The Ouachita Parish School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, September 08, 2026, at twelve (12:00) o'clock p.m. at its regular meeting place, the Ouachita Parish School Board office.

Note: There were no comment cards completed for an agenda business item. Additionally, there were no remote requests for any agenda business item addressed in this meeting.

The presence of the following members was verified through roll call: Tommy Comeaux, Shere May, Mike Batey, Jerry Hicks, Dabo Graves, Harold McCoy and Greg Manley.

President Tommy Comeaux called the meeting to order as he welcomed the visitors and guests, followed by the Invocation offered by Harold McCoy and the Pledge of Allegiance by President Tommy Comeaux.

Jerry Hicks made the motion, seconded by Mike Batey, to approve the minutes of August 11, 2026, regular meeting as written. Motion carried without opposition.

Shere May made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mike Batey, motion carried without opposition.

Superintendent Guice stated there was nothing to report on the Personnel Report.

President Tommy Comeaux introduced Business Item #1, Consideration and Approval to purchase property at 104 Riggs Street, WM. Shere May made a motion to approve this purchase, seconded by Jerry Hicks, motion carried unopposed.

The second Item of Business, Policies for Consideration and Approval, JGCE-Child Abuse, GBRIA-Personal Leave, IDDF-Education of Students w/Exceptionalities, IDDFC-Cameras in Sp. Ed. Classrooms, JGCFA-Behavioral Health Services for Students, JD-Discipline, JDD-Suspension, JDE-Expulsion, EBBC-Emergency Operations Plans, was presented by Adam Hunsucker. He informed the Board the Policy Committee met and approved all the policies as written. Shere May made a motion to approve the Policies as presented, seconded by Greg Manley. Motion carried without opposition.

Jason Thompson presented Item #3, Finance Committee Report. The Finance Committee met on Thursday, August 13, 2026, on five Agenda Items that are being presented to the Board today, Annual Operating Budget, Employee Stipends, Salary Schedule, Financial Report, and Cash and Investment Report. The next Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2026.

Regina Mekus presented the Financial Report, Item # 4, for the period ending July 31, 2026. The report includes 3 years of data for comparison. The Board accepted the report as presented.

The fifth Item of Business, Consider Annual Operating Budget for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year, was presented by Regina Mekus. The Budget was introduced to the Board in a Public Meeting at 11:00 am before the Board Meeting. Greg Manley made a motion to accept the Annual Operating Budget for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year as presented, seconded by Harold McCoy. Motion carried unanimously.

The sixth Item of Business, Consider Resolution for OPSB Stipend for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year was introduced by Regina Mekus. This stipend is for one year only. The recommendation is for certified employees to receive a one-time stipend of $2000, with Support Staff receiving $1000, to be distributed in two payments, one on October 1, 2026, and the other on March 12, 2027. Dabo Graves made a motion to approve the Resolution as written, seconded by Mike Batey. Motion carried without opposition.

Regina Mekus presented the seventh Item of Business, Consider Salary Schedules for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year. There are no changes from the current salary schedules. Mike Batey made a motion to approve the recommendation, seconded by Greg Manley. Motion carried unanimously.

Regina Mekus presented Item # 8, Consider Resolution to Amend Investment Agreement with LA State Treasury. Shere May made a motion to approve the resolution as written, seconded by Mike Batey. Motion carried without opposition.

Steven Hemphill presented the next agenda Item #9, Consideration of Change Order for Bid 6-26 Sterlington High School Classroom and Athletic Improvements. Greg Manley made a motion to approve this change order, seconded by Dabo Graves. Motion carried unanimously.

Steven Hemphill presented the next agenda Item #10, Construction/Renovation Projects Report. The Board discussed and accepted the report as presented.

Item # 11, The Board may enter into Executive Session to discuss prospective litigation, outcome of pre-suit mediation, and recommendation for settlement of claims to be brought on behalf of A.C. Greg Manley made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Dabo Graves, with the Board voting by Roll Call.

Shere May, Y
Mike Batey, Y
Jerry Hicks, Y
Harold McCoy, Y
Dabo Graves, Y
Greg Manley, Y
Tommy Comeaux, Y

Motion carried unanimously.

Board went into Executive Session at 12:37 and returned to session at 12:47. Greg Manley made a motion to return to regular session, seconded by Dabo Graves. Motion carried unopposed.

Greg Manley made a motion to accept the recommended settlement amount as explained by council in Executive Session regarding this suit, seconded by Harold McCoy. Motion carried unanimously.

Jared Peters presented the Evaluation of Bids:

1. 6-27 Sterlington High/Middle WS Fern Damage with the recommendation of D and L of Ouachita dba Mayfield Construction in the amount of $707,000 as the lowest responsive bidders. Greg Manley made a motion to accept this bid, seconded by Harold McCoy. Motion carried unopposed.
2. 7-27 Claiborne Elem., GHMS, WRMS, WS Fern Damage with the recommendation of lowest responsive bidder Mann's Construction at $732,000. Jerry Hicks made a motion to accept this bid, seconded by Mike Batey. Motion carried unopposed.
3. 8-27 CMS, Calhoun Elem., Central Elem., EOMS, WOHS, WS Fern Damage with the recommendation of lowest responsive bidder Mann's Construction at $522,000. Mike Batey made a motion to accept this bid, seconded by Shere May. Motion carried unopposed.
4. 12-27 WOHS Berm Improvement with the recommendation of lowest responsive bidder Mann's Construction at $934,000. Mike Batey made a motion to accept this bid, seconded by Shere May. Motion carried unopposed.
5. 13-27 Copy Paper. The recommendation is to approve the lowest responsive bids, Economical/Janitorial, Jackson Paper and Contract Paper Group. Greg Manley made a motion to approve these bids, seconded by Dabo Graves. Motion carried unopposed.
6. 14-27 George Welch Rood Replacement. Mr. Peters requested the board approve the lowest responsive bidder to be named after the bid opening on September 17th. Harold McCoy made a motion to approve this recommendation if it comes in under budget, seconded by Dabo Graves. Motion Carried unopposed.

Jared Peters presented the Permission to Bid Items:

1. 17-27 Burks School Property. Dabo Graves made a motion to put this item back out to bid at the appraisal price of $67,6000, seconded by Greg Manley. Motion carried unopposed.

In the President's Report, Mr. Comeaux announced the next meeting would be Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at noon, later in the month due to Fall Break. He also informed us there could be a Special Called Meeting on September 16, 2026, for Bonds.

In the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Guice announced Ribbon Cutting for the Richwood Middle Field House and Groundbreaking at Richwood Upper Elementary. He also gave the Board dates for See You At The Pole, Adopt A School Breakfast, Monroe Chamber State of Education Luncheon and Fall Break.

There being no further business, Jerry Hicks made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Greg Manley. Motion carried and adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Tommy Comeaux, President

ATTEST:

Todd Guice, Secretary

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