



## MEETING MINUTES

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### Attendance

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#### Voting Members – Present

Guienzy Brent, Board Member  
Tammie Moore, Board Member - Vice President  
Lindsey Anslem, Board Member  
Debra Jones, Board Member  
Ginger Griffin, Board Member  
Marilyn LaSalle, Board Member  
Chad Paradee, Board Member  
Alaina Black, Board Member - President  
Andrew Mancuso, Board Member  
Rhonda Dennis, Board Member  
Lawrence Guillory, Board Member

#### Absent

None

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#### I. Meeting Called to Order (Mrs. Black)

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Black.

##### 1. Roll Call (Dr. Fegenbush)

The roll call was conducted by Dr. Fegenbush.

#### II. Opening of Regular Meeting

The St. Mary Parish School Board met in regular session on Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., in the Evans Medine Meeting Room at the Central Office Complex in Centerville, Louisiana for the following purposes and to take whatever actions necessary. The meeting may be viewed online at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnZ1z15loF\\_FZnVcBe09cRQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnZ1z15loF_FZnVcBe09cRQ)

##### 1. Invocation (Mr. Holmes)

Mr. Holmes gave the Invocation.

##### 2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America (Mrs. Black)

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

#### III. Appearances

##### 1. Recognition of Summer Graduation for students that completed the requirements over the summer. (Ms. Clark)

Recognition was given to students who successfully completed graduation requirements over the summer. Although the invited guest was unable to attend, congratulations were extended to all summer graduates for their achievement.

##### 2. Recognition of newly appointed positions. (Ms. Estay)

Mrs. Stephanie Gautreaux was recognized as the newly hired Assistant Principal at Berwick Junior High School. Mrs. Gautreaux was unable to be present at the meeting.

**3. Recognition of the 2025-2026 Red Ribbon Artwork Contest Winners. (Dr. Sanders)**

Dr. Sanders recognized and congratulated Stanley Aucoin as the winner of this year's Red Ribbon slogan contest. His winning slogan, "Life is a canvas painted with dreams," serves as the inspiration for the 2025 St. Mary Parish Public Schools Red Ribbon calendar, art contest, bracelets, and t-shirts. In honor of his achievement, Stanley received a \$100 cash prize, a custom t-shirt featuring his slogan, and his slogan will be featured on the district's Red Ribbon bracelet.

Congratulations to the Grand Champion, Mrs. Lori Buteau, Gifted and Talented Teacher. Her winning artwork will be featured on the official Red Ribbon T-shirt and on the cover of the Red Ribbon Calendar. Mrs. Buteau received a \$100 cash prize, a t-shirt and her artwork.

**Congratulations to the Artwork Contest Winners as follows:**

**Khloe Lucore**, 1st Grade - Bayou Vista Elementary  
**Jazlynn Scott**, 2nd Grade - Hattie Watts Elementary  
**Rease Fuselier**, 3rd Grade - Hattie Watts Elementary  
**Abilene Bourque**, 5th Grade - Bayou Vista Elementary  
**Macy Hartley**, 8th Grade - Berwick Junior High School

**Adaline Marcotte**, 8th Grade - Patterson Junior High School  
**Maria Cortes-Aguilar**, 9th Grade - Morgan City High School  
**Sherlly Bardales**, 9th Grade - Morgan City High School  
**Astrid Sanchez**, 10th Grade - Morgan City High School  
**Silas Hastings**, 11th Grade - Morgan City High School  
**Alicea Franklin**, 11th Grade - Patterson High School  
**Ja'Layah Smith**, 12th Grade - Morgan City High School

The winner's artwork will be featured each month in the 2025-2026 Red Ribbon Calendar.

**4. Recognition of Mr. Nicholas Adams (Vocational and Agriculture Teacher) as a "Teacher of Teachers" at the Louisiana Agriscience Teachers Association Conference (LATA). (Ms. Estay)**

Ms. Estay recognized and congratulated Mr. Nicholas Adams, Vocational and Agriculture Teacher, for being honored as a "Teacher of Teachers" at the Louisiana Agriscience Teachers Association (LATA) Conference.

Mr. Adams was honored for his dedication to agricultural education, his strong impact on students, and his community involvement. He supports student livestock projects and hosts a community plant sale, serving as both a mentor and a role model.

