

JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

OCTOBER 21, 2021

The Jefferson Davis Parish School Board met in Regular session at 203 E. Plaquemine Street, Jennings, LA 70546, on Thursday, October 21, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., with the following School Board members present: President, Jody Singletary, Members, Phillip Arceneaux, Greg Bordelon, Jason Bouley, Charles Bruchhaus, Donald Dees, Malon Dobson, David Doise, Denise Perry Terry Leger and Paul Trahan. Absent: Vice-President, James Segura and David Capdeville
Legal Counsel Present: District Attorney, Elliott Cassidy.

The meeting was called to order by President Singletary.

President Singletary certified the following:

The Jefferson Davis Parish School Board welcomes public input as to all agenda items which it considers and understands the inconvenience which COVID-19 guidelines impose. In an effort to meet within the CDC recommendations and to comply with the Governor's orders (Modified Phase II), while at the same time providing the opportunity for public comment, the Board will adhere to the following procedures at its meetings:

1. Capacity limitations of 30 persons (First preference to Board Members and necessary staff) will be followed in the Board Room at its normal meeting place in Jennings, LA;
2. Public participants wishing to become an active part of the meeting agenda must request written permission ([via email to debbie.abshire@jdpsbk12.org](mailto:debbie.abshire@jdpsbk12.org)) no later than one day prior to the meeting date. Individual speakers are granted three minutes to speak when public comment is acknowledged.
3. Once public participants have submitted a written request to speak, they will receive the active participant link via email.
4. This is a live remote-access meeting for public participation. Video and audio will be recorded throughout the entirety of this meeting and will be archived.
5. As this is a live remote-access meeting, all active speakers are to adhere to professional meeting etiquette. Please refrain from using any profane language or making derogatory remarks aimed at any individual or group.
6. This meeting will be moderated for all active participants. Any active participant not adhering to the guidelines set forth in this document will be muted or removed from the meeting (depending on extent of violation).
7. Active participants are asked to mute their microphones when not speaking. Unmuted participants (not actively speaking or asked to speak) will be muted by the moderator.
8. During the meeting, questions can be submitted using the "Chat" feature (comment bubble icon). All questions submitted in the "Chat" feature will be visible to all participants and should adhere to the same guidelines as outlined in number 2 on this page.
9. This meeting will be live-streamed (view only) to the public for those requesting. The live-stream recording will be available after the meeting on the district website at www.jeffersondavis.org.

An invocation by Pastor Clifton LeJeune, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag led by Mr. Dees.

Roll call was done by Mrs. Abshire. Mrs. Abshire verified that four persons had requested and been sent virtual links and there were two requests for public comment.

Motion by Mr. Leger, seconded by Mr. Dees 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 and to add items not on the original agenda and to add under new business to accept the best bid for the JHS Canopy, Field lighting and Drainage.

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SPEAKERS ADDRESSED THE BOARD:

1. Mask Mandates/Quarantine Mandates:
 1. Kassie Borne
 2. Paula LeJeune
 3. Melinda Bandeau
 4. Mary Williamson
 5. Michelle Bonin
 6. David Bulla
 7. Roderick Gary
2. Covid Response as pertains to students
 1. Pastor Clifton LeJeune

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

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

Grant permission to the Child Nutrition Program to accept a grant from GENYOUth for \$4,000.00 (\$2,000.00) for FES and EHS. Funds to be used to reimburse the Child Nutrition Program for supplies used at each site in its response to Covid. Motion seconded by Mr. Bruchhaus and unanimously approved.

Grant permission to EHS to accept the following donation:

1. Elton Alumni, \$380.00. Funds to be used for General Fund at EHS.
- Motion seconded by Mr. Bruchhaus and unanimously approved.

Grant permission to WHS to accept the following donations:

1. WHS Volleyball, \$1,500.00 from the Greyhound Backers and \$1,000.00 from Nobles Property Investments. Funds to be used towards the purchase of equipment and supplies.
2. Anonymous donor, \$200.00. Funds to be used towards the purchase of flowers for the Class of 2022.

