

JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
JULY 17, 2025

The Jefferson Davis Parish School Board met in Regular session at 203 E. Plaquemine Street, Jennings, LA 70546, on Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. , with the following School Board members present: President, Greg Patterson, Vice-President, Phillip Arceneaux, Members, Greg Bordelon, Malon Dobson, David Doise, Blake Frey, Janet Jones, Paula LeJeune, Blake Petry, Paul Trahan and Russell Walker.

Absent: Charles Bruchhaus and Summer LeJeune

Virtual:

Legal Counsel Present: Lauren Heinen

The meeting was called to order by President Patterson.

Roll call was done by Mrs. Debbie Abshire. Mrs. Abshire confirmed that there were no requests for public comment or requests to speak on any agenda items.

An invocation was led by School Board Member, Mrs. Janet Jones, followed by The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag by School Board Member, Greg Bordelon.

Motion by Mr. Trahan, seconded by Mr. Petry and unanimously carried to approve the School Board minutes of the Regular meeting on June 19, 2025.

Motion by Mr. Petry, seconded by Mrs. Jones 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.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

The following recommendations were made by Mr. Phillip Arceneaux, Finance Committee Chairman, that the School Board:

Grant permission to accept the following donations:

- A. JHS
 - 1. Daigle Construction \$300.00 to SWPBIS for needed expenses.
 - 2. Funds to be used for FBLA National Convention Expenses:
 - A. Zigler Foundation \$8,900.00
 - B. Bluewing Civil Consulting \$500.00
 - 3. Jennings Quarterback Club \$1,805.00. Funds to be used towards supplies.
 - 4. Cheer Boosters \$5,500.00. Funds to be used towards uniforms and Supplies.
- B. JDP Department of Special Services. Funds to be used to help cover event costs such as transportation, uniforms, meals, equipment, and event materials:

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1. Mr. Richard Arceneaux, Professional Law Corporation – Jennings, LA \$100.00
2. Tri-Parish Therapy Group – Jennings, LA – \$200.00

Motion seconded by Mrs. P. LeJeune and unanimously approved.

Permission to pay the Louisiana School Boards Association annual dues in the amount of \$10,517.65. To be paid from the General Fund. Motion seconded by Mr. Trahan and unanimously approved.

Award bid for Welsh-Roanoke Bond Phase I project for the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board to contractor: Trahan Construction with a bid of \$4,699,000.00. Other bids received were from K&J Development for \$4,699,000.00, Pat Williams Construction for \$4,872,000.00, Alfred Palma for \$4,795,000 and ARL Construction for \$5,354,000. State procedure was used to determine tie Breaker. Motion seconded by Mr. Trahan and unanimously approved.

Grant permission to Danielle Simien, CTE Supervisor to purchase 6 Pro-Certification and Practice Test license bundles for EHS, WHS, LHS, LAHS, HHS and JHS @ \$3,786 each for the renewal of the GMETRIX software for students to prepare for the Adobe credentialing exam. This software allows students enrolled in Digital Media I an opportunity to earn a Statewide Basic and a Statewide Advanced Industry based credential. Earning these credentials will benefit the school and district's accountability, assist students in satisfying graduation requirements necessary for Jumpstart pathways, and provide the students with certifications that could benefit them as they enter the job force immediately upon graduation. The total for this purchase will be \$22,716 and will be paid out of CDF (Career Development Funds) funding. Motion seconded by Mr. Bordelon and unanimously approved.

Grant permission to pay for the Fall and Spring tuition for dual enrollment students at McNeese State University and SOWELA Technical Community College. Fees will be covered with SCA (Supplemental Course Academy/Course Choice funds). Motion seconded by Mrs. P. LeJeune and unanimously approved.

Grant permission to Christina Fontenot, Federal Programs Coordinator, to accept the following donations to help facilitate and provide meals and door prizes for Prime Time Family Reading that took place at Welsh Elementary School every Tuesday for six evenings between March 1, 2025 and April 15, 2025:

1. Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities \$1,000.00 (primarily funded by Shell Oil)
2. Organizations for providing meals:
 - A. Rotary Club of Welsh - Pizza
 - B. Welsh Fire Department - Hot dogs and chips
 - C. Knights of Columbus Council 2855 - Pizza

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3. Jennings Daily News for providing newspapers for families each night of the program.

Motion seconded by Mr. Doise and unanimously approved, with Mr. Trahan recused from voting.

