

## TANGIPAHOA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD PROCEEDINGS

**January 4, 2005**

The Tangipahoa Parish School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, January 4, 2005, 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: Al Link, Leonard Genco, Robert Potts, Sandra Bailey-Simmons, Robert Caves and Carl Bardwell, Maxine Dixon, Donnie Williams and Jimmy A. Richardson, I

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Mr. Robert Caves, Board Member District F, read George Washington's Prayer. Patricia Drake, Battalion Commander – Jr. ROTC Hammond High School led the Pledge of Allegiance and sang the National Anthem.

At this time, the floor was declared open for nominations for the office of President of the School Board for the year 2005.

Mr. Potts nominated Mr. Leonard "Tank" Genco for the office of President; the motion was seconded by Mr. Bardwell. Hearing no objection, the motion was unanimously adopted. Mr. Leonard "Tank" Genco was elected as President of the School Board by acclamation.

President Genco assumed the gavel.

President Genco stated that the floor was now open for nominations for the office of Vice President of the Board.

Mr. Caves nominated Mrs. Sandra Bailey-Simmons for Vice President, Mr. Bardwell seconded the motion. Hearing no objection, the motion was unanimously adopted. Mrs. Sandra Bailey-Simmons was elected Vice President of the School Board by acclamation.

On behalf of the Board Members, Superintendent Joseph presented outgoing President Mr. Al Link with a plaque adorned with a gavel, in recognition of his dedicated service as President during the year of 2004.

It was moved by Mr. Richardson seconded by Ms. Dixon, to approve the Board Minutes of December 7, 2004, as distributed. Hearing no objection, the motion was unanimously adopted.

It was moved by Mr. Caves, seconded by Mr. Richardson, to waive the rules to add items to the agenda under Executive Session. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

It was moved by Mr. Caves, seconded by Mr. Richardson, to add the items listed below to the agenda under Executive Session.

1. Discuss employee misconduct
2. Consider case of Romeekia Richard vs. TPSB
3. Consider case of Clarence Foster vs. TPSB

Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

Mrs. Bailey-Simmons recognized the recipient of the "Jake Bailey Above and Beyond" Award – Mrs. Wanda Recile – Principal, Independence Elementary School.

It was moved by Mr. Link, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to waive the rules to consider an item regarding test security. Hearing no objection, the motion was unanimously adopted.

It was moved by Mr. Link, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to approve the revision of the policy on test security to include an addition regarding forbidding the presence of camera

watches during the administration of LEAP/Iowa Testing (Appendix C – Part 2) of the Tangipahoa Parish School System Test Security Policy. A roll call vote yielded the following results: 9 yeas 0 nays. Those voting yeas were: Mr. Richardson, Mr. Potts, Mr. Genco, Mr. Link, Mr. Williams, Mr. Caves, Ms. Dixon, Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, and Mr. Bardwell. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Superintendent Joseph and Assistant Superintendent, Thomas Bellavia, recognized Chesbrough Elementary School for being nominated for the National Blue Ribbon School Recognition Program.

It was moved by Mr. Bardwell, seconded by Mr. Link, to approve the Tangipahoa Parish School System Technology Plan. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

Mrs. Sandra Bailey-Simmons, chairman of the Dyslexia Task Force and Mrs. Rene' Durio, 504 Coordinator, gave the Board an update on the Dyslexia Program. They indicated that resource materials had been compiled and would be made available to both parents and teachers.

Mrs. Sandra Bailey-Simmons, was recognized for once again being selected to represent the Tangipahoa Parish School Board at the Federal Networking Conference in Washington, D.C.

President Genco passed the gavel to Vice-President Bailey-Simmons.

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Mr. Link, to approve the Finance Committee Report of December 7, 2004. Following is the report as approved.

1. Approved the Accounts Payable Check Register dated 11/03/04 – 11/30/04.
2. Accepted the staff recommendation for RFP Data Connections between sites (proposal from BellSouth with additional modifications that increase the cost by approximately \$10,000. The actual increased system cost after the discount from the e-rate program will be approximately \$21,000 for the installation and a \$2,100 increase in the annual cost to come from existing budgeted funds).
3. Approved the setting aside of Technology Funds (current Instructional Technology Budget) as the matching fund for the E-rate Program within the published budget to meet E-rate requirements).
4. Approved the low bid of Wainwright Construction & Maintenance, Inc., in the amount of \$37,500.00 for the Special Services Center Parking Improvements.
5. Approved the low bid of Sunshine Bus Sales in the amount of \$11,400.00 each for four (4) used school buses.

President Genco assumed the gavel

It was moved by Ms. Dixon, seconded by Mr. Link, to approve the Personnel Committee Report of January 4, 2005. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted. Following is the report as approved.