Motion seconded by Mr. Trahan and unanimously approved.

Declare it an emergency to repair bus 288(2015 Blue Bird) due to Catalytic Converter theft. Repairs not to exceed \$25,000 to be paid from the General Fund. Motion seconded by Mrs. Perry and unanimously approved.

Grant permission to JWES to accept the following donation:

1. Attorney Daniel Sparks, \$1,000.00. Funds to be used by students to buy books from the JWES Book Fair.

Motion seconded by Mr. Dobson and unanimously approved.

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Grant permission to JHS Jazzers to accept the following donations:

A.	Joseph & Laura David	\$225.00
B.	Elliott Cassidy	\$225.00
C.	Paul Dupuis	\$225.00
D.	The Therapy Center	\$500.00
E.	Jimmy Segura	\$100.00
F.	Mandy Martinez	\$100.00
G.	Charles Willridge	\$200.00
H.	Jennings High Alumni Tournament	\$275.00
I.	Henry Guinn	\$200.00
J.	Mark Clawson	\$225.00

Funds to help defray charter bus costs for the Sterlington football game on October 1, 2021. Motion seconded by Mrs. Perry and unanimously approved.

Authorize Mr. Credeur to evaluate the feasibility of cloud storage services with Tyler Technology(Accounting System) and enter into negotiations and execute a contract on behalf of the Board if services are approved. Motion seconded by Mr. Dees and unanimously approved.

Motion to hear the presentation on the following from the Local Economic Development Board and then decide on actions at the November meeting.

- A. Consider the application of Metalplate Galvanizing L.P., Inc for an Industrial Tax Exemption, Project ID#20200092-ITE on a \$885,670 plant expansion per the packet of information provided by the Louisiana Economic Development Office. The total annual exemption being requested by Metalplate Galvanizing L.P. from all applicable taxing jurisdictions, including the School Board's share, is approximately \$41,541 per the Jeff Davis Parish Assessor.
- B. Discussion on LED (Louisiana Economic Development) notice received regarding Louisiana Spirits, LLC Non-Compliance by failure to satisfy the requirements of their original exemption application for the 2020 Year which required 3 jobs and payroll of \$90,000. The JDPSB options are to either defer any decision or action on the topic to the Louisiana Board of Commerce and Industry, ("Board"), or in accordance with Section 6.01(B)(4) of the Exhibit A in the original application , make a recommendation to the Board on the consequence for Non-compliance.

Motion seconded by Mr. Leger and unanimously approved.

FINANCE INFORMATION/ DISCUSSION:

- 1. Redistricting Workshop info by Mr. Hefner tentatively set for Monday, November 15, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

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POLICY COMMITTEE:

The following recommendations were made by Mr. Donald Dees, Policy Committee Member, that the School Board adopt the following new or revised policies:

The following policy changes are recommended by Forethought Consulting based on 2021 Legislative session.

SCHOOL BOARD ETHICS: File BH

Effective: June 1st, 2021

Act 199 revised La. RS 42:1119, adding an exception to the prohibition on employing family members of Board members or the Superintendent. School Boards can now employ family members that are certified as school bus operators. Any member of the School Board or Superintendent whose family member is employed must recuse himself/herself from any decision involving the assignment or promotion of the employee. This new exception has been added to the policy *School Board Ethics*. The Act became effective June 1, 2021.

CURRICULUM: File ID

Effective: June 23rd, 2021

Act 458 revised La. RS 17:183.2, 17:183.3, 17:2925, and 17:2926. The *Curriculum* policy has been revised to include the parent or guardian in the process of developing and reviewing the student’s Individual Graduation Plan. Revisions made to a student’s Individual Graduation Plan must be approved in writing by the student’s parent or legal guardian.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AGES: File JBA

Effective: August 2021

Act 386 makes kindergarten mandatory for any child who reaches the age of five (5) years on or before September 30th of the year in which the school year begins, starting with the 2022-2023 school year. Revisions have been made to the policies *Kindergarten* and *Compulsory School Attendance Ages* to address the changes for the 2022-2023 school year.