**IV. Approval of Amended Agenda (Mrs. Black)**

**V. Approval of Official School Board Minutes (Mrs. Black)**

Motion made by: Ginger Griffin

Motion seconded by: Tammie Moore

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

**1. Regular Meeting: July 10, 2025**

**VI. Approval of Consent Agenda (Mrs. Black)**

Ms. LaSalle requested that Item 2, Grant Authorization to "piggyback" on the Chemical Bid awarded to Auto Chlor for multiple parishes be removed from the consent agenda to provide clarity for the audience and parents regarding the purpose of the "piggyback" grant

authorization. Mr. Mancuso clarified that Item 5, Introduction of policies, is not for adoption but for introduction only. A policy committee meeting will be scheduled, with a review planned for next month's meeting.

A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the remaining consent agenda, except for Item 2, which was moved to Business Affairs for further clarification.

Motion made by: Andrew Mancuso

Motion seconded by: Marilyn LaSalle

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

1. **\*Approve Memorandum of Understanding for the Foster Grandparent Program (Dr. Sanders)**
2. **\*Approve banking resolutions authorizing signatories at various schools as a result of recent appointments (Mrs. Voisin)**
3. **\* Field Trips**
  - A. **\*Franklin High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) travel to National Conference in Indianapolis, IN on October 27-31, 2025 (Dr. Sanders)**
  - B. **\*Berwick High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) travel to National Conference in Indianapolis, IN on October 27-31, 2025. (Dr. Sanders)**
4. **\*Introduction of policies for consideration at next month's board meeting. (Ms. Estay)**
  - A. **\* Instructional Materials (IFA) Simbli Reference #: 803**
  - B. **\*Student Computer Access and Use (IFBGA) Simbli Reference #: 505.1**
  - C. **\*Student Absences and Excuses (JBD) Simbli Reference #: 902**
  - D. **\*Bullying and Hazing (JCDAF) Simbli Reference #: 906.3**
  - E. **\*Expulsion (JDE) Simbli Reference #:907.4**
  - F. **\*Child Abuse (JGCE)**
  - G. **\*Behavioral Health Support for Students (JGCF) Simbli Reference #: 913.6**

## VII. Business Affairs

1. **Grant authorization to “piggyback” on the Chemical Bid awarded to Auto Chlor for multiple parishes. (Ms. Chaisson)**

Ms. LaSalle requested to remove item 2 from the consent agenda to provide clarity for the audience and parents regarding the purpose of the "piggyback" grant authorization.

A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the grant authorization to "piggyback" on the Chemical Bid awarded to Auto Chlor for multiple parishes as presented by Ms. Chaisson.

Motion made by: Marilyn LaSalle

Motion seconded by: Debra Jones

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

2. **Receive Group Health Insurance Premium to Claims Summary Report. (Mr. James Perez-DJW Insurance)**

Mr. James Perez of DJW Insurance provided the Board with an update on insurance claims, noting stabilization in July 2025. An early renewal request was submitted to Blue Cross for the commercial plan, with a response pending. The Medicare Advantage plan renewal showed a 16 percent increase (\$402,000

annually), but negotiations are ongoing. Blue Cross proposed a cost-saving alternative with benefit changes that could save \$350,000. Competitive quotes from other carriers have been requested, and final recommendations are expected by the September 11th meeting.

**3. Approval of Cybersecurity 2025 Contract. (Mr. Vead)**

A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the Cybersecurity 2025 Contract as presented by Mr. Vead. This contract will be in effect for three (3) years.

Motion made by: Marilyn LaSalle

Motion seconded by: Tammie Moore

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

**4. Approval to designate old Franklin Junior High School furniture items as surplus inventory in accordance with St. Mary Parish School Board asset management policies. (Mr. Regard)**

A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the old Franklin Junior High School furniture items as surplus inventory as presented by Mr. Regard.

Motion made by: Tammie Moore

Motion seconded by: Debra Jones

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

**5. Approval to utilize GovDeals.com as the official online auction platform for the sale of St. Mary Parish School Board surplus items. (Mr. Regard)**

A motion was made and duly seconded to approve utilizing GovDeals.com as the official online auction platform for the sale of St. Mary Parish School Board surplus items as presented by Mr. Regard.

Motion made by: Rhonda Dennis

Motion seconded by: Andrew Mancuso

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

**VIII. Committee Reports**

**1. Maintenance District I Committee Meeting - Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. prior to the regular school board meeting. (Ms. Brent)**

**A. Discuss and/or take action regarding canopy at W. P. Foster Elementary School. (Ms. Brent)**

The Maintenance District I Committee Meeting met on Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. to discuss the canopy at W. P. Foster Elementary School, which is being presented for full Board approval.

