

JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
MARCH 27, 2024

The Jefferson Davis Parish School Board met in Special Session at 203 E. Plaquemine Street, Jennings, LA 70546, on Wednesday, February 27, 2024 at 5:45 p.m. at 203 E. Plaquemine Street, Jennings, LA 70546, with the following School Board members present: Vice-President, Phillip Arceneaux, Members - Greg Bordelon, Janet Jones, Summer LeJeune, Greg Patterson, Blake Petry and Russell Walker.

Absent: President, Paul Trahan, Charles Bruchhaus, Malon Dobson, David Doise, Blake Frey

Virtual: Staff

Legal Counsel Present: Not present

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Arceneaux.

Roll call was done by Mrs. Debbie Abshire. Mrs. Abshire verified that any requests for virtual link were sent and there were no requests for public comment.

Motion by Mr. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Walker and unanimously carried that the Board call for a vote to take care of items of business not listed on the original agenda or to change the order of topics to be addressed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Mr. Bordelon, seconded by Mr. Petry to approve the following resolution opposing state legislation establishing Education Savings Accounts (ESAs):

RESOLUTION

A Resolution expressing opposition to state legislation establishing Education Savings Accounts (ESAs), including House Bill 745 which creates the LA GATOR Scholarship Program, that provide public dollars for private school tuition and educational expenses and to urge the Jefferson Davis Parish legislative delegation to vote **NO** on any bill proposing an Education Savings Account, and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, there is a renewed and concerted effort at the legislature to pass bills that will give public funds directly to parents to be used for private school tuition and other educational expenses with little to no oversight; and

WHEREAS, for the past 20 years, the state has failed to adequately fund K-12 public education; and

WHEREAS, during that same period the state has continuously placed new accountability demands on both our students and our schools; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis School Board provides free public K-12 education to any student who resides in our school district within the guidelines set by both the state and federal government; and

WHEREAS, diverting public dollars to private schools and other programs through Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) without fully funding public schools disadvantages our students and schools; and

WHEREAS, providing public dollars to ESAs without requiring the same state accountability testing imposed on public school students is irresponsible public policy.

THEREFORE, the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board does hereby express its OPPOSITION to legislation creating and/or funding Education Savings Accounts.

FURTHER, the Jefferson Davis School Board directs the superintendent of the Jefferson Davis Parish School System to deliver a certified copy of this Resolution to each member of the legislative delegation of Jefferson Davis Parish.

Passed and adopted at Jennings, Louisiana on this 27th day of March, 2024.

Phillip Arceneaux, Vice-President

ATTEST:

John Hall, Secretary

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURN

There being no other business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Patterson, seconded by Mrs. S. LeJeune and unanimously carried, to adjourn.

/s/ Phillip Arceneaux, Vice-President

ATTEST:

/s/John Hall, Secretary/Superintendent

Note: Items purchased by quotes or bids may be reviewed at the School Board office during normal business hours. All policies can be reviewed at any facility under the jurisdiction of the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board.