

Centerville, Louisiana

March 14, 2024

The St. Mary Parish School Board met in regular session on Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 5:30 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: Ms. Guienzy M. Brent, Ms. Tammie L. Moore, Mrs. Lindsey T. Anslem, Ms. Debra R. Jones, Mrs. Ginger S. Griffin, Ms. Marilyn P. LaSalle, Mr. Murphy J. Pontiff Jr., Mr. Chad M. Paradee, Mrs. Alaina L. Black, Mr. Andrew V. Mancuso, Mrs. Rhonda R. Dennis.

Absent: None

Invocation

Mr. Holmes gave the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

President Black led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Appearances:

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St. Mary Parish District Students of the Year

Ms. Rose Hale introduced St. Mary Parish District Students of the Year as follows:

Berwick Elementary: Carson Paradee, 5th grade student

B. Edward Boudreaux Middle School: Tyren Austin, 8th grade student

Berwick High School: Cherish Lewis, 12th grade student

Introduction of Students and Employees of the Month

Franklin Junior High School:

Principal J Ina introduced 8th grade student S’Nai Burrell as Student of the Month at Franklin Junior High School.

Principal J Ina introduced Paraeducator, Norma Troquille as Employee of the Month at Franklin Junior High School.

Patterson High School:

Principal Amy Vaccarella introduced 12th grade student Ella Doucet as Student of the Month at Patterson High School.

Principal Amy Vaccarella introduced Special Education Teacher, Anna Perry as Employee of the Month at Patterson High School.

Wyandotte Elementary School:

Principal Celeste Pipes introduced 5th grade student Annabelle Guagliardo as Student of the Month at Wyandotte Elementary School.

Principal Celeste Pipes introduced 2nd Grade Teacher, Lisa Hover as Employee of the Month at Wyandotte Elementary School.

Recognition of Franklin Senior High School Hornets Boys Basketball Division IV Non-Select State Championship.

Principal Natasha Jackson recognized and thanked the assistant principal, coaches, managers, parents, students, Hornets fans, and staff members for their support. Principal Jackson said, “The team would not have made it this far without Coach Tremayne Johnson and all of the other coaches and the effortless hours they put into the operation of the program is priceless.” As the principal and a mother of one of the players, she is extremely proud to recognize the Franklin High School Hornets Boys Basketball Team Division IV Non-Select as “State Champions.”

Coach Tremayne Johnson said, “It’s been a long journey since he took over the program.” He acknowledged Franklin Senior High School’s former coach, Principal Alexis Rack, for all the

basketball knowledge that he learned from her. He thanked Principal Jackson for allowing him to run the program in a way that he feels works best. Coach Johnson permitted each player to introduce themselves to the audience.

Approval of Amended Agenda.

No amended agenda.

Approval of Official School Board Minutes.

Mrs. Griffin offered the motion and Ms. Moore offered the second to approve the official school board minutes from the regular school board meeting held on February 8, 2024, and the special session school board meeting held on February 16, 2024. All in favor and the motion carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda.

President Black stated that Board Members can remove any of the items on the consent agenda for further discussion in the regular proceedings. Dr. Fegenbush read aloud the items on the consent agenda as follows:

New Business

Personnel:

Item 13. *Field Trips

- A. *Franklin Junior High School, 6th - 8th Science STEM travel to Houston, Texas, (May 20-22, 2024)
- B. *Morgan City High School JROTC, STEM Camp travel to Starkville, Mississippi, (June 24-28, 2024)
- C. *Morgan City High School JROTC, National Flight Academy travel to Pensacola, Florida, (June 9-14, 2024)
- D. *Bayou Vista Elementary School, National Elementary Beta Club Convention travel to Savannah Convention Center, Savannah, Georgia, (June 14-16, 2024)

Ms. Moore made a motion and seconded by Ms. Brent to approve the consent agenda as presented by Dr. Fegenbush. All in favor and the motion carried.

Business Affairs:

Item 1. Approve School Board Member Training Resolution for the year 2023 reflecting each member of the St. Mary Parish School Board for receiving a minimum of six (6) hours of training and instruction, as required by ACT 705 of the 2011 Louisiana Legislature.

