

JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
MARCH 20, 2025

The Jefferson Davis Parish School Board met in Regular session at 203 E. Plaquemine Street, Jennings, LA 70546, on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. , with the following School Board members present: President, Greg Patterson, Vice-President, Phillip Arceneaux, Members, Greg Bordelon, Charles Bruchhaus, Malon Dobson, David Doise, Summer LeJeune, Blake Petry, Paul Trahan and Russell Walker.
Absent: Blake Frey, Janet Jones and Paula LeJeune
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 to speak on any agenda items.

An invocation was led by Miss Chloe Austin, HHS Middle School Student of the Year and Parish Elementary Student of the year followed by The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag by Mr. Doise.

Motion by Mr. Bordelon, seconded by Mr. Arceneaux and unanimously carried to approve the School Board minutes of the Regular meeting on February 20, 2025.

Motion by Mr. Trahan, seconded by Mr. Petry 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:

- 1. Grant permission to accept the following donations:
 - A. JHS
 - 1. Kiwanis Club - \$500.00. Funds to be used for Key Club Convention expenses.
 - B. LAES
 - 1. Knights of Columbus - \$2,500.00. Funds to be used for Special Education classrooms.
 - C. LAHS
 - 1. Knights of Columbus - \$2,500.00. Funds to be used for Special Education classrooms.
 - 2. Alfredo Gallardo and Kayla Chapman - a 6'x 12" Nation Craft enclosed cargo trailer (VIN: 7PBE121OSD013546) valued at \$4,158.00. To be used by the football team for equipment.

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- D. WHS
 - 1. Pat Deshotel - \$100.00. Funds to be used for end of year awards program.
 - 2. Kade Kelly - \$100.00. Funds to be used for SWPBIS costs.
 - 3. WHS PTO - \$5,000.00. Funds to be used for end of year awards program.
 - 4. Kade Kelly- \$160.00. Funds to be used for hound coin snacks for students.
- E. A \$500.00 grant for the following schools from The EatMoveGrow program:
 - Elton Elementary
 - Fenton Elementary
 - Hathaway High School
 - Jennings Elementary
 - Lacassine High School
 - Lake Arthur Elementary
 - Welsh Elementary

The grant will be used to acquire resources that improve the overall health of students. The program works closely with school communities to implement evidence-based school policies and practices that:

 - Teach elementary students how to lead a healthy lifestyle
 - Improve children’s health environment during the school day
 - Create access to Social Emotional learning resources
 - Provide improved access to oral health

Motion seconded by Mr. Doise and unanimously carried.

Adopt the following resolution for the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board Cafeteria Plan:

CAFETERIA PLAN RESOLUTION

On this date, the JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD Board of Directors did meet to discuss the implementation of JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD Flexible Benefits Plan to be effective, 3/1/2025. Let it be known that the following resolutions were duly adopted by the JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD Board of Directors and that such resolutions have not been modified or rescinded as of the date hereof;

RESOLVED, that the form of Cafeteria Plan, as authorized under Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, presented to this meeting is hereby adopted and approved and that the proper officers of the Employer are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the Plan Administrator one or more copies of the Plan.

RESOLVED, that the Plan Year shall be for a period beginning on 3/1/2025 and ending 2/28/2026.

RESOLVED, that the Employer shall contribute to the Plan amounts sufficient to meet its obligation under the Cafeteria Plan, in accordance with the terms of the Plan Document and shall notify the Plan Administrator to which periods said contributions shall be applied.

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RESOLVED, that the proper officers of the Employer shall act as soon as possible to notify employees of the adoption of the Cafeteria Plan by delivering to each Employee a copy of the Summary Plan Description presented to this meeting, which form is hereby approved.

The undersigned certifies that attached hereto as Exhibits A and B respectively are true copies of the Plan Document, and Summary Plan Description for JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD's Flexible Benefits Plan approved and adopted in the foregoing resolutions.

The undersigned further certifies and attests that the above resolutions were made with the consent of the full Board of Directors, each of whom were in attendance on this date:

Signature/Title

Date

Motion seconded by Mr. Dobson and unanimously carried.

Grant permission to JES to enter into a service contract with Schindler Elevator Corporation Company for service and maintenance on the two elevators for an annual cost of \$12,630.00. Annual contract from February 1, 2025 to January 31, 2026. To be paid from Ward II Maintenance. Motion seconded by Mrs. S. LeJeune and unanimously carried.

