

TANGIPAHOA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD PROCEEDINGS

June 15, 2004

The Tangipahoa Parish School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, June 15, 2004, at 6:30 p.m., in the School Board Meeting Room, School Board Office, 59656 Puleston Road, Amite, Louisiana, with President Al Link, Presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Donnie Williams, Al Link, Leonard Genco, Robert Potts, Jimmy A. Richardson, I, Sandra Bailey-Simmons, and Carl Bardwell

MEMBERS ABSENT: Maxine Dixon and Robert Caves

Mr. Robert Potts – Board Member District B, gave the invocation. Mr. Mark Kolwe, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Support Services, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to approve the Board Minutes of June 1, 2004 as distributed. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted, with Ms. Dixon and Mr. Caves absent.

The Pupil Service Department personnel gave the Board a breakdown on the number of suspensions and expulsions in the school system and what is being done to lower these numbers. There was also a presentation on Bullying in the Schools.

At this point, Mr. Richardson left the meeting.

Mrs. Linda Baker, Coordinator of Reading First, gave the Board a PowerPoint Presentation on the Reading First Program. The presentation documented the program achievements and the goals for 2004-2005.

It was moved by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, seconded by Mr. Williams, to have the Parish Discipline Committee review the present policy and determine if bullying/intimidation needs to be specifically mentioned on the Assertive Discipline Letter as Step 5 or Step 6 and send this recommendation to the Policy Committee for additional evaluation and possible policy change.

Superintendent Joseph indicated that bullying is presently handled the same as fighting. If it is put on the discipline form, the punishment could possibly be watered down.

An electronic vote on the motion on bullying had the following results: Mr. Bardwell, Mr. Potts, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Bailey- Simons, voting Yea; Mr. Link and Mr. Genco voting nay. The motion was adopted, with Ms. Dixon, Mr. Caves and Mr. Richardson absent.

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Mr. Potts, to approve the Finance Committee Report of June 1, 2004. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted with Ms. Dixon, Mr. Richardson and Mr. Caves absent. Following is the report as approved:

1. Approved the Accounts Payable Check Register dated 4/29/04 – 5/26/04
2. Accepted the low bid for items listed below.
 - a. Bid #2004-11, SFS Safety and First Aid Equipment
 - b. Bid #2004-10, SFS Pump and Dispose of Waster Grease Traps
 - c. Bid #2004-07, SFS Bread and Bread Products
 - d. Bid #2004-05, SFS Cafeteria Janitorial and Paper Supplies
 - e. Bid #2004-06, SFS Small Cafeteria Equipment
 - f. Bid #2004-08, SFS Commodity Delivery
3. The committee reviewed the bid specifications for Milk & Milk Products. The staff indicated that the vendors had been given different options to encourage more vendors to bid.

4. Approved the Daily Star's proposal to continue as the School Board's Official Journal for 2004-2005.
5. Approved the Hancock Bank Resolution authorizing the Superintendent and Board President to sign on behalf of the Board.

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to approve the Personnel Committee Report of June 9, 2004, with the exception of Item #7 – Line Item #2 (Support Personnel – New Hire: Lisa Gorman). Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted, with Ms. Dixon, Mr. Richardson and Mr. Caves absent. Following is the report as approved:

1. Teacher – New Hire

Deborah Rue, School Psychologist – Special Service Center – 10 months, effective July 28, 2004, Probationary
 Karen Lowery – Teacher – Amite Elementary, effective August 11, 2004, Substitute

2. Teacher - Rehire

Amy Munson, Speech Therapist – Independence Middle, effective August 11, 2004, Probationary
 Kelly Hoover, Teacher – Hammond High, effective August 11, 2004, Probationary
 Sara Raiford, Teacher – Hammond High, effective August 11, 2004, Probationary
 Lawrence Sylvest, Teacher – Sumner High, effective August 11, 2004, Probationary
 Kristin Bales, Teacher – Sumner High, effective August 11, 2004, Probationary
 Tara Dugas, Teacher – Hammond Westside Primary, effective August 11, 2004, Probationary
 Rebecca Johnson, Teacher – Loranger Elementary, effective August 11, 2004, Probationary
 Scarlett Smith, Teacher – Independence Middle, effective August 11, 2004, Probationary
 DeRoxlyn Hall, Special Education Teacher – O.W. Dillon, effective August 11, 2004, Probationary
 Shannon Watts, Pre-K Teacher – Spring Creek, effective August 11, 2004, Substitute
 Susan Simmons, CSR “K” Teacher – Spring Creek, effective August 11, 2004, Substitute

3. Teacher – Reclassification

Karla Douglas, From: Regular Program Teacher – Independence Elementary; To: CSR Teacher – Independence Elementary, effective August 11, 2004, Substitute

4. Teacher - Transfer

Sandra Holley, From: Teacher – Hammond Westside Primary, TO: Teacher – Hammond Eastside Primary, effective August 11, 2004, Tenured

