

CLAIBORNE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

April 10, 2025

The Claiborne Parish School Board met in a regular session at the Claiborne Parish School Board office in Homer, Louisiana, at six o'clock, April 10, 2025, with the following members:

Present: Patricia Stevens, Stewart Griffin, William Maddox, Linda Knox, Yolanda Coleman, Perry Anderson, Roy Mardis, David Nokes

Absent: Tommy Davidson, Mark Perot

There was also present Mr. Chris Brooks, Secretary of the Board.

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

A motion by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Ms. Stevens, to approve the minutes of the Educational Committee Meeting and the Regular Board Meeting held March 6, 2025, which had been emailed to the Board Members previously. Motion passed by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no.

Superintendent Brooks requested to consider and take action with respect to adopting a resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, on Saturday, March 29, 2025, to authorize the continuation of special taxes within. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Nokes and seconded by Ms. Knox. Motion passed by a roll call vote of 8 yays, 0 nays, 2 absent.

	YAYS	NAYS	ABSTAINED	ABSENT
Patricia Stevens	X			
Stewart Griffin	X			
William Maddox	X			
Linda Knox	X			
Yolanda Coleman	X			
Perry Anderson	X			
Tommy Davidson				X
Roy Mardis	X			
David Nokes	X			
Mark Perot				X

The following resolution was offered by David Nokes and seconded by Linda Knox:

RESOLUTION

A resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, on Saturday, March 29, 2025, to authorize the continuation of special taxes therein.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish School Board of the Parish of Claiborne, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), that:

SECTION 1. Canvass. This Governing Authority does now proceed in open and public session to examine the official tabulations of votes cast at the special election held in Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, on Saturday, March 29, 2025 (the "Election"), to authorize the continuation of special taxes therein pursuant to the following propositions (the "Propositions"):

PROPOSITION NO. 1 OF 2
(MILLAGE CONTINUATION)

Shall Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy a special tax of 5.22 mills on all the property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated \$603,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2026 and ending with the year 2035, for the purpose of giving additional support to the public schools in said Parish, said millage to represent a .07 mills increase (due to reappraisal) over the 5.15 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2025 pursuant to an election held on December 6, 2014?

PROPOSITION NO. 2 OF 2
(MILLAGE CONTINUATION)

Shall Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy a special tax of 5.22 mills on all the property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated \$603,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2026 and ending with the year 2035, for the purpose of constructing, improving and maintaining school houses and other school property within said Parish, said millage to represent a .07 mills increase (due to reappraisal) over the 5.15 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2025 pursuant to an election held on December 6, 2014?

This Governing Authority does further proceed to examine and canvass the returns of the Election thereof.

SECTION 2. Election Results. According to the official certified tabulation of votes cast at said Election,

(i) there was a total of **753** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition No. 1 and a total of **721** votes cast **AGAINST** Proposition No. 1, resulting in a majority of **32** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition No. 1; and

(ii) there was a total of **752** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition No. 2 and a total of **724** votes cast **AGAINST** Proposition No. 2, resulting in a majority of **28** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition No. 2.

The Propositions were therefore duly **CARRIED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the Election.

SECTION 3. Promulgation of Election Result. The results of said election shall be promulgated by publication in the manner provided by law, after receipt from the Secretary of State's office of the actual costs of the election, as required by §18:1292 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended.

SECTION 4. Declaration. The foregoing results of the Election are hereby declared by this Governing Authority and shall be published as required by law.

SECTION 5. Procès Verbal. A *Procès Verbal* of the canvass of the returns of the Election shall be made and a certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who shall record the same in her office; another certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Recorder of Mortgages in and for the Parish of Claiborne, who shall record the same in the Mortgage Records of said Parish; and another copy thereof shall be retained in the archives of this Governing Authority.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: 8

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 2

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 10th day of April, 2025.

/s/ Chris Brooks
Secretary

/s/ Perry Anderson
President

PROCÈS VERBAL OF THE CANVASS OF THE VOTES CAST AT THE SPECIAL ELECTION HELD IN CLAIBORNE PARISH SCHOOL DISTRICT, CLAIBORNE PARISH, LOUISIANA, ON SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025.

BE IT KNOWN AND REMEMBERED that on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., at its regular meeting place, the Parish School Board Office, 415 E. Main Street, Homer, Louisiana, the Parish School Board of the Parish of Claiborne, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), and being the authority ordering the special election held therein on Saturday, March 29, 2025, with a quorum of the Governing Authority present and did, in open and public session, examine the official certified tabulations of votes cast at the said election, and did examine and canvass the returns of the said election, there having been submitted at said election the following propositions, to wit:

PROPOSITION NO. 1 OF 2
(MILLAGE CONTINUATION)

Shall Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy a special tax of 5.22 mills on all the property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated \$603,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2026 and ending with the year 2035, for the purpose of giving additional support to the public schools in said Parish, said millage to represent a .07 mills increase (due to reappraisal) over the 5.15 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2025 pursuant to an election held on December 6, 2014?

