

TANGIPAHOA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD PROCEEDINGS

APRIL 21, 2009

The Tangipahoa Parish School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Central Office Board room, 59656 Puleston Road, Amite, Louisiana, with President Danny Ridgel presiding.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rose Dominguez

Joshua Earl, a student of Roseland Elementary School, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Carl Briggs, a student of Roseland Elementary School, led the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States. A chorus of students from Roseland Elementary School sang "America the Beautiful", recited a poem entitled "LEAP It," sang their school motto, "I Need You – You Need Me," and recited a poem by Mary Ann Williamson entitled "Our Deepest Fear."

It was moved by Mr. Link, seconded by Ms. Bailey-Simmons, to approve the Board minutes of March 31, 2009 and April 9, 2009 as distributed. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

Javian Thompson, a 6th grade student from Hammond Eastside Upper, recited President Barack Obama's inauguration speech.

Graduate students from Southeastern Louisiana University presented a Green Today – Here Tomorrow "green" curriculum to the Board Members for their consideration and review. President Ridgel suggested the students contact Ms. Melissa Stilley, Chief Academic Officer, regarding their proposed course.

It was unanimously moved to approve the Committee and Delegation Reports contained on the agenda. Mr. Link abstained from voting on the Finance Committee Minutes. Following are the reports as approved:

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – APRIL 20, 2009

It was moved by Ms. Dominguez, seconded by Mr. Ridgel, to approve the items contained in the Agenda and Addendum #1. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE – NEW HIRE

Jeanette Cunningham, SFS Worker 7 hrs – Independence Elementary (place of Lizzie Leonard – resigned) April 1, 2009

LEAVES*RESIGNATIONS*RETIREMENTS

LEAVES

Julie Wagner, Office Assistant – Central Office (leave using sick days due to surgery – May 8, 2009) April 17, 2009

Carol Turner, Bus Driver (extended sick leave due to surgery using sick days first – May 22, 2009) February 19, 2009

Hollye Nicholas, Teacher – Woodland Park ELC (extended sick leave due to illness using sick days first – May 22, 2009) April 20, 2009

Felecia Harrison, Paraprofessional – Hammond Westside Upper (extended sick leave due to surgery using sick days first – May 22, 2009) April 6, 2009

RETIREMENTS

Sheila Imbornone, Teacher – Independence High, March 31, 2009

Patricia Steib, IEP Facilitator – Special Services Center, August 22, 2009

Ila Cascio, Speech Therapist – Special Services Center, May 23, 2009

ADDENDUM #1

SPECIAL EDUCATION – RECLASSIFICATION

Laurie Dagro – From: School Psychologist 10 mo To: Pupil Appraisal Coordinator 12 mo (place of Virginia Peco – reclassified)

LEAVES*RESIGNATIONS*RETIREMENTS

RESIGNATIONS

John McMillon, Agri. Teacher – Sumner High, May 29, 2009

FINANCE COMMITTEE – MARCH 31, 2009

1. Mr. Ty Harris, Harris CPA, LLC, reviewed the 2007-08 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) with the Committee members.
2. It was moved by Mr. Ridgel, seconded by Ms. Dominguez, to accept the Accounts Payable Check Register dated February 21, 2009 through March 25, 2009 in the amount of \$8,192,918.19. Mr. Link abstained. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

3. It was moved by Ms. Dominguez, seconded by Mr. Link, to accept the Bid #2009-12 for Janitorial Supplies. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
4. It was moved by Mr. Link, seconded by Ms. Dominguez, to approve the following employees to exceed their Out-Of-Parish travel. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
 - Reginald Elzy, Assistant Director of Human Resources, teacher recruitment
 - Renee Durio, Section 504 Coordinator, Section 504 Law and current Dyslexia Conferences
 - Wanda Rougeau and Brenda Dixon, Numeracy Coaches, to be paid from the Ensuring Literacy and Numeracy for All Grant

It was moved by Mr. Ridgel, seconded by Ms. Dominguez, to amend the agenda to add discussing the hiring an economic consultant. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

After much discussion, it was moved by Mr. Ridgel, seconded by Mr. Link, to accept the recommendation of Superintendent Kolwe, Chief Financial Officer Ron Caruso and Attorney Charles Patin to hire Economic Consultant James A. Richardson, relative to the impact the desegregation suit will have on Tangipahoa Parish, for a flat fee of \$20,000.00. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

The Board recognized Ms. Laurie Dagro, newly appointed Pupil Appraisal Coordinator.

Superintendent Mark Kolwe and Assistant Superintendent Thomas Bellavia presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Amite Kiwanis Club for their donation of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Kiwanis representative Ms. Lana Hutchinson accepted.

Superintendent Kolwe read and requested the Board adopt a resolution declaring May 3-9, 2009 as Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week.

A joint motion and joint second was moved to adopt the resolution declaring May 3-9, 2009 as Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted. Following is the resolution as approved:

TANGIPAHOA PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM
RESOLUTION

TEACHER AND STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK
MAY 3-9, 2009

WHEREAS, May is the traditional time of the year to acknowledge the contributions of certificated and classified staff to public education in Louisiana and throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, teachers and staff members play a vital role in the academic, social and emotional development of our youngest citizens; and

WHEREAS, teachers and staff members have shown their dedication to the students in the district within and outside the classroom and school buildings; and

WHEREAS, teachers and staff members both touch and create the future in all they do each day; and

WHEREAS, teachers and classified staff have shown their understanding of and support for achieving the district's goals for improved student achievement; and

WHEREAS, teachers and classified staff members provide essential educational services and play a vital role in providing for the welfare and safety of our students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tangipahoa Parish School Board recognizes May 3-9, 2009 as Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, and congratulates teachers and classified staff members for their ongoing contributions to education, and for the key roles they play in promoting and ensuring student achievement, student safety and well-being.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be printed in the Proceedings of the Board of Education, a copy be posted in each school building, and a copy be placed on file.

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 April 21, 2009.

Mark Kolwe, Secretary-Treasurer

Danny Ridgel, Board President

Mr. Michael Hall spoke in Public Input.

Ms. Karen Bell and Ms. Valerie Prier spoke in Public Input.

Mr. Doug Brown spoke in Public Input.

Ms. Mindy Campbell spoke in Public Input.

In personal privilege, Ms. Bailey-Simmons informed her fellow Board members of upcoming LSBA workshops in May.

In personal privilege, President Ridgel stated that Mr. Doug Brown serves on the Hammond Chamber Education Sub-committee related to the desegregation case. He also recognized Mr. Lamar Marshall, Hammond Chamber Education Chairman, Mr. Daryl Ferrara, Chamber President, and Ms. Michelle Gallo, Chamber Chairman-Elect.

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Mr. Link, to waive the rules to add an item, TPSS vs. Abraxas Group, Inc., to the Executive Session agenda. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

It was moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Genco, to enter into Executive Session to discuss the case of Joyce M. Moore vs. TPSB and TPSS vs. Abraxas Group, Inc. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

The Board entered Executive Session.

The Board returned to Open Session.

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

It was moved by Mr. Link, seconded by Ms. Smith, to accept the attorney's recommendation in the TPSS vs. Abraxas Group, Inc. case. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. (8:00 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Ridgel
Board President

Mark Kolwe, Secretary-Treasurer

Recorded by: Cynthia Jenkins, April 21, 2009