

**PROCEEDINGS OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
NATCHITOCHE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD  
MEETING ON JUNE 4, 2020**

A public meeting was held at the Natchitoches Parish School Board on June 4, 2020, 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 Superintendent Grant Eloi, were present: Russell Danzy, Emile Metoyer, Billy Benefield, Eugene Garner, Steven Harris, Rhonda Guidroz, Beverly Broadway, Dorothy McGaskey (5:01), Tan'Keia Palmer and Reba Phelps. Katrina Willis was absent. The meeting was called to order by Board President, Billy Benefield Jr., followed by an invocation by Mr. Russell Danzy and Pledge of Allegiance by Mr. Emile Metoyer.

At Tuesday's Committee Meeting, the following points were covered by Superintendent Eloi: feeding program totals, teacher appreciation gifts, technology pilot program, meetings with Jr. High coaches, upcoming professional developments, High School graduation dates, relationship with NSU, Network Natchitoches, strategic 3-5 year plans, Jump Start Summer camps, what next school year could potentially look like and the planning for it.

Mr. David Engel presented his audit findings for the 2019-2020 fiscal school year.

Under Old Business, Mr. Garner informed the board that he was working on a parish road resolution that he would present at the board's next meeting.

Under New Business, the board discussed graduates who may have already left for military duty or other programs and how they could find a way to honor those students.

A motion was made by Mr. Garner to accept the following Consent Agenda. Mrs. Guidroz offered a second to the motion. All members present unanimously approved the motion and the second.

1. *Adoption of Agenda.*
2. *Approval of Minutes of April 16, 2020; May 7, 2020*
3. **FINANCE ITEMS**
  - A. *Payment of Bills:*
  - B. *Out of State Travel*
  - C. *School Bus Routes Changes:*
  - D. *Purchase of Buses:*
  - E. *Advertisements:*
    1. *Permission to advertise for bids:*
      - \*A. Pest Control for 2020-2021 school year.
      - \*B. Waste Management for 2020-2021 school year.
  - F. *Resignations:*
  - G. *Retirements:*
  - H. *Requests for Leave:*
  - I. *Termination:*

The Finance Report was presented by Mr. Russell Danzy. There were no bids to take action on at the meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Danzy to adopt ECCO Ride's proposed reduction in contract costs for the 2019-2020 school year. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mrs. Broadway. Upon roll call, the motion passed with unanimous consent from all members present.

A motion was made by Mr. Danzy to enter into a new contract with ECCO Ride prior to the close of the current contract. The motion was accompanied by a second from Ms. Phelps. After some discussion amongst the board, the motion was amended by Mr. Harris to solicit bids for new bussing company. The amended motion was seconded by Mr. Danzy. Upon roll call, the motion passed with unanimous consent from all members present.

The Tax Commission Report was presented by Mr. Richard Foshee. Mr. Foshee stated that the amount of money to be paid back, that had been discussed at previous board meetings, would affect the sales taxes check by approximately \$160-200 per person.

The Budget Update was presented by Mr. Richard Foshee who stated that there had been no changes since the last board meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Danzy to accept the budget update as presented by Mr. Foshee. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mr. Garner and unanimous consent from all members present.

A motion was made by Mr. Danzy to accept the 2019-2020 fiscal year audit report as presented by Mr. David Engel. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mr. Metoyer and unanimous consent from all members present.

A motion was made by Mr. Danzy to accept the report on the estimated budget shortfall for 2019-2020 as presented by Mr. Foshee. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mrs. Guidroz and unanimous consent from all members present.

A report was presented to the board from maintenance regarding the items/facilities repaired in the system.

The use of the Cares Act money and the implementation of the Network Natchitoches Plan was discussed at Tuesday's meeting. The Superintendent discussed a list and description of the many different projects for the parish that the \$2.9 million would go towards following the State guidelines. A great deal of the monies would be used for technology, preparing for the continuation of teaching in the event of any long-term breaks from traditional face to face learning.

A motion was made by Mr. Harris to suspend the rules and add an item to the agenda. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mrs. Broadway and unanimous consent from all members present. A motion was made by Mrs. Guidroz to consider allowing the solicitation of bids for the Marthaville parking lot reconstruction and overlay. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mrs. Broadway and unanimous consent via roll call. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Danzy to approve a resolution to reject House Bill No. 14 Resolution. Mr. Benefield added an amendment to the motion that the resolution be sent to Mr. Kenny Cox, Michael Firment, Rodney Schamerhorn, Louie Bernard and Jay Luneau. The motion and amendment were accompanied by a second from Mr. Harris and unanimous consent from all members present via roll call. The motion passed.

The Personnel Report was presented by Mrs. Linda Page. A motion was made to collectively approve the following agenda items. The motion was accompanied and passed by a second from Mrs. Broadway and unanimous consent from all members present via roll call:

- \*Consider approving adding the position of Director of Operations.
- \*Consider approving adding the position of Director of Academics.

The Executive Report was presented by Mr. Harris. A motion was made by Mr. Metoyer to approve keeping the current 2020-21 school calendar and having alternative calendar B2 (19 days) in place in the event there is a break in school. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mr. Garner. Upon unanimous consent from all members present via roll call, the motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Metoyer to repel the previous motion. The motion was then accompanied by a second from Mr. Garner. Upon unanimous consent from all members present, the motion was repelled.

A motion was made by Mrs. Broadway to maintain both alternative calendar options and use the one that best remedies the situation for any eventualities that cause school closures. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mr. Metoyer and unanimous consent from all members present. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Ms. Phelps to adopt an employee social media policy. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mr. Harris. After some discussion, the board agreed to table the item and create a committee to review and edit some sample employee social media policies. Committee members include, Ms. Phelps and Mr. Harris.

A motion was made by Ms. Phelps to approve the consolidation of district social media sites and discontinuing other sites. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mrs. McGaskey and unanimous consent from all members present. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Broadway to adopt the Superintendent's proposal for summer school. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mr. Metoyer and unanimous consent from all members present. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Harris to approve a resolution commending BESE members for the election of the new State Superintendent of Education. The motion was accompanied by a second from Mrs. Broadway and unanimous consent from all members present via roll call. The motion passed.

The board meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m. on a motion from Ms. Palmer, a second from Mr. Danzy and unanimous consent from all members present.

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GRANT ELOI, SECRETARY-TREASURER

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BILLY BENEFIELD JR., PRESIDENT