

SCHOOL BOARD PROCEEDINGS

The Avoyelles Parish School Board met in regular session Tuesday, October 4, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. at the School Board Office with the following members present:

Van Kojis, President; Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., Vice-President; Freeman Ford, Darrell Wiley, James Gauthier, Shelia Blackman-Dupas, Rev. Mary Hayward-Jones, Michael Lacombe, and Cynthia "Cindy" Hill.

Absent: None.

An Invocation was offered by Rev. Mary Hayward Jones, Board Member.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America led by Vice-President Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr.,

1. On motion of Michael Lacombe, seconded by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., the Board adopted the minutes of the regular Board meeting held Tuesday, September 6, 2011, as printed and mailed to Board members and published in The Weekly News, official journal of the Board to include the comments by Board Member Freeman Ford for the leasing of Section 16 properties. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Board Member Freeman Ford stated that he would like the minutes of the Board meeting held on Tuesday, September 6, 2011, to include the comments made of his concerns regarding Section 16 properties, as follows:

Board Member Freeman Ford stated he will not support the leasing of the Section 16 properties. Mr. Ford stated that he has not been made aware of the future plans of the Board for these leases or for the areas where many camps are located and the effects that may occur for people who have occupied them for many years.

2. Mr. Michael Lacombe, Board Member, read a resolution of respect to the late Lee J. Dubroc.

On motion by Michael Lacombe, seconded by Cynthia "Cindy" Hill, the Board adopted the resolution of respect to the late Lee J. Dubroc. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Superintendent Dwayne Lemoine recognized Students of the Month and each Board member presented a plaque to each student, as follows:

Reverend Mary Hayward-Jones presented a plaque to Aleka Washington, Bunkie Elementary School; Michael Lacombe presented a plaque to Airia Hall, Cottonport Elementary School; Darrell Wiley presented a plaque to Abigail Deloach, Lafargue Elementary School; Cynthia "Cindy" Hill presented a plaque to Jada Warren, Marksville Elementary School; Michael Lacombe presented a plaque to Hayleigh Lachney, Plaucheville Elementary School;

Shelia Blackman Dupas presented a plaque to Joshua Duckworth, Riverside Elementary School; Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr. presented a plaque to Taylor Lambert, Avoyelles High School; President Van Kojis presented a plaque to Chris Follins, Bunkie High School; James Gauthier presented a plaque to Megan Moreau, LaSAS; and Freeman Ford presented a plaque to Danielle Smith, Marksville High School.

A short biography was read detailing accomplishments of each student.

On behalf of the Board, President Van Kojis commended the students on their accomplishments.

4. Superintendent Dwayne Lemoine recognized LaSAS FFA members and their advisors, Mr. Robin Moreau, Mr. Dustin Moreau, and Ms. Danielle Newsom, for receiving the National FFA Award: National Chapter Award Program (two star rating).

Mr. Robin Moreau briefly explained to the Board the LaSAS FFA requirements and the programs' accomplishments for receiving the National FFA Award. He recognized and introduced LaSAS FFA members who were present.

Superintendent Lemoine also recognized Ms. Danielle Newsom, agriculture teacher at LaSAS, for being selected for a Teachers' Turn the Key Award from the National Association of Agricultural Educators.

The Board commended the members on their accomplishments.

5. Superintendent Dwayne Lemoine addressed the Board regarding the percentage of students entering the fourth grade on time.

Superintendent Dwayne Lemoine reviewed the percentages and the accomplishments on improving the percentage of students reaching the fourth grade on time without a retention by over 10 % in one single year. Superintendent Lemoine recognized the elementary principals, staff, and teachers of these students for this tremendous accomplishment.

6. Assistant Superintendent Craig Foster presented a report on the visit to the district and schools by Judge Dee Drell and representatives with the United States Department of Justice. Mr. Foster stated that on September 13-14, 2011, a site visit of facilities was conducted by Judge Dee Drell and the United States Department of Justice (Attorney Ryan Wilson). Mr. Foster said that the visit consisted of touring all school facilities in Avoyelles Parish. In addition, each principal was interviewed during the tour. Mr. Foster further stated that other stakeholders in attendance included: Members of the Avoyelles Parish School Board, Mr. Allen Holmes, Intervenor; Dr. William Gordon, Court Appointed Consultant; Mr. Frank Brewer, Facilities Expert with the United States Department of Justice; Charles Riddle, District Attorney; Dwayne Lemoine; Superintendent; Craig Foster, Assistant Superintendent; and Steve Marcotte, Maintenance Supervisor.

