

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES

The St. Mary Parish School Board shall provide an expense allowance and provide for expense reimbursement for its members in accordance with state law at a rate as set by the School Board. School Board members shall also be authorized to receive reimbursement for mileage going to and from meetings as well as reimbursement for actual travel and related expenses outside the jurisdictional boundaries of the School Board while on official School Board business, all in accordance with School Board policy.

The St. Mary Parish School Board shall set an annual budget for travel and related expenses (registration, hotel, airfare, taxi, meals, etc.) of School Board members. Each School Board member shall be allocated a pro rata share of that budgeted amount for purpose of reimbursement of travel and related expenses incurred in the performance of duties as a School Board member. The School Board President shall approve all reasonable requests for travel reimbursement submitted by Board members up to the amount allocated to that member. Once a School Board member reaches his/her allocated amount in any fiscal year, any additional requests for reimbursement of travel expenses in that fiscal year must be presented to and approved by the Executive Committee before payment.

Any action increasing the compensation for School Board members shall require a ***two-thirds vote of the total membership***. Before any action is taken, however, the School Board shall advertise the time and place where the meeting is to be held to consider the expense allowance in the official journal of the School Board on at least two (2) separate days during the fifteen (15) days immediately preceding such meeting.

The President of the School Board shall be entitled to receive one (1) additional per diem allowance in his/her capacity as President. Members of the Executive Committee may receive an additional per diem per month payment of \$50.00, provided however, an executive committee member attending an executive committee meeting and a School Board meeting on the same day shall not receive compensation for the executive committee meeting.

INSURANCE BENEFITS

Members of the St. Mary Parish School Board are not considered full-time employees of the school system and are therefore, effective January 1, 2019, not eligible for benefits under the regular rules of eligibility.

School Board members who are eligible for and covered by any employer sponsored group health plan coverage or retiree group health plan as a result of their own current or past full-time employment shall not be considered eligible for active employee coverage in the St. Mary Parish School Board group health plan. This provision applies to retirees of this or any other school system enrolled in a retiree group health plan.

School Board members who are not eligible for and enrolled in an employer sponsored group health plan or retiree group health plan based on their own current or past employment are considered eligible for active employee coverage provided they enroll upon initial eligibility or during an open enrollment period.

Any School Board member that completes twelve (12) years of service as a School Board member in St. Mary Parish shall be eligible to qualify for the same insurance benefits afforded retirees of the system.

Revised: August, 1989

Revised: November, 1993

Revised: August, 2003

Revised: November 8, 2018

Revised: December 14, 2023

Ref: La. Rev. Stat. Ann. "17:56, 17:81, 17:1223, 42:851; Board minutes, 5-25-89, 11-8-18, 12-14-23.