

# TANGIPAOA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD PROCEEDINGS

March 3, 2009

The Tangipahoa Parish School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Central Office Board room, 59656 Puleston Road, Amite, Louisiana, with President Danny Ridgel presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Al Link, Leonard Genco, Robert Potts, Sandra Bailey-Simmons, Sonya Traylor, Ann Smith, Eric Dangerfield, Rose Dominguez and Danny Ridgel

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Ms. Bailey-Simmons, to approve the Board minutes of February 17, 2009 as distributed. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

Ms. Sandra Bailey-Simmons recognized Deputy Paul Pierre as the Enos "Jake" Bailey, Jr. Above and Beyond Award recipient.

Miss Michelle Berger, a student of Ponchatoula High School, led the Pledge of Allegiance and sang "Tomorrow" from the Broadway play "Annie".

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Ms. Bailey-Simmons, to waive the rules to introduce the Independence Sicilian Heritage Festival representatives. He introduced Mr. Reggie Martin, Festival Chairman, King Johnny Catalano, Queen Lindsey Prima, Teen Queen Crystal Gonzalez and 12-14 Queen Victoria Rooney. Ms. Kim Ragusa, Pageant Coordinator, thanked Superintendent Kolwe for allowing the Festival to use Independence Middle School's gym.

It was moved by Ms. Dominguez, seconded by Mr. Genco, to accept the Resolution presented in opposition to State Superintendent of Education, Paul G. Pastorek's proposed School Board Reform Legislation.

Ms. Doris Flanagan spoke in Public Input.

After discussion, a roll call vote was called. Following are the results:

YEAS: Sonya Traylor, Eric Dangerfield, Sandra Bailey-Simmons, Rose Dominguez, Ann Smith, Robert Potts, Leonard Genco, Al Link and Danny Ridgel  
NAYS: None

The motion passed. Following is the resolution as approved:

## TANGIPAOA PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM RESOLUTION SCHOOL BOARD REFORM LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, school boards are entrusted with the responsibility of providing leadership necessary for the best possible education for school children; and

WHEREAS, school boards are responsible for the effective and efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, school boards are committed to strategic planning which includes employee and community involvement and are advocates for community when decisions are made about education; and

WHEREAS, school boards are responsible for working with the superintendent to establish a valid process for measuring student success and, whenever necessary, shifting resources to ensure that the district's goals are achieved; and

WHEREAS, school boards are elected by the public are accessible and accountable to them for the performance of the schools in the school district; and are responsible for ensuring that taxpayers get the most for their tax dollars; and

WHEREAS, local school board members work with members of the State Board of Education and play an important role in implementing successful programs and higher standards for Louisiana's students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tangipahoa Parish School Board does hereby strongly oppose the Louisiana State Department of Education's draft legislation that includes proposals to reform the relationship between local school boards and superintendents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Honorable Bobby Jindal, Governor of Louisiana; Paul Pastorek, Louisiana State Superintendent of Schools; Members of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; Louisiana School Boards Association and local Legislative Delegations.

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This is to certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Tangipahoa Parish School Board in regular session in Amite, Louisiana February 3, 2009.

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Mark Kolwe, Secretary-Treasurer

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Danny Ridgel, Board President

It was unanimously moved to accept the Committee and Delegation Reports contained on the agenda. The approved reports are as follows:

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – FEBRUARY 25, 2009

It was moved by Ms. Dominguez, seconded by Ms. Smith, to approve the items contained in the Agenda. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

It was moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Dominguez, to approve advertising the position of Pupil Appraisal Coordinator. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

TEACHER – NEW HIRE

Gretchen Hintz, Gifted/Talented Teacher – Ponchatoula High, February 1, 2009, Substitute

LEAVES\*RESIGNATIONS\*RETIREMENTS

Teresa Wille, Bus Driver (extended sick leave using sick days first due to illness – May 28, 2009) January 6, 2009

Carrie Jones, Speech Therapist (extended sick leave using sick days first due to illness – May 28, 2009) February 2, 2009

Shannon Pinkley, Para – Midway Elementary (straight leave without pay) February 17, 2009

Amy Mercante, Teacher – Midway Elementary (extended sick leave using sick days first due to illness – May 28, 2009) February 5, 2009

Alfred Hanible, Janitor – Hammond Junior High (extended sick leave using sick days first due to illness – March 15, 2009)

Tiffany Boyles, Teacher – Woodland Park ELC (extended sick leave using sick days first due to illness – March 3, 2009) February 15, 2009