President Van Kojis added that the Board would like to provide an opportunity to the public to visit the schools. Mr. Kojis stated that the goal of the Board is to inform the public of the innovative programs and opportunities Avoyelles Parish public schools have to offer the students. Transportation will be provided and a public invitation will be sent out to the public in accordance with the following schedule:

Date:	November 1, 2011	LaSAS Bunkie High School Bunkie Elementary School
	November 3, 2011	Marksville High School Marksville Elementary School Lafargue Elementary School
	November 4, 2011	Riverside Elementary School Plaucheville Elementary School Avoyelles High School APAS

7. Mrs. Mary Bonnette, Director of Finance, introduced a representative with Risk Services regarding an annual dividend payment from PCAL.

Mr. Michael Desoto with First Insurance of Marksville was present in the meeting along with Mr. Charlie Northern, the representative for PCAL; and presented the Board with a dividend check in the amount of \$16,982.00.

8. Mr. Craig Foster, Assistant Superintendent, presented a transportation discipline data report as it relates to bus suspensions for the first six weeks grading period for the 2011-2012 school year.

9. President Van Kois addressed the issue of Board members discussing School Board issues on a morning radio talk show on an Alexandria station. The subject of the radio talk show was the Board's policy on discipline and the adherence of Board policy concerning infractions by students in the Avoyelles Parish school system.

President Kojis recognized parents in the audience who wished to speak on this subject matter.

Board members were recognized to offer their individual input surrounding this issue. Parents in the audience were also given the opportunity to express their views and opinions relating to this matter.

District Attorney Charles Riddle was also present and presented the legal ramifications and requirements relating to the incidents being questioned by certain Board members.

As a result of the discussion by all parties involved, Superintendent Dwayne Lemoine assured the Board and audience that any future incidents of this nature will be resolved in accordance with Board policy and procedures.

Upon motion by Darrell Wiley, seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Board agreed to adjourn for approximately five minutes for a recess. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Board reconvened in open public session and continued the discussion regarding disciplinary issues.

Board Member Shelia Dupas left at this point in the meeting due to an early morning appointment.

10. Mr. Wilfred Ducote, Sales Tax Collector, stated that sales tax collections for the month of August 2011 totaled \$479,455.86. Mr. Ducote said that of this amount the 1% sales tax generated \$319,637.24 and the ½% sales tax generated \$159,818.62.

Also, Mr. Ducote stated that sales tax collections for the month of September 2011 totaled \$500,993.15. He said that of this amount the 1% sales tax generated \$333,995.43 and the ½% sales tax generated \$166,997.72.

11. Mr. Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the following report:

Finance Committee Report
September 13, 2011

The Finance Committee of the Avoyelles Parish School Board met Tuesday, September 13, 2011, at 4:30 p.m. at the School Board Office with the following members present:

Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., Chairman; Michael Lacombe, Van Kojis, President; and Dwayne Lemoine, Superintendent. Ms. Cynthia “Cindy” Hill and Shelia Blackman-Dupas were absent. Also present were Darrell Wiley, Board Member; and Mary Bonnette, Director of Finance.

1. Upon motion by Van Kojis, seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Finance Committee recommended to approve requests for overnight travel as presented by Superintendent Lemoine. MOTION CARRIED.

2. Mrs. Mary Bonnette, Director of Finance, presented the Needs Assessment Ad Hoc Committee Report for the committee’s consideration. The committee met on Thursday, September 8, 2011.

Upon motion by Michael Lacombe, seconded by Van Kojis, the Finance Committee recommended to approve the Needs Assessment Ad Hoc Committee Report as presented in order to further desegregate efforts to have equity amongst schools for better educational opportunities for students. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Mrs. Mary Bonnette, Director of Finance, addressed the Finance Committee regarding requesting authority to settle a workers' compensation lawsuit.

Upon motion by Van Kojis, seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Finance Committee recommended to place this item on the next Board agenda in order for the Board to go into Executive Session.

The Finance Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of this report.

Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., Chairman
Finance Committee

On motion by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Board adopted Items 1 and 3 in the Finance Committee Report. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

On motion by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., seconded by Cynthia "Cindy" Hill, the Board approved the Needs Assessment Ad Hoc Committee Report. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The following resolution was offered by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr. and seconded by Michael Lacombe:

Resolution

A resolution approving an Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement between the Parish School Board of the Parish of Avoyelles, State of Louisiana and DeLage Landon Public Finance, LLC, in a principal amount not to exceed \$774,060 for the acquisition of school buses, authorizing the execution of said Agreement, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, the Parish School Board of the Parish of Avoyelles, State of Louisiana (the "Lessee"), is acquiring ten (10) Blue Bird School Buses which are urgently needed to provide adequate transportation for the students of the Parish of Avoyelles, State of Louisiana (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, in order to pay the cost of the Project, the issuer intends to enter into an Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement with DeLage Landon Public Finance, LLC (the "Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the Lessee wishes to enter into the Agreement to provide funding for the acquisition of the Project; and

WHEREAS, it is the further desire of the Issuer to authorize the execution of the Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish School Board of the Parish of Avoyelles, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Avoyelles, State of Louisiana, for school purposes, that:

SECTION 1. Under the authority of the Act and other constitutional and statutory authority, the Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement by and between the Lessee and DeLage Landon Public Finance, LLC (the "Agreement"), is hereby authorized and approved, said Agreement to be in substantially in the form which is on file with the Director of Finance of the Lessee, with such changes as the President and Secretary may deem appropriate, either of their signatures to the Agreement evidence of the approval of such changes. The agreement provides for the financing of a principal amount not exceeding \$774,060, with interest thereon at a rate exceeding 3.00% per annum and final payment to be due not later than 5 years from the date of the Agreement, said principal and interest to be from the sources and in accordance with the terms set forth in the Agreement. The funds received by the Lessee under the Agreement will be used by Issuer to acquire said school buses pursuant to the terms and provisions of the Agreement.

SECTION 2. The President and/or the Secretary of the Issuer are authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Issuer and to execute and provide any and all certifications and documents required in connection therewith.

SECTION 3. The Lessee's objection under the Agreement shall be subject to annual appropriations by the Lessee as set forth in the Agreement, and the Lessee's obligation under the Agreement shall not constitute a general obligation or a debt of the Lessee under the Constitution and statutes of the State of Louisiana.

SECTION 4. The Governing Authority anticipates that it may pay certain capital expenditures in connection with the Project prior to the receipt of the proceeds of the Agreement. The Governing Authority hereby declares its official intent to use proceeds pursuant to the Agreement to reimburse itself for Project expenditures. This section of the Resolution is adopted by the Governing Body of the Governing Authority for the purpose of establishing compliance with the requirements of Section 1.150-2 of Treasury Regulations.

SECTION 5. The issuer covenants and agrees that, to the extent permitted by the laws of the State of Louisiana, it will comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and any amendment thereto (the "Code") in order to establish, maintain and preserve the exclusion from "gross income" of interest on the Agreement under the Code. The Issuer further covenants and agrees that it will not take any action, fail to take any action, or permit any action within its control to be taken, or permit at any time or times any of the proceeds of the Agreement or any other funds of the Issuer to be used directly or indirectly in any manner, the effect of which would be to cause the Agreement to be an "arbitrage bond" or would result in the inclusion of the interest on any proceeds of the Agreement in gross income under the Code, including, without limitation, (i) the failure to comply with the limitation on investment of proceeds of the Agreement or (ii) the failure to pay any required rebate of arbitrage earnings to the United States

of America or (iii) the use of the proceeds of the Agreement in a manner which would cause the Agreement to be “private activity bond”.

The Executive Officers are hereby empowered, authorized and directed to take any and all action and to execute and deliver any instrument, document or certificate necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Section.

SECTION 6. The Agreement is designated as a “qualified tax-exempt obligation” within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3)(B) of the Code. In making this designation, the Issuer finds and determines that:

- (a) the Agreement is not a “private activity bond” within the meaning of the Code; and
- (a) the reasonably anticipated amount of qualified tax-exempt obligations which will be issued by the Issuer and all subordinate entities in calendar year 2011 does not exceed \$10,000,000.

SECTION 7. This Board finds and determines that a real necessity exists for the employment of special counsel in connection with the Agreement, and accordingly, the employment of the law firm of Foley and Judell, L.L.P., of New Orleans, Louisiana, as special counsel to the Board for the performance of comprehensive legal and coordinate professional work with respect to the Agreement, including rendering a legal opinion in connection therewith, is hereby ratified and approved. The fee of Foley and Judell, L.L.P., in connection therewith shall be computed at an hourly rate not exceeding the amount provided by the guidelines for such services as approved by the Attorney General of the State of Louisiana, plus out-of-pocket expenses.

