

**JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
NOVEMBER 18, 2021**

The Jefferson Davis Parish School Board met in Regular session at 203 E. Plaquemine Street, Jennings, LA 70546, on Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., with the following School Board members present: President, Jody Singletary, Members, Vice-President, James Segura, Phillip Arceneaux, Greg Bordelon, Jason Bouley, Charles Bruchhaus, Donald Dees, Malon Dobson, David Doise, Denise Perry Terry Leger and Paul Trahan. Absent: David Capdeville
Legal Counsel Present: District Attorney, Elliott Cassidy.

The meeting was called to order by President Singletary.

President Singletary certified the following:

The Jefferson Davis Parish School Board welcomes public input as to all agenda items which it considers and understands the inconvenience which COVID-19 guidelines impose. In an effort to meet within the CDC recommendations and to comply with the Governor's orders (Modified Phase II), while at the same time providing the opportunity for public comment, the Board will adhere to the following procedures at its meetings:

1. Capacity limitations of 30 persons (First preference to Board Members and necessary staff) will be followed in the Board Room at its normal meeting place in Jennings, LA;
2. Public participants wishing to become an active part of the meeting agenda must request written permission ([via email to debbie.abshire@jdpsbk12.org](mailto:debbie.abshire@jdpsbk12.org)) no later than one day prior to the meeting date. Individual speakers are granted three minutes to speak when public comment is acknowledged.
3. Once public participants have submitted a written request to speak, they will receive the active participant link via email.
4. This is a live remote-access meeting for public participation. Video and audio will be recorded throughout the entirety of this meeting and will be archived.
5. As this is a live remote-access meeting, all active speakers are to adhere to professional meeting etiquette. Please refrain from using any profane language or making derogatory remarks aimed at any individual or group.
6. This meeting will be moderated for all active participants. Any active participant not adhering to the guidelines set forth in this document will be muted or removed from the meeting (depending on extent of violation).
7. Active participants are asked to mute their microphones when not speaking. Unmuted participants (not actively speaking or asked to speak) will be muted by the moderator.
8. During the meeting, questions can be submitted using the "Chat" feature (comment bubble icon). All questions submitted in the "Chat" feature will be visible to all participants and should adhere to the same guidelines as outlined in number 2 on this page.
9. This meeting will be live-streamed (view only) to the public for those requesting. The live-stream recording will be available after the meeting on the district website at www.jeffersondavis.org.

An invocation by Mr. Dees, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag led by Mr. Arceneaux.

Roll call was done by Mrs. Abshire. Mrs. Abshire verified that one person had requested and been sent the virtual link and there were no requests for public comment.

Motion by Mr. Bouley, seconded by Mr. Leger and unanimously carried to approved the School Board minutes of the Regular Meeting on August 19, 2021, September 16, 2021 and October 21, 2021 and the special meeting on October 28, 2021 with the following corrections:

The meeting date was listed as October 27, 2021 and should be listed as October 28, 2021.

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Motion by Mr. Trahan, seconded by Mr. Doise and unanimously carried that the Board call for a vote to take care of items of business not listed on the original agenda or to change the order of topics to be addressed and to add items not on the original agenda and to add under new business to accept the best bid for the JHS Canopy, Field lighting and Drainage.

RECOGNITION:

A. JHS National FFA Winners

1. Ag Issues Forum—Bronze emblem
Maggie Hanks
Kiersten Richard
Eliza Person
Andyn Grace Zammit
Tyler Demary
2. Meats Evaluation—Bronze emblem
Zaylin Fontenot
Dawson Leblanc
Dylan Newman
Nicholas Rasberry
3. Creed Speaking—National Semi-Finalist
Jillian Lantz
4. Agronomy—National Champions
Thomas Knight
Griffin Hendrix
Jackson Hendrix
Ava Clark

B. EHS National FFA winners

1. Joseph LaComb- Silver- Employability Skills
2. Parliamentary Procedure- Silver- Kaleb LeMoine, Paige Coleman, Caitlin Coleman, Isabella LeBlanc, Kaiden LeJeune and Tanner LaComb. All students received Accredited Parliamentarian status
3. Conduct of Chapter Meetings- Bronze- Hayden Courville, Zoey Berzas, Laylah Fontenot, JaMarsha LaComb, Kaleb Poullard and Kayden Fontenot

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

The following recommendations were made by Mr. James Segura, Finance Committee Chairman, that the School Board:

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Approve a request from Curriculum Supervisor, Danielle Semien, to pay the Fall tuition for dual enrollment students to SOWELA Technical Community College in the amount of \$11,445.00. To be paid by SCA (Supplemental Course Academy/Course Choice) funds. Motion seconded by Mr. Arceneaux and unanimously approved.