PROPOSITION NO. 2 OF 2
(MILLAGE CONTINUATION)

Shall Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy a special tax of 5.22 mills on all the property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated \$603,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2026 and ending with the year 2035, for the purpose of constructing, improving and maintaining school houses and other school property within said Parish, said millage to represent a .07 mills increase (due to reappraisal) over the 5.15 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2025 pursuant to an election held on December 6, 2014?

There was found by said count and canvass that (i) there was a total of **753** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition No. 1 and a total of **721** votes cast **AGAINST** Proposition No. 1, as hereinabove set forth, and it was further found and determined that there was a majority of **32** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition No. 1 as hereinabove set forth and (ii) there was a total of **752** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition No. 2 and a total of **724** votes cast **AGAINST** Proposition No. 2, as hereinabove set forth, and it was further found and determined that there was a majority of **28** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition No. 2 as hereinabove set forth.

Therefore, the Governing Authority did declare and proclaim and does hereby declare and proclaim in open and public session that the Proposition as hereinabove set forth was duly **CARRIED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the said special election held in the District on Saturday, March 29, 2025.

Results by precinct are available from the Secretary of this Governing Authority during regular business hours or via the Louisiana Secretary of State's website (voterportal.sos.la.gov).

Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part of this *Procès Verbal* is a copy of the Notice of Special Election and proof of publication thereof.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Homer, Louisiana, on this, the 10th day of April, 2025.

ATTEST:

/s/ Perry Anderson
President

/s/ Chris Brooks
Secretary

EXHIBIT "A"

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Parish School Board of the Parish of Claiborne, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), on November 7, 2024, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held within the District on **SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025**, and that at the said election there will be submitted to all registered voters in the District qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States, the following propositions, to-wit:

**PROPOSITION NO. 1 OF 2
(MILLAGE CONTINUATION)**

Shall Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy a special tax of 5.22 mills on all the property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated \$603,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2026 and ending with the year 2035, for the purpose of giving additional support to the public schools in said Parish, said millage to represent a .07 mills increase (due to reappraisal) over the 5.15 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2025 pursuant to an election held on December 6, 2014?

**PROPOSITION NO. 2 OF 2
(MILLAGE CONTINUATION)**

Shall Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy a special tax of 5.22 mills on all the property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated \$603,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2026 and ending with the year 2035, for the purpose of constructing, improving and maintaining school houses and other school property within said Parish, said millage to represent a .07 mills increase (due to reappraisal) over the 5.15 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2025 pursuant to an election held on December 6, 2014?

The said special election will be held at each and every polling place in the Parish of Claiborne, which polls will open at seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and close at eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541.

The polling places at the precincts in the District are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, shall be those persons designated according to law.

The estimated cost of this election as determined by the Secretary of State based upon the provisions of Chapter 8-A of Title 18 and actual costs of similar elections is \$40,000.

Notice is further given that a portion of the monies collected from the tax described in the Proposition shall be remitted to certain state and statewide retirement systems in the manner required by law.

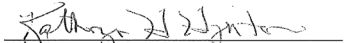
The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to said Governing Authority, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will meet at its regular meeting place, the Parish School Board Office, 415 E. Main Street, Homer, Louisiana, on **THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025**, at **6:00 P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the results of the said special election. All registered voters of the District are entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

The Guardian-Journal

P.O. Box 119 — 620 North Main
Homer, Louisiana 71040

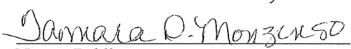
STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF CLAIBORNE

Before Me, the undersigned authority, personally came and appeared **Kathryn H. Hightower** who declared that she is the Owner of **The Guardian-Journal** a newspaper published in the Town of Homer, Louisiana, each Thursday, and which is an official journal of Claiborne Parish, and that the attached advertisement of **CLAIBORNE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION** Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Parish School Board of the Parish of Claiborne, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), on Friday, January 24, 31 and February 7 and 14, 2025.


Kathryn H. Hightower

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED before me on this the 25 day of February, 2025.

Deputy Clerk of Court
& Ex-Officio a Notary Public
Claiborne Parish, Louisiana


Notary Public

PROCLAMATION

I, the undersigned President of the Parish School Board of the Parish of Claiborne, State of Louisiana, the governing authority of Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), do hereby declare, proclaim and announce that the propositions submitted at the special election held in the District on Saturday, March 29, 2025, were CARRIED by a majority of the votes cast at the said special election, all as described and set out in the above *Procès Verbal*.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Homer, Louisiana, on this, the 10th day of April, 2025.

/s/ Perry Anderson
President

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF CLAIBORNE

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Parish School Board of the Parish of Claiborne, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Claiborne Parish School District, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of the proceedings and *Procès Verbal* made by said Governing Authority on April 10, 2025, providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in the District on Saturday, March 29, 2025, to authorize the continuation of special taxes therein.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature at Homer, Louisiana, on this, the 10th day of April, 2025.