SECTION 8. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

The foregoing Resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>
Van Kojis	X			
Darrell Wiley	X			
Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr.	X			
James Gauthier	X			
Shelia Blackman-Dupas			X	
Rev. Mary Hayward-Jones	X			

Michael Lacombe	X
Freeman Ford	X
Cynthia Hill	X

And the Resolution was declared adopted on this, the 4th day of October, 2011.

<u>/s/ Dwayne A. Lemoine</u>	<u>/s/ Van Kojis</u>
Secretary	President

12. Mr. Freeman Ford, Chairman of the Executive Committee, presented the following report:

Executive Committee Report
September 20, 2011

The Executive Committee of the Avoyelles Parish School Board met Tuesday, September 20, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. at the School Board Office with the following members present:

Freeman Ford, Chairman; Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., James Gauthier, Michael Lacombe, Van Kojis, President; and Dwayne Lemoine, Superintendent. Also present were Darrell Wiley and Cynthia "Cindy" Hill, Board Members.

1. The Executive Committee reviewed policies submitted by Mr. James Prescott, Jr. of Forethought Consulting, Incorporated.

Upon motion by James Gauthier, seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Executive Committee recommended to approve File: GBDA - Employment of Retired Personnel. MOTION CARRIED.

Upon motion by James Gauthier, seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Executive Committee recommended to approve File: BCBK - Executive Sessions. MOTION CARRIED.

Upon motion by James Gauthier, seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Executive Committee recommended to approve File: BH - School Board Ethics. MOTION CARRIED.

Upon motion by James Gauthier, seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Executive Committee recommended to approve File: IDFA - Interscholastic Athletics. MOTION CARRIED.

Upon motion by James Gauthier, seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Executive Committee recommended to approve File: JBA - Compulsory School Attendance Ages. MOTION CARRIED.

Upon motion by James Gauthier, seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Executive Committee recommended to approve File: IDFAB - Sports Injury Management and Concussions. MOTION CARRIED.

2. Upon motion by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Executive Committee recommended to approve a request for a leave without pay for Kathy DeCuir, infant teacher at APAS, effective September 9, 2011 through January 6, 2012. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Mr. James Gauthier addressed the committee regarding allowing teachers to wear tennis shoes to work at school.

Upon motion by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Executive Committee recommended to refer this item to the district's Dress Code Committee. MOTION CARRIED.

The Executive Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of this report.

Freeman Ford, Chairman
Executive Committee

On motion by Freeman Ford, seconded by Darrell Wiley, the Board adopted the Executive Committee Report as presented by Chairman Ford. MOTION CARRIED.

13. Mr. James Gauthier, Chairman of the Education Committee, presented the following report:

Education Committee Report
September 20, 2011

The Education Committee of the Avoyelles Parish School Board met Tuesday, September 20, 2011, at 4:30 p.m. at the School Board Office with the following members present:

James Gauthier, Chairman; Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., Darrell Wiley, Van Kojis, President; and Dwayne Lemoine, Superintendent. Ms. Shelia Blackman-Dupas was absent. Also present were Freeman Ford, Michael Lacombe, and Cynthia "Cindy" Hill, Board Members.

1. Superintendent Dwayne Lemoine recognized LaSAS FFA members and their advisors, Mr Robin Moreau, Mr. Dustin Moreau, and Ms. Danielle Newsom, for receiving the National FFA Award: National Chapter Award Program (two star rating).

Superintendent Lemoine also recognized Ms. Danielle Newsom, agriculture teacher at LaSAS, for being selected for a Teachers' Turn the Key Award from the National Association of Agricultural Educators.

Upon motion by Darrell Wiley, seconded by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., the Education Committee recommended to place this item on the agenda at the October 4, 2011 School Board meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Superintendent Dwayne Lemoine presented an update report on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Mr. Lemoine stated that based upon July 31, 2011 data from the Special Education Reporting System, the Avoyelles Parish school district was found to be in compliance for the 2010-2011 school year.

Upon motion by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., seconded by Darrell Wiley, the Education Committee accepted the report as presented by Superintendent Lemoine. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Superintendent Lemoine presented a report on 2011 ACT Scores, as follows:

School	Student Count	Composite	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science
Avoyelles HS	59	19.1	19.3	18.6	18.6	19.1
Bunkie HS	46	19.7	19.9	19.2	19.7	19.7
LaSAS	12	18.0	18.8	17.2	17.3	18.4
Marksville HS	80	19.6	19.3	19.4	19.9	19.3
District **	197	19.4	19.4	19.0	19.3	19.3
State ***	35,870	20.2	20.4	19.7	20.3	20.1
Nation ****	1,623,112	21.1	20.6	21.1	21.3	20.9

Upon motion by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., seconded by Darrell Wiley, the Education Committee recommended to accept the report on 2011 ACT scores. MOTION CARRIED.