- A. Joseph C. Foulcard, Jr. (Posthumous Authorization)
- B. Tammie M. Moore
- C. Lindsey T. Anslem
- D. Debra R. Jones
- E. Ginger S. Griffin
- F. Marilyn P. LaSalle
- G. Murphy J. Pontiff, Jr.
- H. Chad M. Paradee
- I. Alaina L. Black
- J. Andrew V. Mancuso
- K. Rhonda R. Dennis

President Black read aloud the resolution as follows:

School Board Member Training Resolution

WHEREAS, each member of a city and parish school board shall receive a minimum of six hours of training and instruction, as required by ACT 705 of the 2011 Louisiana Legislature; and

WHEREAS, this training and instruction shall consist of school laws of this state, laws governing the powers, duties, and responsibilities of city and parish school boards, educational trends, research, and policy; and

WHEREAS, such instruction may be received from an institution of higher education in this state, from instruction sponsored by the State Department of Education, or by an in-service training program conducted by a city or parish school board central office or the Louisiana School Boards Association, or training provided at the national level; and

WHEREAS, each member of a city and parish board shall receive one hour of ethics training, per year, of their tenure as board member;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that it become public record that Lindsey T. Anslem, Alaina L. Black, Rhonda Dennis, the late Joseph C. Foulcard Jr., Ginger S. Griffin, Debra R. Jones, Marilyn P. LaSalle, Andrew V. Mancuso, Tammie M. Moore, Chad M. Paradee, and Murphy J. Pontiff, Jr. members of the St. Mary Parish School Board, have successfully received and exceeded the six hours of required training as mandated by the Legislature of Louisiana and all board members have fulfilled the mandate of one hour of ethics training for the year 2023.

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned Superintendent of St. Mary Parish School Board, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted at its regular School Board meeting on March 14, 2024.

Dr. Buffy S. Fegenbush, Superintendent
St. Mary Parish School Board

Mr. Mancuso made a motion and seconded by Mrs. Dennis to approve the School Board Member Training Resolution for the year 2023 reflecting each member of the St. Mary Parish School Board for receiving a minimum of six (6) hours of training and instruction, as required by ACT 705 of the 2011 Louisiana Legislature. All in favor and the motion carried.

Item 2. Recognize and Honor Board Members for Achieving Certified School Board Member Designation that voluntarily earned twenty (20) or more LSBA approved training hours during the 2023 calendar year.

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| A. Joseph C. Foulcard, Jr. (Posthumous Authorization) | F. Chad M. Paradee |
| B. Tammie M. Moore | G. Alaina L. Black |
| C. Lindsey T. Anslem | H. Andrew V. Mancuso |
| D. Debra R. Jones | I. Rhonda R. Dennis |
| E. Murphy J. Pontiff, Jr. | |

Family members of the late Joseph C. Foulcard, Jr. was present to accept his awards from the Louisiana School Board Association (LSBA), as described in Item 1 and 2.

Item 3. Receive Group Insurance Update.

Mr. James Perez of DJW Insurance Agency, Inc. provided the Board with a Group Health Insurance Plan premium to claims summary updated through February 2024. Total premiums paid in \$2,184,948 and total claims paid out \$1,865,069 with a simple loss ratio of 85 percent. After expense adjustments it is estimated at 94 percent loss ratio.

Item 4. Approve recommendation regarding property insurance renewal for building and contents coverage for the year commencing April 1, 2024.

Ms. LaSalle made a motion and seconded by Ms. Moore to approve the property insurance renewal for building and contents coverage with Paul's Agency, rejecting the terrorism coverage and not to exceed the total cost of \$2,1183,240 for the year commencing April 1, 2024, as presented by Ms. Carmel Breaux. All in favor and the motion carried.

Item 5. Approve recommendation regarding property insurance renewal for boiler and machinery coverage for the year commencing April 1, 2024.

Mrs. Griffin made a motion and seconded by Ms. Brent to approve the property insurance renewal for boiler and machinery coverage with Frank's Agency for the year commencing April 1, 2024, as presented by Ms. Carmel Breaux. All in favor and the motion carried.

Item 6. Approve recommendation regarding workers' compensation insurance for the year commencing May 1, 2024.

Ms. Carmel Breaux explained how self-funding works for the Board regarding the workers' compensation insurance.

