

JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
DECEMBER 19, 2024

The Jefferson Davis Parish School Board met in Regular session at James Ward Center for Excellence at 208 Shankland Ave, Jennings, LA 70546, on Thursday, December 19, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. , with the following School Board members present: President, Paul Trahan, Members, David Doise, Janet Jones, Paula LeJeune, Summer LeJeune, Greg Patterson, Blake Petry and Russell Walker

Absent: Vice-President, Phillip Arceneaux, Greg Bordelon, Charles Bruchhaus, Malon Dobson, Blake Frey,

Legal Counsel Present: Lauren Heinen

The meeting was called to order by President Trahan.

An invocation was led by Mrs. Kim Harris, James Ward Center of Excellence Middle School Teacher of the Year and the Jefferson Davis Parish Middle School Teacher of the Year, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag led by Mr. Quincy Deville.

Roll call was done by Mrs. Debbie Abshire. Mrs. Abshire verified that there were no requests for public comment.

Motion by Mr. Doise, seconded by Mrs. P. LeJeune and unanimously carried to approve the School Board minutes of the Regular meeting on November 21, 2024.

Motion by Mr. S. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. Patterson 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.

RECOGNITION/ PRESENTATIONS:

1. Welcome by Mrs. Lori Lemons, James Ward Center for Excellence Principal.
2. Student Lillian Touchet gave a musical presentation.
3. Recognized Paul Habetz as a Community Partner in Education.
4. Mayor Guinn - City of Jennings talked to the Board about Purchase of Property.

ELECTION OF 2025 SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT.

President Trahan turned the meeting over to Superintendent Hall for election of President.

Motion by Mr. Doise, to nominate Mr. Greg Patterson for president.

Motion by Mrs. Jones and seconded by Mrs. Paula LeJeune and unanimously carried that nominations cease.

Mr. Greg Patterson unanimously elected as President for 2025.

Meeting was returned to President Trahan.

Motion by Mr. Patterson, to nominate Phillip Arceneaux as Vice-president.

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Motion by Mr. Doise and seconded by Mr. Petry and unanimously carried that nominations cease.

Phillip Arceneaux was unanimously elected as Vice-President for 2025.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

The following recommendations were made by Mr. Russell Walker, Finance Committee Member, that the School Board:

Grant permission to accept the following donations:

- A. EHS
 - 1. Elton Youth Football - \$500.00. Funds to be used to meet the needs of EHS football program.
- B. JHS
 - 1. Jennings Alumni Association \$14,900.00. Funds to be given to following sports:
 - A. Girls softball \$3,200.00
 - B. Tennis program \$1,700.00
 - C. Boys/Girls Track Program \$2,000.00
 - D. Swim program \$800.00
 - E. Golf program \$1,700.00
 - F. Boys and Girls Basketball \$3,000.00
 - G. JHS Athletic Weight Room \$2,500.00
 - 2. Venture Global LNG \$2,500.00. Funds to be used by JHS softball for softball supplies and field maintenance.
 - 3. Quarter Back Club \$1,250.00. Funds to be used by Varsity Club to purchase wrap for trailer.
 - 4. Benjamin Oustalet \$75.00. Funds to be used towards purchasing flowers for homecoming.
 - 5. Donations for National FFA trip. Funds to be used towards expenses related to the FFA National Convention trip :
 - A. Jeff Davis Insurance \$500.00
 - B. Ronald Petree \$25.00
 - C. Jennings Kiwanis Club \$100.00
 - D. JDP Fair \$200.00
 - E. Greenpoint AG \$500.00
 - F. Drew & Laurie Duhon \$100.00
 - G. Bubba Oustalet \$2,000.00
 - H. National FFA Foundation \$4,500.00.
- C. LAHS
 - 1. H & H Commercial Cleaning \$1,000.00. Funds to be used for boys basketball expenses.

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- 2. LA Paws Boosters \$943.00. Funds to be used for varsity cheerleading team.
- 3. Charter bus expenses for football playoff game:
 - 1. Football parents \$1,760.00.
 - 2. Dreamworks, II \$1,000.00
 - 3. Faster Cajun Network \$500.00
- D. WES:
 - 1. Skip Broussard with 90 One Stop \$250.00. Funds to be used for Harvest of the Month Program, which provides monthly fruits and vegetables for students to taste as part of the Eat, Move, Grow program in Physical Education.
- E. WHS:
 - 1. Sno B's \$700.00. Funds to be used for band expenses.
 - 2. Haynesville expenses for football playoff:
 - For Band-
 - A. Welsh rotary club \$200.00
 - B. R.W. Petree \$100.00
 - C. Cash \$60.00
 - For Cheer
 - A. The Bank \$600.00
 - B. Welsh Varsity Cheer \$1,600.00
 - C. John & Dayna Hall \$1,400.00
 - 3. Pat Deshotel \$100.00. Funds to be used for band expenses.

Motion seconded by Mrs. S. LeJeune and unanimously carried.

Grant permission to Sharon Phenice Ardoin, to accept the following donations from Gifting Grace Project in Lafayette, LA for donating around 200 bags of gifts (\$60+ average value each) for students in need. Estimated number of gifts dropped off at each school.

- Elton Elementary – 11
- Elton High – 8
- Fenton Elementary – 9
- Hathaway High – 8
- Jennings Elementary – 40
- Jennings High – 35
- Lacassine High – 22
- Lake Arthur Elementary – 10
- Lake Arthur High School – 15

Motion seconded by Mr. Patterson and unanimously carried.

Grant permission to the JDP Department of Special Services to accept the following donation:

- 1. Knights of Columbus - Jennings Council 2012 - \$1,600.00. To be used for Special Olympic expenses.