The Education Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of this report.

James Gauthier, Chairman
Education Committee

On motion by James Gauthier, seconded by Darrell Wiley, the Board adopted the Education Committee Report as presented by Chairman Gauthier. MOTION CARRIED.

14. On motion by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Board agreed to renew an administrative contract for Cathy Brouillette, Principal of Marksville Elementary School, effective November 5, 2011 through November 4, 2013. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

15. Superintendent Dwayne Lemoine stated that an interviewing committee met for the purpose of interviewing three applicants for the position of Acting SIS Coordinator. Mr. Lemoine stated that the committee recommended to appoint Mr. Luke Welch for the position.

A motion was offered by Darrell Wiley, seconded by Michael Lacombe, to appoint Mr. Luke Welch, Acting SIS Coordinator, for the period of October 5, 2011 through June 30, 2012, replacing Mike Tanner while on leave. MOTION CARRIED.

16. Superintendent Dwayne Lemoine stated that an interviewing committee met for the purpose of interviewing three applicants for the position of Supervisor of Special Education. Mr. Lemoine stated that the committee recommended to appoint Ms. Karen Williams for the position.

A motion was offered by Freeman Ford, seconded by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., to appoint Ms. Karen Williams, Supervisor of Special Education, for a two year period., effective October 17, 2011.

The motion was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Freeman Ford, Darrell Wiley, James Gauthier, Van Kojis, Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., Rev. Mary Hayward Jones and Michael Lacombe.

Nays: Cynthia "Cindy" Hill.

Absent: Shelia Blackman-Dupas

17. Superintendent Dwayne Lemoine presented personnel changes for the Board's consideration, as follows:

PERSONNEL CHANGES

COTTONPORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Resignation of Audrey Poisso, teacher, effective at the end of the day September 28, 2011; and resignation of Judy Dauzat, bus attendant, effective at the end of the day September 30, 2011.

LAFARGUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Appointment of Darlene Deloach, bus attendant, effective September 19, 2011, replacing Madonna Bennett.

PLAUCHEVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Appointment of Porsha Bradley, special education teacher, effective September 19, 2011 through May 25, 2012, replacing Tammy Lemoine; and appointment of Tammy Lemoine, Transition Coordinator, effective September 19, 2011 through May 25, 2012, funded by IDEA-B.

AVOYELLES HIGH SCHOOL: Resignation of Bryan Dupas, teacher, effective at the end of the day September 16, 2011.

MARKSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL: Resignation of Dr. Robert Doyle, teacher, effective March 1, 2011, for the purpose of retirement; and resignation of Marian J. Gonzales, teacher, effective December 22, 2011, for the purpose of retirement.

AVOYELLES PARISH SCHOOL BOARD CENTRAL OFFICE: Resignation of Shelly Dallmann, Account Payable Data Clerk, effective October 7, 2011.

ADDENDUM(S)
10/4/2011

AVOYELLES HIGH SCHOOL: Appointment of Michael Higginbotham, II, teacher, effective October 5, 2011 through May 25, 2012, replacing Bryan Dupas, who resigned.

On motion by Freeman Ford, seconded by Darrell Wiley, the Board approved the personnel changes as presented by Superintendent Lemoine, along with the change specified by Finance Director Mary Bonnette. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

19. On motion by Freeman Ford, seconded by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr, the Board granted permission to advertise for the position of Accounts Payable Clerk in the Central Office. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

20. On motion by James Gauthier, seconded by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., the Board adopted the endorsement of a proclamation from Governor Bobby Jindal proclaiming the week of October 17 - 21, 2011 as National School Bus Safety Week in the State of Louisiana. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

21. On motion by Darrell Wiley, seconded by Michael Lacombe, the Board agreed to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation regarding workers' compensation lawsuits. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Board reconvened in open public session at approximately 7:45 p.m.

On motion by Freeman Ford, seconded by Carlos A. Mayeux, Jr., the Board granted authority for the approval of settlement for receipt and release of Suit Number 2011-02079, Emile Celestine versus Avoyelles Parish School Board which was recommended by the Board's workers' compensation counsel. MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business, on motion by Darrell Wiley, seconded by Michael Lacombe, the meeting was adjourned.

AVOYELLES PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

VAN KOJIS, President

DWAYNE LEMOINE, Secretary- Treasurer