revisions to the Migrant Recruiter Job Description and Salary Scale and to advertise for a Migrant Recruiter.

On the motion of Mr. Hebert, seconded by Mr. Stelly, and carried, the Board approved to table the purchase of the following math textbook series: Grades K-8 – Curriculum and Associates, Ready Classroom Mathematics; Grades 9-12 – Savvas Learning – Envision Mathematics.

ABSTAINED: Mrs. Vital

On the motion of Mr. Potier, seconded by Mr. Clay, and carried, the Board approved the job description for the Operations and Maintenance Supervisor.

ABSTAINED: Mrs. Vital

Ms. Theresa Porter made a presentation to the Board regarding Magnet Schools.

Board Members Wanda Vital and Edna Johnson discussed the following:

- a) Magnet Schools
- b) Creating an Assistant Superintendent position
- c) Hiring a Director of Operations over the schools
- d) Opening of Catahoula Elementary School for the 2024-2025 year

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

ABSENT: Mr. Hebert

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

ABSENT: Mr. Hebert

No action was necessary for the following items discussed in Executive Session:

- a) 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
- b) Appeals – Expulsion

On the motion of Mr. Stelly, seconded by Mr. d'Augereau, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned.

SECRETARY

PRESIDENT