SCHOOL ADMISSION: File JBC

Effective: June 11th, 2021

Act 208, enacting La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:101, creating special provisions for School Boards to register children of military families prior to residency. The *School Admission* policy has been revised to include language for the registration of students whose parents are being transferred to a military installation or comparable location based on an official military order. Although the Act provides for registering children of military families prior to their residency, it does require proof of residency in accordance with School Board policy prior to attendance. The Act became effective June 11, 2021.

PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE: File JBCE

Effective: August 1st, 2021

Act 420 revised La. RS 17:4035.1, which governs *Louisiana Public School Choice*, imposing additional notice and deadline requirements. The Act requires School Boards to define “capacity” for each school, and set a transfer request period which begins no later than March 1st and end no earlier than March 28th, annually. Parents of any student enrolled in a school which received a D or F school performance letter grade for the most recent school year must be informed of the provisions of *Louisiana Public School Choice*; the schools which received A, B, or C school performance grades, if any; the process for submitting transfer requests; and the page on the Louisiana Department of Education’s website that contains school performance data. The policies must be posted on the School Board’s website no later than January 1, 2022, and reported to the state Department of Education no later than January 30, 2022. The *Public School Choice* policy has been revised to include these new requirements. The Act became effective August 1, 2021.

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STUDENT PRIVACY AND EDUCATIONAL RECORDS: File JR

Effective: August 1st, 2021

The *Student Records* policy has been revised to include Act 407’s changes to La. RS 17:3914. Changes include the addition of “race and ethnicity data” to the definition of *personally identifiable information*, and changes under the section addressing disclosure of student information regarding reporting to the Board of Regents and the use of the information released. The information regarding notification to the student’s parents has been consolidated and included separately at the end of the section. The Act became effective August 1, 2021.

The following policy changes are recommended by Jefferson Davis Parish School Board.

CLASS RANKINGS AND HONOR GRADUATES: File IHC

Effective: July, 2021

The following will be added to existing policy. Any student that has enlisted in the armed forces shall be allowed to wear the stole which represents that branch of the armed forces at his/her graduation ceremony.

Motion seconded by Mr. Leger and unanimously approved.

The following committees had no reports to present:

- Insurance - David Doise, Chairman**
- Building & Grounds- Terry Leger, Chairman**
- Transportation - Greg Bordelon, Chairman**
- 16th Section - Charles Bruchhaus, Chairman**
- Ward II (Ad Hoc) - Donald Dees, Chairman**
- Legislative Liaison - Donald Dees, Chairman**
- Food Service - Malon Dobson, Chairman**

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Mr. Bruchhaus, seconded by Mr. Dees and unanimously approved to remove from the table the following agenda item from September 16, 2021:

- A. Approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to issue a one-time pay supplement from the General Fund to all active employees of the School Board that are employed as of the close of business on November 1, 2021 in the following amounts:
 - A. Supplement of \$1,500.00 for certified and \$1,000.00 for support at an estimated total of \$1,496,400.00:
 - 1. Certificated personnel to receive a gross supplement of \$1,500.00 per full-time position, subject to any applicable index, with the total cost to the General Fund, including all employer payroll benefits (taxes and retirement), estimated to be approximately \$1,007,000.00. Part-time personnel will receive one-half of the full-time distribution.

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2. Support personnel to receive a gross supplement of \$1,000.00 per full-time position, subject to any applicable index, with the total cost to the General Fund, including all employer payroll benefits (taxes and retirement), estimated to be approximately \$489,400.00. Part-time personnel will receive one-half of the full-time distribution.

This one-time supplemental paychecks will be distributed on November 19, 2021, and it will be subject to all required employee deductions for retirement, income tax withholding, etc.

Mr. Peter LeBlanc completed a Public Comment request and addressed the Board.