Grant permission to JHS to repair and replace band instruments that were damaged in an accident. The repairs total \$14,713.25 with Lafayette Music. This amount will be below the insurance claim payment. Maintenance funds will be used to make the initial repairs. Upon receiving the insurance claim payment, we will reimburse the maintenance fund account. Motion seconded by Mrs. S. LeJeune and unanimously carried.

Grant permission to LHS to accept the lowest quote of \$14,500.00 from Rafter C. Construction & Maintenance to install fencing of the borrow pit at the baseball/softball fields. Other quotes received from Mercy Contracting \$49,397.40, Amplus Fencing \$25,250, Prince Fence \$19,391.64. To be paid from LHS contingency. Motion seconded by Mr. Petry and unanimously carried.

Grant permission to LAHS to purchase from Lake Arthur First Baptist Church a 2016 Ford 25 passenger bus (VIN:1FDXE4FS7GDC26597) with 16,027 miles for a cost of \$40,000. Bus will be used as an activity bus for the Lake Arthur Schools. To be paid from Contingency #1. Comparison quotes 2016 Ford E450 Bus - Bradenton, FL with 73,749 (\$38,997.00) and 2017 Ford E450 Bus - Oregon, OH with 31,898 miles (\$52,975.00). Motion seconded by Mr. Bordelon and unanimously carried.

Grant permission to LHS to accept the following change order:

- CHANGE ORDER NO.: FOUR (4)
- Owner: Jefferson Davis Parish School Board
- Engineer: Meyer & Associates, Inc. Engineer’s Project No.: H1-19026-DA
- Contractor: Gunter Construction, Inc.
- Project: Lacassine Athletic Complex (Phase 1)

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Contract Date: February 20, 2024 Date of Notice to Proceed: March 25, 2024 Date Issued:
March 14, 2025 Effective Date of Change Order: March 14, 2025 The Contract is modified
as follows upon execution of this Change Order:

Description: Add Pay Item 706-02-00300 “Concrete Drive (8" Thick)” at a lump sum of \$22,000.
An additional 14 contract days were added under this change order to address the additional
scope of work. Attachments: 3/14/25 Gunter Estimate No. 023140

Change in Contract Price Change in Contract Times	
Original Contract Price: \$ 664,554.65	Original Contract Times: Substantial Completion: 120 (07-23-2024) Ready for final payment: 165 (09-06-2024)
[Increase] from previously approved Change Orders No. 1 to No. 3: \$ 168,921.95	[Increase] from previously approved Change Orders No. 1 to No. 3: Substantial Completion: 120 Ready for final payment: 120
Contract Price prior to this Change Order: \$ 833,476.60	Contract Times prior to this Change Order: Substantial Completion: 240 (11-20-2024) Ready for final payment: 285 (01-04-2025)
[Increase] this Change Order: \$ 22,000.00	[Increase] this Change Order: Substantial Completion: 14 Ready for final payment: 14
Contract Price incorporating this Change Order: \$ 855,476.60	Contract Times with all approved Change Orders: Substantial Completion: 254 (12-04-2024) Ready for final payment: 299 (01-18-2025)

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

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
authorize AIFS, ISEUSA, ICES and Education Foundation Exchange as acceptable
foreign student placement services for the 2025-2026 school year.

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Motion by Mrs. S. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. Arceneaux and unanimously carried to adopt a resolution appointing the School Board President as the School Board’s representative on the Jefferson Davis Parish local ITEP Committee:

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF JEFFERSON DAVIS
JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT AS THE SCHOOL BOARD’S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH LOCAL ITEP COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, pursuant to a Declaration of Emergency published in the Louisiana Register, Vol. 50, No. 5, May 20,2024, regarding the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, an Emergency Rule promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development Secretary Susan B. Bourgeois, said rule being effective as of April 24, 2024, was published regarding Title 13 (Economic Development), Part I. Financial Incentive Programs, Chapter 5. Industrial Ad Valorem Tax Exemption Program, Subchapter B., ITEP Rules for Projects with Advances filed on or after February 21, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Section 557(A)(1)(b) of Title 13, Part I., Chapter 5, Subchapter B., states that the parish school board shall name “the president of the school board or the superintendent of the school board, as elected by resolution of the school board” as its representative on the “Local ITEP Committee”;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board, that:

1. The Jefferson Davis Parish School Board President, is hereby appointed as the official representative of the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board on the Local ITEP Committee representing Jefferson Davis Parish.
2. The School Board President shall attend all meetings of the Jefferson Davis Parish Local ITEP Committee and actively participate in its deliberations, bringing forth the perspectives and concerns of the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board.
3. The School Board President shall report back to the School Board on the activities, discussions, and recommendations of the Jefferson Davis Parish Local ITEP Committee as required.