Grant permission to WAR to purchase from CTI Security Solutions four Megapixel Security Cameras at a cost of \$3,016.18. To be paid from the CSD#1 Contingency funds. Motion seconded by Mr. Trahan and unanimously approved.

Adopt the following resolution regarding employment of special counsel:

**RESOLUTION OF JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
REGARDING EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL**

WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statutes 42:263 authorizes the retention of special counsel by any school board upon a statement of reasons why such counsel is necessary and upon the approval by the Attorney General; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board has employed the law firm Hammonds, Sills, Adkins, Guice, Noah & Perkins, LLP (formerly Hammonds & Sills) since 2008 as its special counsel with experience, training, and expertise in school law issues including, but not limited to, special education, school personnel matters, public bid law and general school board policy matters involving compliance with the federal and state laws and regulations, including due process hearings, tenure hearings, misconduct investigations and the handling of administrative hearings and litigation in state and federal courts; and

WHEREAS, through its representation of the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board and various school boards throughout the State of Louisiana, the law firm of Hammonds, Sills, Adkins, Guice, Noah & Perkins, LLP has special experience, training and expertise in those issues of school law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED by the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board in regular session duly convened:

Section I – This School Board does hereby renew its employment of the law firm of Hammonds, Sills, Adkins, Guice, Noah & Perkins, LLP as special counsel with training, experience and expertise in school law issues including, but not limited to, special education, school personnel matters, public bid law and general policy matters to include administrative hearings and litigation with respect thereto for the purpose of advising, consulting with, and representing this School Board in connection with such legal matters involving the school system.

Section II – Said law firm shall be paid for their services at hourly rates equal to the maximum hourly fee schedule for special counsel published by the Attorney General of the State of Louisiana in effect at the time of the services except that the paralegal rate shall be \$75.00 per hour and to be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses for long distance telephone calls, document duplication, expert witness fees, court reporter fees, printing costs, travel expenses and other expenses as a result of the legal services to and for this School Board.

Section III – Said law firm shall keep itemized time records for presentation to the Superintendent with respect to services rendered at said hourly rates and the expenses incurred, and the Superintendent is hereby authorized and directed to pay same upon submission and receipt thereof.

Section IV – This employment shall continue and is effective immediately upon adoption of this resolution.

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The vote, in open meeting, on the resolution was as follows:

YEAS: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSENT: _____

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board in regular session duly convened on _____, 2021 and that same has not been rescinded or repealed.

JENNINGS, LOUISIANA, this _____ day of _____, 2021.

JODY SINGLETARY, President
Jefferson Davis Parish School Board

KIRK CREDEUR, Secretary-Treasurer
Jefferson Davis Parish School Board

Motion seconded by Mr. Leger and unanimously approved.

Grant permission to HHS to purchase on state contract four 75" TruTouch NewLine boards from Troxell Communications at a cost of \$12,180.00. To be paid from Maintenance #3. Motion seconded by Mr. Doise and unanimously approved.

Approve a request from Curriculum Supervisor, Danielle Semien, to purchase 6 site licenses for EHS, WHS, HHS, LHS, LAHS and JHS at \$1,500.00 each for the renewal of the online ACT Workkeys Curriculum for students to prepare for the Workkeys exam. Scoring of the silver level of above will afford students the opportunity to earn the TOPS TECH award, count towards the school and district accountability, as well as assist students in satisfying graduation requirements necessary for their Jumpstart pathway. The total for this purchase will be \$9,000.00 to be paid for out of General Fund. Motion seconded by Mr. Bordelon and unanimously approved.

Grant permission for JWES to accept the following donations:

- A. First Baptist Church \$800.00. Funds to be used to purchase school uniforms.
- B. Green's Cafe - uniforms for the uniform closet.

Motion seconded by Mrs. Perry and unanimously approved.

