

**PROCEEDINGS OF REGULAR MEETING OF
NATCHITOCHE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING ON OCTOBER 3, 2019**

A public meeting was held at the Natchitoches Parish School Board on October 3, 2019, at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Natchitoches Parish School Board Office, 310 Royal Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana. Upon roll call, the following members and Dale Skinner, Secretary-Treasurer, were present: Russell Danzy, Emile Metoyer, Billy Benefield, Eugene Garner, Steven Harris, Rhonda Guidroz, Katrina Willis, Beverly Broadway, Dorothy McGaskey, Tan'Keia Palmer and Reba Phelps (5:11 p.m.). The meeting was called to order by Board President, Rhonda Guidroz, followed by an invocation by Mr. Russell Danzy and Pledge of Allegiance by Mr. Billy Benefield Jr.

At Tuesday's Committee Meeting, the board heard from Mr. Danny VonKanel regarding an update on the East Natchitoches Fine Arts Program. Mr. VonKanel was pleased to announce that five-year program was less than \$2000 away from their goal of \$10,000 for this school year. The program was also awarded a \$2500 grant from the New Orleans Jaz Ensemble. There will be a silent auction held at the school on November 7, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. to help raise more of the needed funds for the program. The board also heard from members of the Natchitoches Fair Board. Representing the board were Ms. Lynn LaCaze, Ms. Kim Martin, Mrs. Julie Wohletz and Mr. Dale Wohletz. The members expressed their gratitude towards the board and school staff for helping them make the fair a success for the parish kids during Kids Day as well as all other events.

At Thursday's Board Meeting, the board heard an update from members of Outpatient Medical School Health Based Center. Representing the center were CEO Carl Walters, Ms. Doris Kochinsky and Ms. Nicole Roberson. The trio informed the board of an award from the Federal government in the amount of \$167,000 that would be used to open three more school health-based centers in the parish which would allow them to expand their behavioral services.

Under Old Business, the board discussed covering the equipment and installation of cameras on the owner operated buses for the parish. In total this would be about 6-7 buses. If a new bus is obtained, it must have AC and cameras.

Under New Business, the notice was read by Board President, Rhonda Guidroz, on behalf of the Superintendent. The letter which was dated October 3, 2019, read as follows: "To: NPSB President Guidroz, please allow this letter to serve as notice that I plan to resign my position as Superintendent of Natchitoches Parish Schools upon the completion of my current contract with my last official day being June 30, 2020. I understand that an extension will not be granted by the board." A motion was made by Mr. Benefield to accept the Superintendent's notice. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mr. Harris and unanimous consent from all members present.

A motion was made by Mr. Metoyer to accept the following Consent Agenda items. Mr. Harris offered a second to the motion. All members present at the meeting unanimously approved the motion and the second.

1. *Adoption of Agenda.*
2. *Approval of Minutes of September 5, 2019*
3. FINANCE ITEMS

- A. *Payment of Bills:*
- B. *Out of State Travel*

1. **Whitney Cummins**, NSU-E Music teacher, travel to College Park, MD, November 5-9, 2019, to attend the National Collegiate Organization Annual Conference. at no cost to the board.
Choral
The trip is
2. **Sabrina Essex**, NCHS teacher, travel to Houston, TX, November 20-22, 2019, to chaperone students from the African History Club. The trip is at no cost board.
American
to the
3. **Marvin Blake**, NCHS teacher, travel to Houston, TX, November 20-22, 2019, to chaperone students from the African History Club. The trip is at no cost board.
American
to the
4. **Rene Lewis RN**, NCHS school nurse, travel to Houston, TX, November 20-22, 2019, to chaperone students from the African American History Club. The trip is at no cost to the board.
cost

C. *School Bus Routes Changes:*

D. *Purchase of Buses:*

E. *Advertisements:*

1. *Permission to advertise for bids:*

F. *Resignations:*

G. *Retirements:*

H. *Requests for Leave:*

I. *Termination:*

The Finance Report was presented by Mr. Russell Danzy. At Tuesday and Thursday nights meetings, the board heard from representatives from ECCO Ride regarding several concerns ranging from routes to bus conditions.

The Tax Commission Report update was given by Mr. Richard Foshee, who stated that taxes were still relatively flat for the year to date.

A motion was made by Mr. Danzy to accept the budget update as presented by Mr. Richard Foshee. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mr. Garner and unanimous consent from all members present.

A motion was made by Mrs. Beverly Broadway to move forward with OpenGov. The motion was accompanied by a second from Ms. Phelps. After much discussion, Mr. Harris called for question and unanimous consent was granted to move forward with the voting on the item in question. Upon roll call the following votes were cast regarding approval of moving forward with OpenGov. YEAS: Emile Metoyer, Steven Harris, Katrina Willis, Beverly Broadway, Dorothy McGaskey, Tan'Keia Palmer and Reba Phelps. NAYS: Russell Danzy, Billy Benefield, Eugene Garner, Rhonda Guidroz. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Broadway to include the orchestra programs in the group of programs receiving supplemental funding. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mr. Benefield and unanimous consent from all members present.

The Personnel Report was presented by Mrs. Linda Page.

The Executive Report was presented by Mr. Benefield. A motion was made by Mr. Benefield to approve Video Surveillance Procedures. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mr. Metoyer and unanimous consent from all members present.

A motion was made by Mr. Benefield at 6:45 p.m. to enter into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Danzy and unanimous consent from the board.

A motion was made by Mr. Danzy at 7:57 p.m. to adjourn from Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Benefield and unanimous consent from the board.

The board meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m. on a motion from Mr. Benefield and a second from Mrs. Willis.

DALE SKINNER, SECRETARY-TREASURER

RHONDA GUIDROZ, PRESIDENT