

**PROCEEDINGS OF REGULAR MEETING OF
NATCHITOCHE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING ON FEBRUARY 4, 2021**

A public meeting was held at the Natchitoches Parish School Board on February 4, 2021, 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 Dr. Grant Eloi, were present: Russell Danzy, Emile Metoyer, Billy Benefield, Eugene Garner, Steven Harris, Katrina Willis, Beverly Broadway, Dorothy McGaskey, Tan'Keia Palmer (5:29), and Reba Phelps. Rhonda Guidroz was absent from Thursday's meeting. The meeting was called to order by Board President, Steven Harris, followed by an invocation by Ms. Reba Phelps and Pledge of Allegiance by Mr. Russell Danzy.

At Tuesday's Committee Meeting, Superintendent Dr. Eloi recognized Dr. Chris Maggio, President of Northwestern State University, and his positive contributions to the ongoing partnership between the University and the Natchitoches Parish School System. Dr. Maggio spoke about several of the collaborations that were taking place and ones that were planned for the future. Dr. Eloi also spoke on the previous desegregation case and informed the board that the process has been started to apply to have it removed for complete unitary status. Community member, John Winston, spoke to this item at Thursday's meeting. Dr. Eloi also discussed the need for Instructional Coaches in each of the schools and the CLTCC investment pathways. During Thursday's Superintendent Report, Dr. Eloi recognized Dr. Kirk Soileau and his team from the Natchitoches Regional Medical Center, and their outstanding contributions in helping to vaccinate the faculty and staff of Natchitoches Parish Schools. Other members of the community that were recognized for their positive contributions and partnerships with the district, included Mayor Ronnie Williams, Laura Lyles and Jessica McGrath (Chamber of Commerce) and John Richmond (Parish President).

A motion was made by Mr. Garner to accept the following Consent Agenda. Mr. Metoyer offered a second to the motion. Upon unanimous consent from the board, the motion passed:

1. *Adoption* of Agenda.
2. *Approval* of Minutes of January 7, 2021
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. Reading Assessment and Progress System
 - *b. Playground equipment
 - *c. School signage
 - *d. Gymnasium Floors.
 - F. *Resignations:*
 - G. *Retirements:*
 - H. *Requests for Leave:*
 - I. *Termination:*

Monitoring

The Finance Report was presented by Mr. Russell Danzy.

A motion was made by Mr. Garner to accept the Category 1 Erate bid submitted by Hunt Telecommunication, a Uniti Company and the Category 2 Erate bid from Howard Technology Solutions. Ms. Phelps offered a second to the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded. YEAS: Russell Danzy, Emile Metoyer, Billy Benefield, Eugene Garner, Steven Harris, Katrina Willis, Beverly Broadway, Dorothy McGaskey, Tan'Keia Palmer, and Reba Phelps. NAYS: NONE. ABSENT: Rhonda Guidroz. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Benefield to approve the updated Eccoride Contract Extension. Mr. Garner offered a second to the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded. YEAS: Russell Danzy, Emile Metoyer, Billy Benefield, Eugene Garner, Steven Harris, Katrina Willis, Beverly Broadway, Dorothy McGaskey, Tan'Keia Palmer, and Reba Phelps. NAYS: NONE. ABSENT: Rhonda Guidroz. The motion passed.

The Tax Commission Report was presented at Tuesday's Committee Meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Danzy to accept the budget report as presented. Mr. Benefield offered a second to the motion and unanimous consent was given from all members present. The motion passed.

The Maintenance Report and School Food Service Report were presented at Tuesday's Committee Meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Danzy to table the agenda item for a resolution ordering and calling special elections to be held in Consolidated School District No. 8 of the Parish of Natchitoches and Consolidated School District No. 10 of the Parish of Natchitoches, to authorize the renewal of special taxes. Mrs. Broadway offered a second to the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded. YEAS: Russell Danzy, Emile Metoyer, Billy Benefield, Eugene Garner, Steven Harris, Katrina Willis, Beverly Broadway, Dorothy McGaskey, Tan'Keia Palmer, and Reba Phelps. NAYS: NONE. ABSENT: Rhonda Guidroz. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Danzy to approve the Coordinated Funding Request as presented by Mrs. Cassandra Anderson. Mr. Benefield offered a second to the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded. YEAS: Russell Danzy, Emile Metoyer, Billy Benefield, Eugene Garner, Steven Harris, Katrina Willis, Beverly Broadway, Dorothy McGaskey, Tan'Keia Palmer, and Reba Phelps. NAYS: NONE. ABSENT: Rhonda Guidroz. The motion passed.

The Personnel Report was presented by Mrs. Linda Page. A motion was made by Mr. Garner to accept the Personnel Update as presented. Mr. Metoyer offered a second to the motion. All members present, unanimously approved.

The Executive Report was presented by Ms. Phelps.

A motion was made by Ms. Phelps to approve the Virtual Expulsion Student Plan as presented by Superintendent Dr. Eloi. Mrs. Broadway offered a second to the motion. All members present, unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Danzy to accept Option 1 of the calendar choices for the 2021-2022 Natchitoches Parish School year. Mrs. McGaskey offered a second to the motion. All members present, unanimously approved.

A discussion was had at Tuesday's Committee Meeting regarding conducting an employee survey about bi-weekly payroll for the upcoming school year. Dr. Eloi will conduct this survey which will include multiple payroll options.

A motion was made by Ms. Phelps to approve the addition of Pre-K and Kindergarten classes to the Natchitoches Magnet School for the 2021-2022 school year. Mr. Metoyer offered a second to the motion. YEAS: Russell Danzy, Emile Metoyer, Eugene Garner, Steven Harris, Katrina Willis, Beverly Broadway, Dorothy McGaskey, Tan'Keia Palmer, and Reba Phelps. NAYS: Billy Benefield. ABSENT: Rhonda Guidroz. The motion passed.

The board meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m. on a motion from Mr. Metoyer.

GRANT ELOI, SECRETARY-TREASURER

STEVEN HARRIS, PRESIDENT