

CLAIBORNE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

May 7, 2026

The Claiborne Parish School Board met in a regular session at Homer High Cottage in Homer, Louisiana, at six o'clock May 7, 2026, with the following members:

Present: *Patricia Stevens, Stewart Griffin, Yolanda Coleman, Perry Anderson, Linda Knox, Tommy Davidson, David Nokes*

Absent: *William Maddox, Roy Mardis, Mark Perot*

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

Mr. Davidson, Board Member, opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting and the Regular Called Meeting held on April 9, 2026, which had been emailed to the Board Members previously, were unanimously approved with a motion made by Mr. Nokes, seconded by Mr. Davidson.

Ms. Kathy Babers, Representative of Speaker Mike Johnson, presented awards to the district Honorees: Elementary Teacher of the Year, **Ms. Miranda Wingard**; Middle School Teacher of the Year, **Mrs. Macy Garner**; High School Teacher of the Year, **LaFrance Cooper**; Elementary Student of the Year, **Emery Edwards**; Middle School Student of the Year, **Sonnie Vinson**; High School Student of the Year, **Leyla Slaughter** and Principal of the Year, **Mr. Lee Simms**.

Ms. Babers recognized Mrs. Rhonda Porter, Talented Art Teacher, for her art students, placing or winning in the Congressional Art Competition for 9 consecutive years. She commended Mrs. Porter on the exceptional talent of her students and their artwork. The **2026** Congressional Art Competition Winners are as follows: Second Place, **Lydia Vaughan** (Summerfield High School), Honorable Mention: **Abagayle Bidlack** (Homer High School), **Trakeshia Harris** (Homer High School), and **Lydia Vaughan** (Summerfield High School). Mrs. Babers presented each winner with a certificate.

Mrs. Porter then recognized 6th grade Homer Jr. High student, **Laden Washington**, for winning 3rd place in the **2025-26** Louisiana School Board Association Art Contest. The contest was held in Baton Rouge. Laden's artwork was framed and displayed at the LSBA Conference and will be displayed on the walls of the LSBA office for one year. Mrs. Porter presented Laden with a plaque for placing in the contest.

Superintendent Brooks asked the board to consider non-renewal of the Boys and Girls Club lease in Haynesville. Their current lease will expire in August. Mr. Brooks stated the lease wording is outdated, and he would like to reach out to discuss possible renegotiations. Mr. Brooks stated that once he speaks with them, he

would come back to the board. Motion was made by Mr. Nokes, seconded by Ms. Stevens, to not renew the lease in August until negotiations are discussed. Motion passed by a vote of 7 yes, 0 no.

Mr. Anderson updated the board on the Homer/Haynesville Public Service Commission Grant. He thanked Mr. Nokes for the groundwork he has put in with Foster Campbell's representatives to secure this grant. This lighting grant will be completed in Haynesville by the first football game and will begin in Homer after the last football game.

Mrs. Micki Turner, Business Manager, requested permission to bid for fuel (diesel and gasoline) for 2026-27. This is also an annual occurrence for the Homer and Haynesville districts. Mr. Davidson made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Ms. Knox. Motion passed by a vote of 7 yes, 0 no.

Mr. Anderson left the meeting due to prior engagement.

Superintendent Mr. Brooks requested approval of the Retention/Recruitment/Performance Pay for 2026-27. The plan includes stipends for high need areas of instruction of Middle and High School math teachers as well as high school and middle school ELA teachers who meet specific requirements. Target schools (Homer Elementary and Homer Jr. High) teachers who meet specific requirements are eligible to receive an additional salary stipend also. Teacher and school performance stipends are available to certified staff with requirements met. Mr. Griffin made a motion to approve the Retention/Recruitment/Performance Pay for 2026-27. Motion was seconded by Mr. Davidson. Motion passed by a vote of 6 yes, 0 no.

Mr. Brooks requested approval of a policy revision of GAE (Non-Title IX Complaints and Grievances). Motion to approve was made by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Griffin. Motion passed by a vote of 6 yes, 0 no.

Mrs. Turner requested approval of resolution of EEF Plan for Tobacco Settlement Funds. This resolution enables the district to withdraw funds from the State Treasury to be used as specified in our recently approved EEF Plan for Tobacco Settlement Funds. The funds will be used for supporting resource materials for curriculum and professional development. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Davidson and seconded by Ms. Knox. Motion passed with a vote of 6 yes, 0 no.

Superintendent Brooks requested approval of the 2026-27 Pay day schedule. The updated pay day schedule dates were changed to be paid around the 20th of each month. Motion made by Mr. Davidson and seconded by Ms. Knox to approve the 2026-27 Pay Day schedule. Motion passed by a vote of 6 yes, and 0 no.

Mrs. Turner reviewed the April 2026 Financials. She provided the board with the Corrective Action Plan for the year ending June 30, 2025.

Superintendent's Report:

1. Mr. Brooks discussed Amendment 3 which is on the ballot.
2. Summerfield Auction -Sat. May 9th at 6 PM.
3. Graduation Ceremonies – Summerfield (Monday, May 11th), Haynesville High (Tuesday, May 12th), KARE Program (Wednesday, May 13th at Homer City Hall), and Homer High (Thursday, May 14th)

4. Students' last day of school will be Thursday, May 21st and staff will be Friday, May 22nd.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Mr. Nokes to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Griffin.

Perry Anderson, President
Claiborne Parish School Board

ATTEST:

Mr. Chris Brooks, Secretary
Claiborne Parish School Board