Secretary

Superintendent Brooks requested the Board to grant permission for students and sponsors to travel out of state for the National FBLA Convention which will be held in Anaheim, California.

He also asked them to consider giving financial support to the students, sponsors and school chaperones who will be attending the FBLA National Convention. Summerfield High students who placed at the State Conference – Sonnie Vinson, Kenlyn Babcock, Morgan Jones, Katelyn Babcock, Braylen Brown and Mailee Jee. Homer High students who placed at the State Conference – Chance Owens, Cindy Cripe, Cayden Franklin and Calvin Merritt. Homer Jr. High students that placed – Brandon Gilbert, Ava Harris, Kelsee Bursey, Kendal Adams, Azaiyah Franklin, Jamarriae Ward, Abria Abbott, Elijah Morgan and State Officers, Alisa Le and Hailei Malcolm. These students will also be fundraising as well to offset expenses of their trip. Mr. Mardis made a motion to provide financial support to the students, sponsors and school chaperones who will be traveling in the amount of \$600 each, seconded by Mr. Nokes. In a roll call vote, the motion tied 4 yays, 4 nays.

	YAYS	NAYS	ABSTAINED	ABSENT
Patricia Stevens		X		
Stewart Griffin		X		
William Maddox	X			
Linda Knox		X		
Yolanda Coleman		X		
Perry Anderson	X			
Tommy Davidson				X
Roy Mardis	X			
David Nokes	X			
Mark Perot				X

Ms. Stevens made a motion to provide financial support to the students, sponsors and school chaperones who will be traveling in the amount of \$800 each, seconded by Mr. Griffin. Motion passed in a unanimous roll call vote of 8 yays, 0 nays.

Dr. Alexandria Feaster, Homer High Principal, and Homer High have earned the honor of sharing their story on a national stage at the Model Schools Conference in Washington D.C. on June 22nd – 25th. Superintendent Brooks requested permission for travel to Washington DC for the Model Conference in support and honor of Dr Feaster and Homer High School. Ms. Coleman made a motion to give permission to travel out of state, seconded by Ms. Stevens. Motion passed by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no.

Ms. Sheppard requested permission to bid for a cybersecurity program. This is a pilot program and Claiborne Parish School District is one of 645 applicants selected from the United States to participate in this crucial program. The funding can be used to purchase a wide variety of eligible cybersecurity services and equipment to mitigate the risk of exposing student/employee information. A motion to approve permission was made by Mr. Mardis, seconded by Mr. Griffin. Motion passed by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no.

Superintendent Brooks requested to approve new policy – IDBA (Sex Education). This policy is a result of Act 681 from the 2024 Louisiana Legislature. Our policy states outside of normal curriculum, such as Biology, Health, etc., sexual education will not be taught in Claiborne Parish School District. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Knox, seconded by Mr. Nokes. Motion passed by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no.

Superintendent Brooks requested approval of job descriptions for food service, maintenance, and transportation department positions and an Alternative Site Coordinator position. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Maddox, seconded by Ms. Knox. Motion passed by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no.

Mr. Brooks asked to renew and approve the 2024-25 differentiated compensation allocation plan. This is a state allocation from the Louisiana Department of Education intended to assist school systems and schools with their recruitment and retention of teachers. The amount of the allotment varies each year. This year our district received a total allotment of \$37,577 to pay stipends and the related retirement cost for eligible teachers. The stipend amount for eligible full-time certified teachers will be \$1,245. The payment will be made to eligible teachers on Friday, April 25th. Ms. Knox made a motion to approve, seconded by Ms. Stevens. The motion passed by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no.

Ms. Micki Turner reviewed the March 2025 financials with the Board.

Superintendent’s Report:

Personnel Actions – April 10, 2025

I. To be Hired:

a. Certified Teaching or Administrative Positions

Name	Position	Effective	Replacing

b. Classified, Support, Bus Drivers or Other Non-Certificated Positions

Name	Position	Effective	Replacing
Thomas Love	Custodian – Homer Elem	4/8/25	Dennis Williams (N. Manning Position)

II. Resignations, Retirements:

Name	Position	Effective	Reason
Te’Arien Mitchell	Teacher – Homer Jr.	3/7/25	Resigned
Natalie Manning	Custodian – Haynesville High	3/25/25	Resigned/Re-hired

III. Transfers:

Name	Position	Effective	Reason
Antonio Turner	Custodian – Haynesville High	4/1/25	Replacing Natalie Manning
James Hardaway	Custodian – Homer High	4/1/25	Replaced Antonio Turner
Dennis Williams	Custodian – Homer Jr.	4/1/25	Replaced James Hardaway

- 1. Testing has begun in some of our schools.
- 2. Monday, April 14th, is a school day for students/staff. We will be closed on Friday, April 18th, for Good Friday holiday.
- 3. The Summerfield Auction will be held on May 10th.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Perry Anderson, President
Claiborne Parish School Board

ATTEST:

Mr. Chris Brooks, Secretary
Claiborne Parish School Board