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Motion seconded by Mrs. Jones and unanimously carried.

Grant permission to LAHS to purchase a 2025 John Deere Gator HPX615E from Sunshine Quality Solutions on State contract (#4400025603) at a cost of \$16,750.05. To be paid from Contingency #1. Motion seconded by Mr. Doise and unanimously carried.

WARD II COMMITTEE:

The following recommendations were made by Mrs. Paula LeJeune, Ward II Committee Chair, that the School Board:

Approve the expansion and elevation of the press box at Jerry Simmons Stadium contingent upon the approval of the City of Jennings variance. Motion seconded by Mr. Patterson and unanimously approved.

The following committees had no reports to present:

Insurance - Blake Petry, Chairman

Policy - Russell Walker, Chairman

Building & Grounds - David Doise Chairman

Transportation - Greg Bordelon, Chairman

16th Section - Charles Bruchhaus, Chairman

Legislative Liaison - Greg Bordelon, Chairman

Long Range Planning - Malon Dobson, Chairman

Food Service - Greg Patterson, Chairman

The Sales Tax report was given by Mrs. Amber Hymel, Tax Collector.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Mr. Doise, seconded by Mr. Patterson and unanimously carried to approve the following non-faculty coach for 2024-2025 upon completion of LHSAA coaching course certification and Board policy requirements.

1. Emily Andrepont, JHS softball.

Motion by Mr. Patterson, seconded by Mrs. Jones and unanimously carried to approve that the School Board name the following selection as District Hearing Officers for use in review hearings authorized by La.R.S.17:443, La. R.S. 17:444, and R.S. 17:493:

David Doughty

Retired Judge Glen Strong

Doug Lawrence

Jay Mitchell

Reggie Abrams

Wendy Giovingo

Greg Belfour

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

- 1. LAHS Band Teacher to travel to San Antonio, TX on 02/12/25 to 02/16/25 to attend Professional Development. At no expense to the Board.
- 2. JHS Band students and Teacher to travel to Texarkana, TX on 01/16/25 to 01/18/25 to attend Four States Honor Band. At no expense to the Board.

Motion by Mrs. S. LeJeune, seconded by Mrs. P. LeJeune and unanimously carried to approve the following Early Childhood Community Network funding requests for publicly-funded seats for the 2025–26 School year:

The Jefferson Davis Parish Early Childhood Community Network will submit the following coordinated Funding Request for publicly-funded seats for the 2025-26 School Year:

- 250 Jefferson Davis Parish School Board LA4 Cecil Picard Early at-risk Pre-K Seats
- 65 Birth through three year old seats for Type III Licensed Child Care Centers in Jefferson Davis Parish
- 0 NSECD Seats
- 0 Pre-K Expansion Grant Seats

INFORMATION

- 1. Condolences are extended to the families of:
 - A. Carrie Jean Broussard, LAHS Cafeteria Tech, who retired in 2005, with 20 years of service.
 - B. Katie Rochelle, Central Elementary Teacher, who retired in 1986 with 32 years of service.
- 2. 3rd Annual 2025 Special Olympics ~ Young Athletes Event - The Department of Special Services will be hosting the 3rd Annual 2025 Special Olympics ~ Young Athletes event on January 17, 2025, from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM at Jennings High School Gymnasium. This event is designed for students with disabilities (SWDs) in grades Pre-K through 2nd grade. The funding for this event will come from donations received by the Department of Special Services, including approximately \$2,507.33 from the Ivy Woods Golf Tournaments and the Knights of Columbus Council 2012.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

- A. Personnel changes:

APPOINTMENTS

- 1. Russell Peyton Phelps, JHS Teacher, 01/06/25, re: Breann Davis transfer.
- 2. Elizabeth Johnson, LHS Sped Para, 01/06/25, re: Erica Lecklelt transfer.

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- 3. Grant Fontenot, LAHS Teacher, 01/06/25, re: Jaime Gonzales resignation.
- 4. Cindy McDaniel, Welsh Schools Cafeteria Tech, 01/06/25, re: Daletta Etienne resignation.
- 5. Daletta Etienne, Welsh Schools Cafeteria Tech, 12/02/24, re: Crystal Thompson resignation.
- 6. Gilbert Alexander, LAHS Custodian, 12/11/24, re: Brian Benoit retirement.
- 7. Marcus Hampton, Sr., WES/WHs custodian, 12/02/24, re: Larry Leger resignation.

TRANSFERS

- 1. Erica Lecklelt, LHS SPED Para to LHS Pre K Para, 12/02/24, re: Morgan Augustine resignation.
- 2. Debbie Marceaux, JES Teacher to HHS Assistant Principal, 01/06/25, re: Tanya Bujol transfer.
- 3. Frankie Teal, LAHS Cafeteria Tech to LAHS Custodian, 12/05/24, re: Donald Philip Richard resignation.
- 4. Breann Davis, JHS Enrichment Teacher to JHS ELA Teacher, 12/02/24, re: Kristin Victorian new position.

RESIGNATIONS

- 1. Tessa Deshotel, EHS School Secretary, 11/30/24.
- 2. Morgan Augustine, LHS Pre K Para, 11/23/24.
- 3. Donald Phillip Richard, LAHS Custodian, 11/23/24.

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

- 1. Water Day 4-H Pilot Program - Conservation of Water
- 2. Congrats to Assistant Superintendent, Ben Oustalet for completing the LA Department of Education Superintendent Academy Program.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURN

There being no other business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mrs. Jones, seconded by Mrs. S. LeJeune and unanimously carried, to adjourn at 11:07 am.

/s/ Paul Trahan, 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.