Grant permission for JHS Baseball team to accept a \$19,125.00 donation from the Bulldogs Diamond Booster, Inc. Funds to be used to purchase new uniforms. Grant permission to JHS to purchase from JB Team Sports baseball uniforms at a cost of \$19,124.85. To be paid by donation from the Bulldogs Diamond Booster, Inc. Motion seconded by Mr. Dees and unanimously approved.

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Grant permission to WHS Student Council to accept a \$3,935.00 donation from Welsh Parent Homecoming Committee. Funds to be used towards Student Council events and activities. Motion seconded by Mr. Trahan and unanimously approved.

Grant permission to WHS Volleyball to accept a \$250.00 donation from the Lumpkin Group. Funds to be used towards the purchase of equipment and supplies for the volleyball team. Motion seconded by Mr. Bouley and unanimously approved.

Grant permission to JHS Baseball team to accept a \$100.00 donation from Mr. and Mrs. Ivy Fant in honor of the late Danny Reed. Funds to be used for expenses during upcoming season. Motion seconded by Mr. Dees and unanimously approved.

The following committees had no reports to present:

Insurance - David Doise, Chairman

Policy - Phillip Arceneaux, Chairman

Building & Grounds- Terry Leger, Chairman

Transportation - Greg Bordelon, Chairman

16th Section - Charles Bruchhaus, Chairman

Ward II (Ad Hoc) - Donald Dees, Chairman

Legislative Liaison - Donald Dees, Chairman

Food Service - Malon Dobson, Chairman

The Sales Tax report was given by Mrs. Amber Hymel, Tax Collector.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Mr. Bouley, seconded by Mr. Doise and unanimously approved that at the the September 16, 2021 motion was passed grant permission to HHS, LHS, EHS and JHS FFA students and staff to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN from 10/24/21 to 10/31/21. It was stated that at no cost to the Board. Amend in accordance with Board procedure, any clubs representing JDPSB and attending National competition receive \$500.00 towards expenses.

Motion by Mr. Arceneaux, seconded by Mr. Segura and unanimously approved to grant permission to JHS Coach Rusty Phelps to travel to San Antonio, TX from January 6-9, 2022 to participate in the All American Bowl Coaches Program. JHS Sr. football player, Trevor Etienne has been selected to play in the 2022 All American Bowl. Coach Phelps has been invited to participate in the coaches program activities as they honor the players coaches in appreciation of their dedication and commitment to high school football. All travel and lodging expenses will be covered by JHS football.

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Motion by Mr. Bouley, seconded by Mrs. Perry and unanimously approved to approve the ITEP application of Metalplate Galvanizing L.P., Inc for an Industrial Tax Exemption, Project ID#20200092-ITE on a WQQ \$885,670 plant expansion per the packet of information provided by the Louisiana Economic Development Office. The total annual exemption being requested by Metalplate Galvanizing L.P. from all applicable taxing jurisdictions, including the School Board's share, is approximately \$41,541 per the Jeff Davis Parish Assessor.

Motion by Mr. Leger, seconded by Mr. Bouley and unanimously approved to recommend to the Board of Commerce that the ITEP exemption regarding Louisiana Spirits, LLC be repealed for the 2020 year requiring Louisiana Spirits, LLC to pay taxes that were previously exempt due to non-compliance of their original exemption application for the 2020 year which required 3 jobs and payroll of \$90,000. This motion is in accordance with Section 6.01(B)(4) of the Exhibit A in the original application.

INFORMATION

1. Condolences are extended to the families of:
 1. Wilbert L. Gilbeaux, Sr., WES Principal who retired in 1992, with 31 years of service.
 2. Linda Navarre, HHS Cafeteria Tech, who retired in 2004 with 15 years of service.
 3. Judy Dronet, Teacher at Northside Jr. High, who retired in 1992 with 23 years of service and returned to work until 2004.
 4. Dr. Virgie Dronet, former educator at Lake Arthur High School.

2. Must be read aloud:

Announcement of Public Meeting

Notice is hereby given that at its meeting to be held on Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at Lake Arthur High School, 4374 Tiger Lane, Lake Arthur, Louisiana, the Parish School Board of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana, plans to consider adopting a resolution ordering and calling elections to be held in (i) School District No. 1 of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana, (ii) School District No. 2 of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana, (iii) School District No. 5 of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana, (iv) School District No. 8 of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana, (v) School District No. 22 of the Parishes of Jefferson Davis and Allen, State of Louisiana and (vi) Welsh-Roanoke Consolidated School District No. One (1) of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana to authorize the renewal/continuation of ad valorem taxes therein and (vii) School District No. 5 of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds.