#### January 4, 2005

#### 1. TEACHER - NEW HIRE

April Hayden, Teacher – Amite Elementary, effective January 3, 2005, Substitute

Erin Jackson, Teacher – Woodland Park Early Learning Center, effective January 3, 2005,  
 Marquita Jackson, Teacher – Hammond Westside Primary, effective January 3, 2005,  
 Substitute

2. TEACHER – REHIRE/TRANSFER

Gina Graziano, From: Teacher – Independence Elementary, To: Kindergarten Teacher – Amite Elementary, effective January 18, 2005, Substitute

3. SUPPORT PERSONNEL - NEW HIRE

Shannon Navarra, School Secretary – 9 months, Loranger Elementary, effective January 5, 2005  
 Marlene April, School Secretary – 10 months, Loranger Elementary, effective January 5, 2005

4. SUPPORT PERSONNEL - RECLASSIFICATION

Priscilla Matthews, From: Special Education Aide (5 ½ hours) Spring Creek, To: Title 1 Pre-K Aide (7 hours) Spring Creek, effective January 3, 2005  
 James Butler, From ISSP Monitor – Independence Middle, To: Title 1 Paraprofessional – Independence Middle, effective January 3, 2005

5. SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE – NEW HIRE

Cindy Belemonte, Cashier (5 hours) Ponchatoula High, effective December 13, 2004

6. \*LEAVES\*RESIGNATIONS\*RETIREMENTS

LEAVES:

Kimberly Kraus, Teacher – O.W. Dillon Elementary, (Extended Sick Leave using sick days first due to Maternity – April 4, 2005), effective March 3, 2005

RESIGNATIONS:

Angela Valley, Teacher – Ponchatoula High, effective January 17, 2005  
 Carlton Galmon, Bus Driver, effective November 8, 2004

RETIREMENTS

Liddell McNair, Jr. ROTC – Hammond High, June 30, 2005

9. SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LIST

It was moved by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Potts, to approve the Amite Board Delegation Report of December 6, 2004. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted. Following is the report as approved.

1. Approved the low quote from Bill's Plumbing for a sewer lift station at Amite Westside Middle School in the amount of \$24,500.00 from the Maintenance Fund.

The following items were discussed.

2. Mr. Holly will review the specifications and drawings on Field House additions and modifications for Amite High School.

3. Mr. Richardson discussed building a new gymnasium for Amite High School.

It was moved by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Potts, to approve the Kentwood Board Delegation Report of December 6, 2004. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted. Following is the report as approved.

1. Mr. Kolwe reported that the appraisal for the Kentwood property was \$31,800.00 and the Tangipahoa property's appraisal was \$14,600.00. The delegation authorized Mr. Kolwe to advertise for bids on the (10.6) ten point six acres of property in Kentwood.

The following items were discussed.

2. Discussion on the proposed Kentwood Bond Issue was deferred and will be placed on the agenda of the next delegation meeting.
3. Mr. Kolwe will check into the accounting of funds given to the O.W. Dillon P.T.O. for purchase of playground equipment.

It was moved by Mr. Potts, seconded by Mr. Bardwell, to waive the rules to discuss the site project at Sumner Middle School. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

Mr. Michael Holly, Architect, explained why his recommendation was to place Trying Times Construction, Co., LLS, in default.

Mr. Melvin McElwee, addressed the Board regarding the reasons that Trying Times Construction, Co., LLS should not be placed in default.

It was moved by Mr. Potts, seconded by Mr. Caves, to accept the staff recommendation and place Trying Times Construction, Co., LLS in default on the site project for Sumner Middle School. A roll call vote yielded the following results: 7 yeas and 2 nays. Voting yea were: Mr. Potts, Mr. Genco, Mr. Link, Mr. Caves, Ms. Dixon, Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, and Mr. Bardwell. Voting nay: Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Williams. The motion was adopted.

Superintendent Joseph informed the Board that he had been selected to serve on the Superintendents' Advisory Board. The function of this Board is to make recommendations to the BESE Board. The Board congratulated Superintendent Joseph on his appointment.

Ms. Kelly Davis addressed the Board in Public Input regarding Extended Sick Leave.

Mr. Bardwell spoke in Personal Privilege and requested that all Board Members wear their blazers to the next Board Meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to enter Executive Session to discuss the cases listed below:

1. Discuss employee misconduct
2. Consider case of Romeekia Richard vs. TPSB
3. Consider case of Clarence Foster vs. TPSB

Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

The Board entered Executive Session.

The Board returned to Open Session.

No action was taken on the cases listed below:

1. Discuss employee misconduct
2. Consider case of Romeekia Richard vs. TPSB
3. Consider case of Clarence Foster vs. TPSB

It was moved by Mr. Bardwell, seconded by Mr. Link to adjourn (8:16 p.m.). Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard "Tank" Genco, President

Louis L. Joseph, Secretary-Treasurer

Recorded By: Jo-Ann L. Frazier (1/04/05)