Lonnie Neal, Bus Driver (straight leave without pay due to illness, May 28, 2009) March 1, 2009

Courtney Diebold, Para – Midway Elementary (extended sick leave using sick days first due to maternity – May 28, 2009) April 3, 2009

Betty Sibley, SFS Manager (extended sick leave using sick days first due to illness – May 28, 2009) February 16, 2008

James Dillon, Bus Driver (extended sick leave using sick days first due to illness – May 28, 2009) January 15, 2009  
Christine Joseph, SFS Worker – Midway Elementary (extended sick leave using sick days first due to illness – May 11, 2009) March 9, 2009

### RESIGNATIONS

Josep Farre', Spanish Teacher – West Side Middle, February 18, 2009  
Kathy Williams, Teacher – Hammond Westside Upper, February 13, 2009  
Kenneth Hagans, Custodian – Hammond High, February 10, 2009  
Calvin Vernon, SFS Worker – Hammond Westside Primary, February 19, 2009

### RETIREMENTS

Patricia Oglesbee, Teacher – Ponchatoula High, May 23, 2009  
Sandra Latino, Teacher – Loranger Elementary, May 23, 2009  
Josie Perkins, Billing Clerk, Hammond Eastside Primary, May 23, 2009  
Patricia Ricks, Teacher – Sumner High, June 1, 2009

### CHAMP COOPER BOARD DELEGATION – FEBRUARY 25, 2009

1. By acclamation, Ms. Rose Dominguez is Chairman for year 2009.
2. It was moved by Mr. Ridgel, seconded by Ms. Bailey-Simmons, to set a budget amount of \$100,000.00 for the restroom floors and partition renovations at Champ Cooper Elementary School and to authorize Holly and Smith to draw up plans and specifications in order to seek bids before the end of school year. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
3. It was moved by Ms. Bailey-Simmons, seconded by Mr. Ridgel, to approve the Finance Department's recommendation that Champ Cooper District allocate approximately \$15,000.00 per year for the next 23 years to build a Roof Replacement Reserve Fund. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

### HAMMOND BOARD DELEGATION – FEBRUARY 25, 2009

1. It was moved by Mr. Link, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to approve the Finance Department's recommendation that Hammond District allocate approximately \$135,000.00 per year for the next 30 years to build a Roof Replacement Reserve Fund. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
2. Mr. John Dardis, Grant Consultant for Tangipahoa Parish Government, gave an update on the Hazard Mitigation Grant for the installation of storm shutters at schools used for shelters. Mr. Caruso, Mr. LaMarca and Mr. Dardis are to meet and discuss this further.
3. It was moved by Mr. Link, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to approve purchasing one (1) Dell Computer for Hammond Eastside Primary, in the amount of \$964.29 from Pay-As-You-Go Funds. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
4. It was moved by Mr. Ridgel, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to approve purchasing five (5) legal filing cabinets with locks for Hammond Eastside Primary from School Specialty, in the amount of \$1,637.25 from Pay-As-You-Go Funds. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
5. It was moved by Ms. Traylor, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to approve Steve Meranta to install computer wiring for the new portable building at Hammond Eastside Primary, in the amount of \$1,925.00 from Pay-As-You-Go Funds. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
6. It was moved by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, seconded by Ms. Traylor, to approve purchasing thirty-two (32) chairs for Hammond High School from School Specialty, in the amount of \$4,519.59 from Pay-As-You-Go Funds. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
7. It was moved by Ms. Traylor, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to approve purchasing two (2) cheerleading foam mats for Hammond High School from NRA Gym, in the amount of \$1,719.00 from Pay-As-You-Go Funds. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

8. It was moved by Mr. Ridgel, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to approve quote from Z-Top Greenhouse Company, Inc., in the amount of \$12,550.00 from Pay-As-You-Go Funds, for the renovation of the Hammond High School Greenhouse. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
9. It was moved by Mr. Link, seconded by Ms. Traylor, to approve the Substantial Completion of the Hammond Junior High School Football Field Lighting Project. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
10. It was moved by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, seconded by Ms. Traylor, to authorize Mr. LaMarca to seek quotes on security cameras for Hammond Eastside School. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

#### PONCHATOULA BOARD DELEGATION – FEBRUARY 25, 2009

1. It was moved by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, seconded by Ms. Rose Dominguez, to approve the Finance Department's recommendation that Ponchatoula District allocate approximately \$70,000.00 per year for the next 30 years to build a Roof Replacement Reserve Fund. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
2. It was moved by Ms. Rose Dominguez, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to approve purchasing two (2) security cameras for Ponchatoula High School from Tommy's Lock & Alarms, in the amount of \$2,023.00 from Pay-As-You-Go Funds. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

It was moved by Ms. Rose Dominguez, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to add an item to the agenda.