No action was required from the Board. This insurance was approved last year for two years, which does not expire until May 1, 2025.

Item 7. Approve recommendation to retain services of third-party administrator (TPA) and safety consultant to assist the Board with the workers compensation program.

Mr. Mancuso made a motion and seconded by Mrs. Anslem to approve services of third-party administrator (TPA) with CAS in Tyler, Texas for \$21,367 and safety, loss prevention consultant with RiskWise for \$12,000 to assist the Board with the workers compensation program, as presented by Ms. Carmel Breaux. All in favor and the motion carried.

Item 8. Approval of School Calendar for the 2024-2025 school year.

Mrs. Anslem made a motion and seconded by Ms. Moore to approve School Calendar for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented by Dr. Sanders. All in favor and the motion carried.

Item 9. Approve 180, 182, 200, 202, 212, 220, 222, 240, 242 Employee Calendars for 2024-2025 school year.

Ms. Moore made a motion and seconded by Ms. Jones to approve 180, 182, 200, 202, 212, 220, 222, 240, 242 Employee Calendars for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented by Dr. Sanders. All in favor and the motion carried.

Item 10. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding deletion of the Student Conduct Policy (JCDA)

Ms. LaSalle made a motion and seconded by Ms. Jones to approve deletion of the Student Conduct Policy (JCDA), as presented by Dr. Sanders. All in favor and the motion carried.

Item 11. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding revision to Student Fees, Fine and Charges Policy (JS).

Mrs. Anslem made a motion and seconded by Mr. Mancuso to approve revision of the Student Fees, Fine and Charges Policy (JS), as presented by Dr. Sanders. All in favor and the motion carried.

Item 12. (DELETED) Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the 2024-2025 Schedule of Fees.

Item 14. Award Substantial completion to the St. Mary Alternative Program Roofing Project using ESSER Funds.

Mrs. Griffin made a motion and seconded by Mr. Pontiff to approve the substantial completion for the St. Mary Alternative Program Roofing Project using ESSER Funds, as presented by Mr. Wiese. All in favor and the motion carried.

Item 15. Approval of E-Rate Contract.

Ms. LaSalle made a motion and seconded by Mr. Pontiff to approve the E-Rate Contract to IConvergence, Inc., as presented by Mr. Vead. All in favor and the motion carried.

Reports

Committee:

1. Policy Committee Meeting (February 28, 2024)

Mr. Mancuso reported that the Policy Committee met on February 28th to discuss the Sick Leave Policy (GBRIB), Employee Sick Leave Bank Policy (GBRIBB) and obsolete policies recommended for deletion.

A. Approve recommendations regarding Sick and Extended Leave Policy (GBRIB)

A summary of the changes included in the proposed revision are as follows:

- A general restructuring of the policy for clarity and renaming it to Sick and Extended Leave.
- Updated definition and added references to applicable state statutes from employee categories.
- Identified and referenced two personal days to the appropriate personnel leave policy.
- Included a standard month method of qualifying sick days based on the category of employee.
- Removed examples of special circumstances.
- Added the availability of three days of leave for special circumstances to be utilized at the discretion of a designee of the superintendent.

- Other recommendations from Forethought Consultant.
- Recommendations from legal counsel.

Mr. Mancuso made a motion to approve policy (GBRIBB) as recommended by the Policy Committee and reviewed by legal counsel.

Mrs. Griffin moved to amended the original motion on the floor to leave in the current employee scale reflecting the years of experience for 12-month employees, as described on page three of policy (GBRIB) and add grandchildren back into the policy under the Sick Leave for Emergencies, as described on the top of page five. Mrs. Anslem made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

Mrs. Griffin made a motion to the original motion as amended. Mrs. Anslem made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.

B. Approve recommendations regarding Employee Sick Leave Bank Policy (GBRIBB)

Policy (GBRIBB) Employee Sick Leave Bank was also reviewed after being recommended for revisions at the February regular board meeting. Summary of the proposed revisions are as follows:

- Removed the sick leave bank board due to confidentiality concerns.
- Included stipulations for employment term for eligibility.
- Set a maximum number of days that can be received from the bank.
- Set a maximum payment level for days paid from the bank.
- Recommendations from legal counsel.