A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the recommendations of the Maintenance District I Committee to purchase the canopy at W. P. Foster Elementary School for a total of \$75,000.

Motion made by: Guienzy Brent

Motion seconded by: Marilyn LaSalle

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

**2. Policy Committee Meeting - Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. (Mr. Mancuso)**

**A. Discussion and any action regarding Expense Reimbursement (DJD) policy. (Mr. Mancuso)**

The Policy Committee met on Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. to discuss the Expense Reimbursement (DJD) policy, which is being presented for full Board approval.

The committee reviewed the Expense Reimbursement (DJD) policy to update rates and align with the Simbli format. It was voted to recommend approval of the revised draft, keeping rows 4 and 5 on page two unchanged, and striking through Baton Rouge under Tier 2 on page three.

A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the recommendations of the Policy Committee regarding the Expense Reimbursement (DJD) policy.

Motion made by: Andrew Mancuso

Motion seconded by: Rhonda Dennis

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

**3. Discussion and any action to create a committee to make recommendations for Section 16 Land and property not covered by a specific maintenance committee. (Mr. Mancuso)**

A motion was made and duly seconded to create a committee for Section 16 Land and property not covered by a specific maintenance committee.

Motion made by: Andrew Mancuso

Motion seconded by: Tammie Moore

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

**IX. Staff Reports**

**1. Chief Financial Officer's Report (Mrs. Voisin)**

**A. Sales Tax Update**

Mrs. Voisin reported that the sales tax collections for July 2025, the first month of the fiscal year, totaled \$2,428,000, which is \$89,000 above the budgeted amount.

**B. Financial Statements (Major Funds Only)**

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

**C. Other Significant Items**

The deadline to adopt the 2025–2026 budgets is September 30th. A public hearing will be held at 5:15 PM prior to the September board meeting on September 11th, followed by the regular meeting at 5:30 PM. At that time, the board will be asked to officially adopt the 2025–2026 budgets based on the line-item details reviewed during the August 11th Budget Workshop.

The September board packet will include the required resolution for adoption of the operating budget of revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.

**X. Superintendent's Report (Dr. Fegenbush)**

Dr. Fegenbush reported that the school year began successfully, with strong professional development and a warm welcome for students. Current enrollment is 7,029, reflecting a decrease of 153 students from last year.

The district has implemented a new bus routing system called TransFinder, which includes an application named InfoFinder that allows users to search for their address on the St. Mary Parish District website under the Transportation Department to view associated bus

stop information. For questions, please contact the school site or the transportation office.

Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG), a school-to-career program funded through a federal grant, is active in eight schools. Its mission is to support students through graduation while providing career-focused learning experiences. Congratulations to Franklin High School, Morgan City High School, and West St. Mary High School for receiving national recognition for their JAG programs.

The district extends its gratitude to the community and school board members for their continued support of public education and the individuals who work daily to provide safe and supportive learning environments. St. Mary Parish public schools are the heart of their communities and remain committed to serving every student, every day.

**XI. Resolution of Respect (Ms. Estay)**

Ms. Estay read the Resolutions of Respect for the late Rebecca Bowles (retired speech therapist), Camille Clausen (retired assistant principal), Larry Henderson (retired special education teacher and driver education instructor), Laura Larive (retired teacher), and Joseph Oswald Melancon (retired school board member).

**XII. Executive Session:**

- 1. Consider entering into executive session, pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(2), to discuss prospective litigation concerning a tract of 16th Section Land leased by Morgan City Stevedores, LLC, and Lee Babin. (Mrs. Black)**

A motion was made and duly seconded to enter into the executive session.

Motion made by: Andrew Mancuso

Motion seconded by: Guienzy Brent

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

**Return to Regular Session:**

Motion made by: Ginger Griffin

Motion seconded by: Tammie Moore

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

- 2. Consider any action necessary related to a tract of 16th Section Land leased by Morgan City Stevedores, LLC, and Lee Babin. (Mrs. Black)**

A motion was made and duly seconded to terminate the 16th Section Land lease contract with Mr. Lee Babin, and to request payment of the outstanding balance.

Motion made by: Lindsey Anslem

Motion seconded by: Lawrence Guillory

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

**XIII. Closing - Adjournment (Mrs. Black)**

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Motion made by: Andrew Mancuso

Motion seconded by: Debra Jones

Voting:

Unanimously Approved