Grant permission to repair the roof at WES. Three quotes were received for Welsh Elementary main building flat roof coating project which included Louisiana Roof Coatings, Bison Coatings & Foams LLC, and Premier Service Team LLC. All three companies have been on site to gather information for quotes. Louisiana Roof Coating quoted \$52,400 with a 10-year manufacturer's warranty for material and labor. Bison Coatings and Foam LLC quoted \$28,045.60 with a 20-year manufacturer's warranty on material and 2-year labor warranty by contractor. Premier Service Team quoted \$59,970 with a 12-year labor and material warranty. Due to the lowest quote and longest warranty, we recommend going with Bison Coatings & Foams LLC. To be paid from the General Fund. Motion seconded by Mr. Dobson and unanimously approved.

Grant permission to purchase 4 Electric Relay Control Learning Systems at a cost of \$4,833.33 each. These 4 workstations will be used for our Electrical I and II dual enrollment students @ SOWELA. This equipment will create and serve as a lab space for students. This hands-on opportunity will help align instruction more closely with the intended student outcomes for the SOWELA Electrical program. The total for this purchase will be \$19,858.32 to be paid out of Carl-Perkins funds. Motion seconded by Mrs. Jones and unanimously approved.

Grant permission to WES to purchase 2 pieces of playground equipment to replace existing equipment that is damaged and no longer safe to be used from GameTime Playcore Company under state contract # 4400017443. The Deschutes Unit and Discovery Cave will also be installed by Struthers Recreation L.L.C. The total price is \$ 38,767.64. To be paid from Welsh CSD Contingency. Motion seconded by Mr. Frey and unanimously approved.

POLICY COMMITTEE:

The following recommendation was made by Mr. Russell Walker, Policy Committee Chairman, that the School Board adopt the following revised policy:

1. **EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT: File DJD**

Effective: upon approval

Add our mileage rate of \$0.70 per mile to the policy which is an increase from \$0.585.

Motion seconded by Mr. Petry and unanimously carried.

The following committees had no reports to present:

Insurance - Blake Petry, Chairman

Building & Grounds - David Doise Chairman

Transportation - Greg Bordelon, Chairman

16th Section - Charles Bruchhaus, Chairman
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Ward II - Paula LeJeune, Chairman
Legislative Liaison - Greg Bordelon, Chairman
Long Range Planning - Paul Trahan, Chairman
Food Service - Greg Patterson, Chairman

- A. Monday, July 21, 2025 will be the last day for Summer Meal Program box distribution.**

The Sales Tax report was given by Mrs. Christin LeGros, Finance Director.

NEW BUSINESS:
Motion by Mr. Arceneaux seconded by Mr. Trahan and unanimously carried to grant permission to the Child Nutrition Program to extend the Community Eligibility Provision for the 2025-2026 School Year to become district wide allowing for all students in the parish to eat breakfast and lunch meals at no cost.

Motion by Mr. Arceneaux seconded by Mr. Petry and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a sales and use tax therein, making application to the State Bond Commission, and providing for other matters in connection therewith:

RESOLUTION

A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a sales and use tax therein, making application to the State Bond Commission, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.
BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish School Board of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana, for school purposes (the "Parish"), that:
SECTION 1. Election Call. Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, and under the authority conferred by the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, including Article VI, Section 29 thereof, the applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, and other constitutional and statutory authority, a special election is hereby called and ordered to be held in the Parish on **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025**, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, and at the said election there shall be submitted to all registered voters qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and laws of this State and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION
(SALES TAX)

Shall the Parish School Board of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana (the "School Board"), be authorized to levy and collect a sales and use tax of 1/2% (the "Tax") in accordance with Louisiana law (an

estimated \$3,250,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), in perpetuity, commencing April 1,

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2026, with the proceeds of the Tax (after paying the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of collecting and administering the Tax) to be dedicated and used to supplement salaries, benefits, and stipends paid by the School Board for teachers and all other personnel employed by the School Board?

SECTION 2. Publication of Notice of Election. A Notice of Special Election shall be published in the official journal of the School Board once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election, which Notice shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference the same as if it were set forth herein in full.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, prior to the publication of the Notice of Election, the President is authorized and directed to make any amendments to the foregoing proposition that may be required to comply with any state or federal regulatory agencies.

SECTION 3. Canvass. This Governing Authority shall meet at its regular meeting place, the Elton Elementary School, 614 Powell Road, Elton, Louisiana, on **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025, at 10:00 A.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election.

SECTION 4. Polling Places. The polling places for the precincts set forth in the Parish are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, will be the same persons as those designated in accordance with law.

SECTION 5. Election Commissioners; Voting Machines. The officers designated to serve as Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners pursuant to Section 4 hereof, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, shall hold the said special election as herein provided, and shall make due returns of said election for the meeting of the Governing Authority to be held as provided in Section 3 hereof. All registered voters in the Parish will be entitled to vote at the special election, and voting machines shall be used.