Motion by Mr. Trahan, seconded by Mr. Leger and carried, with Mr. Arceneaux and Dees voting against to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to issue a one-time pay supplement from the General Fund to all active employees of the School Board that are employed as of the close of business on November 1, 2021 in the following amounts:

- A. Supplement of \$1,500.00 for certified and \$1,000.00 for support at an estimated total of \$1,496,400.00:
 1. Certificated personnel to receive a gross supplement of \$1,500.00 per full-time position, subject to any applicable index, with the total cost to the General Fund, including all employer payroll benefits (taxes and retirement), estimated to be approximately \$1,007,000.00. Part-time personnel will receive one-half of the full-time distribution.
 2. Support personnel to receive a gross supplement of \$1,000.00 per full-time position, subject to any applicable index, with the total cost to the General Fund, including all employer payroll benefits (taxes and retirement), estimated to be approximately \$489,400.00. Part-time personnel will receive one-half of the full-time distribution.

This one-time supplemental paychecks will be distributed on November 19, 2021, and it will be subject to all required employee deductions for retirement, income tax withholding, etc.

Motion by Mr. Leger, seconded by Mr. Trahan and unanimously carried to approve the following non-faculty coach upon completion of LHSA coaching course certification and Board policy requirements:

1. Blaine Landry, LHS boys and girls tennis.

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Motion by Mr. Arceneaux, seconded by Mrs. Perry and unanimously carried to grant permission to Superintendent Credeur to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the DOTD to utilize current Right of Way to construct a turning lane at the new Jennings Elementary site and provide DOTD with a new right of way adjacent to the turning lane.

Motion by Mr. Leger, seconded by Mr. Arceneaux and unanimously carried to authorize Mr. Credeur to execute a cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Department of the Treasury and the State of Louisiana on behalf of the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board for the possibility of receiving funds to assist our district with projects deemed necessary for the restoration of our district.

Motion by Mr. Bordelon, seconded by Mrs. Perry and unanimously carried to accept the State Contract furniture quote package from Virco of \$892,047.55, for the new Jennings Elementary School. To be paid from District II Bond Proceeds/ Ward II Construction.

Motion by Mr. Dobson, seconded by Mr. Arceneaux and unanimously carried to accept the best bid of ARL Construction, Inc. of \$1,745,000.00 for the JHS Canopy, Field lighting and Drainage Project. Bids were opened on 10/19/21. Other bids received from Dunhill Development and Construction \$2,151,000.00, Trahan Construction, LLC \$1,768,600.00, Williams Equipment Services, LLC \$2,721,919.60 and Excel \$2,340,201.00. To be paid from District II Bond Proceeds/Ward II Construction.

Mrs. Rene Freeland completed a Public Comment request and asked to speak.

Motion by Mr. Bordelon, seconded by Mr. Doise and carried, with Mr. Arceneaux, Bouley and Dees voting against (roll call vote) to approve State Superintendent of Educations option of allowing students with close covid contact to remain at school at parent's choice.

INFORMATION

1. Condolences are extended to the families of:
 - A. Daniel Reed, Teacher/Coach/Principal, who retired in 2013 with 33 years of service and returned to work until 2017.
 - B. Michael Giggar, Northside Jr. High Special Education Teacher, who retired in 1998, with 31 years of service and returned to work until 2017.
 - C. Linda McCluer, Special Education Technical Assistant/ Media Center, who retired in 2004 with 25 years of service and returned to work until 2011.

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- D. Ruth Conner, Northside Jr. High School Secretary, who retired in 1979 with 14 years of service.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

A. Personnel appointments as determined by the Superintendent:

- 1. Name **JEREMY FUSELIER**, Special Services Supervisor, effective November 1, 2021, re: Linda Fonger retirement.
- 2. Name **NICHOLAS JOHNSON**, Jennings High Assistant Principal, effective ASAP, re: Phillip Fontenot resignation.
- 3. Name **TRACY PREJEAN**, School Board Central Office Custodian, effective ASAP, re: Wilfred Vidrine retirement.
- 4. Name **GAVIN SCHEXNIDER**, Fenton Elementary Custodian, effective ASAP, re: Shirley Lemonia retirement.