Consider approval to purchase one (1) Color Hi Resolution Camera for the back of the Ponchatoula High School Gym from Tommy's Lock & Alarms, in the amount of \$4,699.00 from Pay-As-You-Go Funds.

It was moved by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, seconded by Ms. Rose Dominguez, to approve purchasing one (1) Color Hi Resolution Camera for the back of the Ponchatoula High School Gym from Tommy's Lock & Alarms, in the amount of \$4,699.00 from Pay-As-You-Go Funds. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

3. It was moved by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, seconded by Ms. Rose Dominguez, to approve purchasing twenty (20) Dell computers for Perrin Early Learning Center, in the amount of \$19,309.80 from Pay-As-You-Go Funds. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
4. It was moved by Mr. Ridgel, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to approve purchasing five (5) SmartBoards for D. C. Reeves Elementary School from Detel Computer Solutions, in the amount of \$14,011.15 from Pay-As-You-Go Funds. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
5. It was moved by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to approve purchasing ninety (90) student desks for Ponchatoula Junior High School from Virco, Inc., in the amount of \$6,732.00 from Pay-As-You-Go Funds. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

Superintendent Mark Kolwe declared March 2009 as Youth Art Month by reading the following proclamation:

#### Youth Art Month Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, art education contributes powerful educational benefits to all elementary and secondary students including the following:

- Art education develops students' creative problem solving and critical thinking abilities;
- Art education teaches sensitivity to beauty, order and other expressive qualities;
- Art education gives students a deeper understanding of world cultures, values and beliefs;
- Art education reinforces and brings to life what students learn in other subjects; and

- Art education integrates student learning in art production, art history, art criticism and aesthetics/philosophy, and

**WHEREAS**, our national and state leaders have acknowledged the necessity of including arts experiences in all students' education,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Tangipahoa Parish School System supports art educators as they attempt to strengthen art education in their schools and communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is proclaimed that March be observed as YOUTH ART MONTH in Tangipahoa Parish Schools. All citizens are urged to take interest in and give full support to quality school art programs for children and youth.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Mark Kolwe, Superintendent of the Tangipahoa Parish School System, do hereby proclaim March 2009 as YOUTH ART MONTH.

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Mark Kolwe, Superintendent  
March 3, 2009

Mr. Chris Moody, Board Attorney, informed the Board that the student grievance would be held in closed session.

It was moved by President Ridgel, seconded by Mr. Link, to enter into Executive Session to address the student grievance. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

The Board entered Executive Session.

The Board returned to Open Session.

It was moved by Mr. Link, seconded by Mr. Genco, to direct the Superintendent to keep the student grievance case open for an additional 30 days. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

In personal privilege, Mr. Ridgel expressed his condolences to the family of Mr. Merlin Pistorius.

In personal privilege, Ms. Dominguez informed everyone the Ponchatoula High School Girls Basketball team was in Monroe competing in the Sweet 16 State Semi-finals.

In personal privilege, Ms. Bailey-Simmons announced a Dyslexia Task Force meeting on March 10, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. at Central Office. She also stated that the TARC Radioton begins on March 11, 2009.

In personal privilege, Mr. Link congratulated President Ridgel on the birth of his grandson, Kole Domiano.

It was moved by Mr. Potts, seconded by Ms. Bailey-Simmons, to enter Executive Session to discuss the cases of Joyce M. Moore vs. TPSB, Sheree Glass vs. TPSB and Johnnie Schliegmeyer vs. TPSB. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

The Board entered Executive Session.

The Board returned to Open Session.

There was no action in the case of Joyce M. Moore vs. TPSB.

It was moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Dominguez, to accept the attorney's recommendation on the cases of Sheree Glass vs. TPSB and Johnnie Schliegmeyer vs. TPSB. Hearing objection, the motion was adopted.

President Ridgel announced a special Board meeting on March 10, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. to discuss the case of Joyce M. Moore vs. TPSB.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. ( )

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Ridgel  
President

Mark Kolwe, Secretary-Treasurer

Recorded By: Cynthia Jenkins (March 3, 2009)