Mr. Mancuso made a motion to approve revisions as recommended by the committee and reviewed by legal counsel. All in favor and the motion carried.

C. Approve recommendations to delete Section M from the CAPS System

- Education Research and Service Centers (ME)
- Colleges and Universities (MF)
- State Education Agency Relations (MI)
- Education Accreditation Agency Relations (MK)

The four obsolete policies as described in Item C were also reviewed in the Policy Committee meeting. These policies were never revisited after being adopted in 1976.

Mr. Mancuso made a motion to approve recommendations made by the Policy Committee to delete Section M from the CAPS System. All in favor and the motion carried.

2. Special Education Advisory Council Committee Meeting (March 13, 2024)

Ms. McClarity reported that the Special Education Advisory Council met on March 13th at 4:00 p.m., in the Evans Medine Meeting Room. Mr. David Hanagriff was appointed as the new chairperson of the Special Education Advisory Committee. Ms. Leguya Brown Davis, a Special Education teacher was also a new member on the committee.

Ms. Tiffany Wilson is an advocate for kids with Autism. Ms. Wilson shared information about Autism and provided a list of events that will take place in St. Mary Parish in March and April.

Ms. McClarity encouraged the public to attend the next Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting scheduled on Wednesday, April 10th at 4:00 p.m., in the Evans Medine Meeting Room at the Central Office Complex in Centerville.

LEAP and ACT testing were discussed, and extended school year for special education students was also discussed.

In closing, Ms. McClarity invited everyone to come out and support the Special Olympics Track Meet on Friday, March 22, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., which will be held at Patterson High School Stadium.

3. Set time and date for District Maintenance Committee I, II, and III Special Project Meeting.

- **District I** - will meet on Tuesday, April 23 at 4:30 p.m. in the Evan Medine Meeting Room at the Central Office Complex.
- **District II** - will meet on Tuesday, April 23 at 3:00 p.m. in the Evan Medine Meeting Room at the Central Office Complex.
- **District III** - will meet on Tuesday, April 30 at 3:00 p.m. in the Evan Medine Meeting Room at the Central Office Complex.

Staff:

1. Chief Financial Officer's Report

Sale Tax Update:

Mr. Perry reported that the sales tax collections for eight months into the fiscal year collected \$1,885,458 versus a budget of \$ 1,951,000.

Financial Statements (Major Funds Only):

The Board was provided financial statements for major funds only to review at their leisure.

Other Significant Items:

Mr. Perry provided the Board with a Tentative Schedule of Events for Ad Valorem taxes election being held on December 7, 2024. This is informational only and no action is required from the Board.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Fegenbush reported as part of the district's obligations set forth in the federal desegregation case, all St. Mary Parish students are required to attend school in their residential attendance zone. The only exception will be for students with approved 2024-2025 transfer applications. Visit the St. Mary Parish Public Schools website or individual school sites for more information.

The Special Olympics Track Meet will be held on Friday, March 22, 2024 at 10:00 p.m., at the Patterson High School Stadium.

The St. Mary Parish Arts Jams will be held at the Franklin Theater on Monday, March 18, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. for students in grade 1st - 8th and Thursday, March 21st for grade 9th-12th at 5:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend this special event.

March 20th ends the third nine-week period and report cards will be distributed on March 21st. Parents are reminded to call the school to set up appointments with any concerns or questions.

The public is invited to attend the Discipline Policy Committee Meeting on Tuesday, March 19th at 4:30 p.m., and the School Uniform Committee Meeting on Wednesday, March 20th at 5:30 p.m. Meetings will be held in the Evans Medine Meeting Room at the Central Office Complex in Centerville.

St. Mary Parish Public Schools will be on Easter break starting March 25-April 1st.

In closing, Dr. Fegenbush wished everyone a peaceful and restful break.

Closing:

Resolutions of Respect:

Mr. Holmes read the Resolutions of Respect for the late Annie Boudreaux (retired school cafeteria technician), Gayle Louviere (retired school bus attendant), Todd Viator (retired high school social studies teacher), Kathleen Washington (retired school paraprofessional), and Earline Wise (retired school teacher).

Adjournment:

With there being no further business to address, Ms. Moore made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m. Mrs. Dennis made a second, all in favor and the motion carried.