B. Personnel changes:

APPOINTMENTS

- 1. Kristy Miller, LHS Cafeteria Tech, 09/20/21, re: Shelly Chadwick resignation.
- 2. Kysha Simon, JWES Teacher, 09/28/21, re: Madison David resignation.
- 3. Shelby LaBuff, JHS Teacher, 09/27/21, re: Latoya Williams resignation.
- 4. Carmen L. Blackwell, JHS Cafeteria Tech, 09/28/21, re: Sophia Legros resignation.
- 5. Frankie Jane Teal, Welsh Schools Cafeteria Tech, 10/11/21, re: Keishawna Davis resignation.
- 6. Destiny Ceasar, EES SPED Para, 10/11/21, re: new position.
- 7. Kyasha Lewis, JWES Cafeteria Tech, 10/18/21, re: Angie Smith transfer.

LEAVES

- 1. H. Adams, JHS Special Ed Para, 08/13/21 to 11/13/21.
- 2. V. Bertrand, HHS Teacher, 09/13/21 to 09/17/21 and 09/22/21.
- 3. E. Thibodeaux, WES Assistant Principal, 10/25/21 to 01/03/22.
- 4. T. Stipek, LAES Teacher, 09/28/21 to 11/12/21.
- 5. H. Solari, LAE Teacher, 12/05/21 to 01/28/22.
- 6. H. Guidry, JES Teacher, 08/20/21 to 11/01/21.
- 7. L. Trahan, LHS Teacher, 08/17/21 to 09/28/21.
- 8. C. Bonnette, LHS Cafeteria Tech, 09/08/21 to 10/06/21 and 10/07/21 to 11/01/21.
- 9. D. Cinquemano, JWES Teacher, 09/27/21 to 12/20/21.
- 10. D. Johnson, LHS Cafeteria Tech, 10/12/21 to 11/08/21.
- 11. T. Fontenot, JWES Cafeteria Tech, 11/09/21 to 12/17/21.

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TRANSFERS

- 1. Maxine Hoffpauir Warehouse/Tech Center Secretary I to Warehouse/Tech Center Secretary II 11/01/21, re: work experience promotion.

LEAVE WITHOUT PAY

- 1. A. Smith, JWES Cafeteria Tech, 09/21/21 to 04/29/22.

RESIGNATION

- 1. Madison David, JWES Teacher, 09/23/21,
- 2. Casie Fox, JHS Cafeteria Tech, 09/17/21.
- 3. Keishawna Davis, Welsh Schools Cafeteria Tech, 09/23/21.
- 4. Latoya Williams, JHS Teacher, 09/29/21.
- 5. Phillip Fontenot, JHS Assistant Principal, 10/11/21.
- 6. Melissa Burleigh, EHS Teacher, 10/01/21.

RETIREMENTS

- 1. Linda Fonger, Special Services Supervisor, 02/01/2022, with 28 years of service.
- 2. Terry Gobert, Warehouse/Tech Center Carpenter, 01/05/22, with 11 years of service.
- 3. Wilfred L. Vidrine, Central Office Custodian, 11/02/21, with 9 years of service.
- 4. Shirley Lemonia, FES Custodian, 10/04/21, with 26 years of Service.
- 5. Staycle Duplichan, Curriculum Technical Assistant, 11/20/21, with 33.5 years of service.

JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH VIRTUAL EDUCATIONAL UPDATE BY TECHNOLOGY SUPERVISOR LAURIE DUHON, STAYCLE DUPLICHAN, MANDY SEGURA, HEATHER HANKS, MARGAUX OUSTALET AND RACHEL SIMON.

ADJOURN

There being no other business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Bordelon, seconded by Mr. Doise and unanimously carried, to adjourn.

/s/ Jody Singletary, President

ATTEST:

/s/Kirk Credeur, 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.