This Resolution is hereby approved by a majority of the duly elected members of the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board and shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 20th day of March, 2025.

Greg Patterson, President

John Hall, Secretary/Superintendent

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Motion by Mr. Arceneaux, seconded by Mr. Petry and unanimously carried to approve the following out-of-state travel:

- A. JHS Key Club to travel to Tupelo, MS to attend the Key Club District Convention (LA, MS, TN) from April 3 to April 6, 2025. At no expense to the Board.

INFORMATION

- 1. Condolences are extended to the families of:
 - 1. Rosanne Shirley, EES Teacher who retired in 1998 with 30.5 years of Service.
 - 2. Betty Wade, Central Office Elementary Supervisor, who retired in 1994, with 31 years of service.
- 2. The Jefferson Davis Parish School Board Members 2025 Spring Strategic Planning Meeting will be on Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Abshire Camp.
- 3. The Department of Special Services events:
 - A. 4th Annual/2025 Special Olympics ~ Track & Field Event on Friday, March 21, 2025 from 8:00am - 12:00pm at Lake Arthur High School Track & Small Gym in Lake Arthur, LA for SWDs grades 3rd - 12th grade.
 - B. 2nd Annual/2025 "An Evening to Shine" Dance on Friday, April 4, 2025 from 5:30pm- 7:30pm at the Jennings High School Cafetorium for students with significant disabilities in grades 6th-12th.
 - C. JDP Special Education Advisory Council "Parent Meeting" on the topic of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) and its impact on students' education on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM at the Pupil Appraisal Center in Training Room A at the JWCPE.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

A. Personnel changes:

APPOINTMENTS

- 1. Kevin Ewing, LHS Bus Operator, 03/01/25, re: Arthur Benoit transfer.

TRANSFERS

- 1. Mark Deshotel, WHS Assistant Principal to WHS Principal, 3/13/25, re: Brant Smith retirement.

LEAVE WITHOUT PAY

- 1. Shelby Nunez, WES Paraprofessional, 02/10/25, 02/28/25 and 03/10/25.
- 2. Kelly Dronet, HHS Teacher, 04/04/25.
- 3. Caroline Duhon, WES Paraprofessional, 03/13/25.
- 4. Lydia Dietz, EES Cafeteria Tech, 03/14/25.

RESIGNATIONS

- 1. Stacey Dickens, JES Assistant Principal, 03/01/25.

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RETIREMENTS

- 1. Alice Arceneaux, WES Clerical Aide, 06/01/25, with 33.5 years of service.
- 2. Donald Citizen, JHS Custodian, 05/31/25, with 24.5 years of service.
- 3. Rachel L. Benoit, WES Teacher, 05/24/25, with 31.5 years of service.
- 4. Rudi Beth Young, JHS Teacher, 05/24/25, with 36 years of service.
- 5. Renee Fruge, HHS Teacher, 05/24/25, with 21.56 years of service.
- 6. Kelly Dronet, HHS Teacher, 05/24/25, with 26.5 years of service.
- 7. Linda Anthony, JES Librarian/Teacher, 05/24/25, with 38 years of service.

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

- 1. Frances LeBlanc, Curriculum Supervisor - Appreciation for filling in teaching math classes.
- 2. Sean Richard, Supervisor of Maintenance and Auxiliary Services- Appreciation for all the hard work during the snow days.
- 3. Aaron Beaubouef - Recognition for 2026 Louisiana High School Teacher of the Year State Semifinalist.
- 4. LHS Boys Basketball - Congratulations for winning the Class B Boys Basketball State Championship
- 5. LHS - New Baseball and softball fields are now open and teams practiced for the first time today.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURN

There being no other business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Petry, seconded by Mr. Bruchhaus and unanimously carried, to adjourn at 6:15 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.