SECTION 6. Authorization of Officers. The Secretary of the Governing Authority is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for and to furnish to said election officers in ample time for the holding of said election, the necessary equipment, forms and other paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said election and the President and/or Secretary of the Governing Authority are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal law to arrange for the election.

SECTION 7. Furnishing Election Call to Election Officials. Certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Parish Custodian of Voting Machines of Jefferson Davis Parish and the Registrar of Voters of Jefferson Davis Parish, as notification of the special election, in order that each may prepare for said election and perform their respective functions as required by law.

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SECTION 8. Application to State Bond Commission.

Application is made to the State Bond Commission for consent and authority to hold the special election as herein provided, and in the event said election carries for further consent and authority to levy and collect the sales and use tax provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of this Governing Authority, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application.

SECTION 9. Employment of Counsel. This Governing Authority finds and determines that a real necessity exists for the employment of special counsel on matters related to the special election, and accordingly, Foley & Judell, L.L.P., is hereby employed as special counsel for said purpose for a term not exceeding one (1) year from the date of this resolution. The fee to be paid said special counsel shall be an amount computed at hourly rate based on the Attorney General's then current Maximum Hourly Fee Schedule, not to exceed \$1,000 in the aggregate, together with reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses, and the Secretary is authorized to pay such invoices as and when presented. The scope of this legal representation does not involve federal claims.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 17th day of July, 2025.

/s/ John Hall

Secretary

/s/ Greg Patterson

President

Motion by Mr. Bordelon seconded by Mr. Petry and unanimously carried to declare the following as surplus and send to the next available public auction:

1. FES
 - A. 2 vacuum cleaners
 - B. 7 file cabinets
 - C. 1 office desk
 - D. 1 double door metal cabinet
 - E. 2 Bard AC units
 - F. 1 Lawn tractor
2. The Child Nutrition Program would like permission to send to auction a 2 door reach in freezer from Elton High (ARF49HF serial number 8102048812).
3. WES
 - A. 9 rectangle tables
 - B. 3 wooden chairs
 - C. 2 office chairs

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- D. 1 wooden shelf
- E. 3 blue cushion/metal chairs
- F. teacher desk
- G. 4 orange chairs
- H. wooden step
- I. 10 yellow chairs
- J. wooden box
- K. 8 brown chairs
- L. wooden cabinet
- M. 4 small blue chairs
- N. small wooden desk
- O. 5 tan chairs
- P. two door cabinet
- Q. 49 small desks (metal)
- R. metal rack
- S. 52 big metal blue desks
- T. metal rack with white board
- U. Trampoline
- V. 2 wooden chairs
- W. 4 wooden kitchen pieces
- X. 2 podiums
- Y. White board
- Z. 2 dividers
- AA. 5 hand sanitizer dispenser
- BB. 1 blue step

Motion by Mr. Petry seconded by Mr. Arceneaux and unanimously carried to declare the following as Critical shortage: All grades Special Education, Speech Therapist/Pathologist, 6-12 Mathematic, 6-12 Science, 6-12 English, 6-12 Social Studies, FACS, 6-12 Business Education, Bus Operator, School Counselor, Administration and Pre-K -5 All Subjects.

Motion by Mrs. Jones seconded by Mrs. P. LeJeune and unanimously carried to approve the 2025-2026 Pupil Progression Plan and authorize the Board President and Superintendent Hall to execute the Formal Submission Statement to LDOE.

Motion by Mr. Petry seconded by Mr. Dobson and unanimously carried to approve the following non-faculty coaches for LAHS for the 2025-26 school year upon completion of LHSAA coaching course certification and Board policy requirements:

- A. Keyomi Palfrey - football and baseball
- B. Ben Hornsby - football and baseball
- C. Jermaine Davis - football and boys basketball
- D. Kobi Turner - football and basketball
- E. Christin LeGros - swimming

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Motion by Mr. Arceneaux seconded by Mr. Frey and unanimously carried to declare the following buses as surplus and grant permission to send them to the next available auction:

1. Bus 259 2006 1BAKFCKH26F232966
2. Bus 263 2006 1BAKFCKH56F235859
3. Bus 316 2002 1HVBBAAM82H534193
4. A-3 2001 1HVBBAAM61H507377

INFORMATION

1. Condolences are extended to the families of:
 - A. Thomas Hymel, LAES Principal, who retired in 1979 with 24 years of service.
 - B. Craig Sams, LAES Custodian who unexpectedly passed on June 22, 2025.

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURN

There being no other business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Dobson, seconded by Mr. Trahan and unanimously carried, to adjourn at 6:18 pm.

/s/ Greg Patterson, 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.