5. Teacher – Rehire/Transfer

Dara Hogan, From: Teacher – Ponchatoula High, TO: Teacher – Ponchatoula Jr. High, effective August 11, 2004, Substitute
 Amanda Bracy, From: Home Economics Teacher – Amite High, TO: Home Economics Teacher – Sumner High, effective August 11, 2004, Probationary

6. Teacher – Rehire/Reclassification

Casey Corkern, From: OFAT Kindergarten Teacher – Spring Creek, TO: Regular Program Teacher – Spring Creek, effective August 11, 2004

7. Support Personnel – New Hire

Jackie Tillis, Title 1 Paraprofessional – Hammond Jr. High, effective August 12, 2004

8. Staffing of Crystal Street Academy9. Leaves, Resignations, RetirementsSabbatical Leaves – 2004-2005

Reginald Elzy, Assistant Principal – Natalbany Elementary, P. & I. – 2 semesters

Gretchen Michel, Teacher – Hammond Jr. High, Medical – 1st semester

Shannon Cusimano, Teacher – Independence Elementary, P. & I.– 1st semester

Jill Foster, Teacher – Independence Elementary, P. & I. – 1st semester

Deborah Crouse, Teacher – Hammond Eastside Upper – Medical – 2 semesters

Janet Dufreche, Teacher – Perrin Early Learning Center, Medical – 2 semesters

Charlotte Dahmer, Teacher – Ponchatoula High, Medical – 2 semesters

Melanie Monistere, Teacher – Ponchatoula High, P. & I. – 2 semesters

Brenda Johnson, Principal – Hammond Westside Upper – P. & I. – 2 semesters

Leaves

(Correction)

Rose Petit, Secretary – Hammond Jr. High (Straight Leave without pay using sick days first – January 18, 2005), effective August 12, 2004

Resignations

Kim McDonald, Teacher – Nesom Middle, effective May 28, 2004

Karen Marsalis, Teacher – Midway Elementary, effective May 28, 2004

Victor Noto, Janitor – Independence Middle, effective May 26, 2004

James Brooks, Janitor – Nesom Middle, effective May 18, 2004

Ella Fanning, Paraprofessional – Independence Elementary, effective May 31, 2004

Retirements

Lawrence Dyson, Janitor – Spring Creek, effective September 10, 2004

Carrel Hill, Secretary – Tucker Elementary, effective September 1, 2004

Agrea Hendrickson, Teacher – Westside Middle, effective January 27, 2005

Willie Topps, Teacher – Amite High, effective May 31, 2004

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Mr. Williams, to approve the Independence Board Delegation Report of June 7, 2004. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted, with Ms. Dixon, Mr. Richardson and Mr. Caves absent. Following is the report as approved.

1. Approved the low base quote of Stevens Dirt and Hauling for Independence Middle School, site work and driveway, in the amount of \$73,000.00, from Bond Fund 637.
2. Approved the purchase of Technology equipment for Independence Middle School in the amount of \$2,016.20, from Pay-As-You-Go Funds.

It was moved by Mr. Bardwell, seconded by Mr. Genco, to waive the rules to consider the approval of the IDEA Application for 2005. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted, with Ms. Dixon, Mr. Richardson and Mr. Caves absent.

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Mr. Potts, to approve the IDEA Application for 2005. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted, with Ms. Dixon, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Caves absent.

Mr. Bardwell spoke in personal privilege and requested that the position of Maintenance Director be advertised using the current job description for this position. All Board Members present were in agreement with this request. It was also requested that each Board Member be given a copy of the current job description.

There were no requests for Public Input.

It was moved by Mr. Potts, seconded by Mr. Genco, to waive the rules and place an item regarding a Tax Issue that may lead to litigation on the agenda under Executive Session. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted, with Ms. Dixon, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Caves absent.

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Mr. Potts, to enter Executive Session to discuss the items listed below. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted, with Ms. Dixon, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Caves absent.

- a. Betty Wilson vs. TPSB
- b. Cherry Mae Stewart vs. TPSB
- c. Michelle Thompson vs. TPSB
- d. Mollie Lloyd vs. TPSB
- e. John Doe vs. TPSB
- f. Discuss Tax Issue that may lead to litigation

The Board entered Executive Session.

The Board returned to Open Session.

It was moved by Mr. Bardwell, seconded by Mr. Potts, to accept the Board Attorney recommendations in the cases of Betty Wilson vs. TPSB, Michelle Thompson vs. TPSB, and Mollie Lloyd vs. TPSB. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted, with Ms. Dixon, Mr. Richardson and Mr. Caves absent.

No action was taken in the cases of Cherry Mae Stewart vs. TPSB and John Doe vs. TPSB.

It was moved by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, seconded by Mr. Genco to adjourn (8:21 p.m.). Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted, with Ms. Dixon, Mr. Richardson and Mr. Caves absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Link, President

Louis L. Joseph, Secretary-Treasurer

Recorded By: Jo-Ann L. Frazier (6/15/04)