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PERSONNEL CHANGES

A. Personnel appointments as determined by the

Superintendent:

1. Name **JEREMY FUSELIER**, Special Services Supervisor, effective November 1, 2021, re: Linda Fonger retirement.
2. Name **NICHOLAS JOHNSON**, Jennings High Assistant Principal, effective ASAP, re: Phillip Fontenot resignation.
3. Name **TRACY PREJEAN**, School Board Central Office Custodian, effective ASAP, re: Wilfred Vidrine retirement.
4. Name **GAVIN SCHEXNIDER**, Fenton Elementary Custodian, effective ASAP, re: Shirley LEMONIA retirement.
5. Name, **RACHEL SIMON**, Curriculum Technology Assistant, effective 11/29/21, re: Staycle Duplichan retirement.

B. Personnel changes:

APPOINTMENTS

1. Macala Broussard, WEIC Teacher (High School DOT), 10/25/21, re: new position.
2. Inez Fruge, FES Cafeteria Tech, 10/20/21, re: Evelyn "Janie" Boudreaux Retirement.
3. Hannah Bouley Prejean, WEIC SPED Teacher, 10/25/21, re: Dale Pollard Resignation.
4. Karmen Achane, PAS Social Worker, 12/01/21, re: Joelyn Doland retirement.
5. Jeremy Fuselier, SBO SPED Supervisor, 11/01/21, re: Linda Fonger retirement.
6. Gavin Schexneider, FES Custodian, 11/01/21, re: Shirley LEMONIA retirement.
7. Tracy Prejean, Central Office Custodian, 10/25/21, re: Wilfred Vidrine Retirement.
8. Nicholas Johnson, JHS Assistant Principal, 11/01/21, re: Philip Fontenot Resignation.
9. Christy Phillips, FES Pre-K Para, 11/11/21, re: new position.

TRANSFERS

1. Bridgett Dupuis, JHS Cafeteria Tech to WEIC Para, 10/28/21, re: Harry Guidry retirement.
2. Angie Smith, JWES Cafeteria Tech to JHS Cafeteria Tech, re: Casie Fox resignation.

LEAVES

1. H. Neal, HHS Cafeteria Tech, 10/06/21 to 11/01/21.
2. I. Warner, EHS Cafeteria Tech, 08/27/21 to 12/31/21.
3. S. Thibodeaux, WES Teacher, 11/11/21 to 01/03/22.
4. S. Benoit, WAR Cafeteria Tech, 11/03/21 to 12/03/21.

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5. M. Spell, JES Librarian, 09/08/21 to 11/29/21.
6. T. Stipek, LAES Teacher, 10/10/21 to 11/22/21.
7. D. Johnson, LHS Cafeteria Tech, 11/08/21 to 11/30/21.
8. H. Abraham, JHS SPED Para, 08/13/21 to 01/01/22.

RESIGNATION

1. Kelly Pitre, WES Speech Therapist, 11/13/21.
2. Angela Constantine, LAE SPED Para, 11/20/21.
3. Haylee Guidry Dugas, JES Teacher, 11/01/21.

RETIREMENTS

1. Kimberly Cormier, JHS Finance Secretary, 02/12/22 with 23 years of service.
2. Joann Davis, Educational Media Center Custodian, 01/01/22 with 12.5 years of service.
3. Arlene A. Foreman, FES/LHS Pre K Para, 09/13/21 with 19 years of service.
4. Flora G. Mixon, JHS Custodian, 12/30/21, with 10 years of service.

TERMINATED

1. Lillian Smith, LHS Custodian, 10/29/21.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

ADJOURN

There being no other business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Bouley, seconded by Mr. Doise and unanimously carried, to adjourn.

/s/ Jody Singletary, President

ATTEST:

/s/Kirk Credeur, Secretary/Superintendent

Note: Items purchased by quotes or bids may be reviewed at the School Board office during normal business hours. All policies can be reviewed at any facility under the jurisdiction of the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board.