

**PROCEEDINGS OF REGULAR MEETING OF
NATCHITOCHE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 3, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Natchitoches Parish School Board was held on Thursday, September 3, 2015, at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Natchitoches Parish School Board Office, 310 Royal Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana, and upon roll call, the following members and Dale Skinner, Secretary-Treasurer, were present: Eugene Garner, Joella Wilson, Harry Graham, Russell Danzy, Michael Hilton, Emile Metoyer, Steven Harris, Thomas Melder, George Rhymes. Absent at the time of roll call were Ralph Wilson and Carroll Daniels.

The meeting was called to order by President George Rhymes, followed by an invocation by Mr. Rhymes and Pledge of Allegiance by Mr. Hilton.

There were no items of Old Business or New Business on the agenda to discuss.

At Tuesday's committee meeting, Mrs. Karen Apponey was recognized as the 2014-2015 Bus Driver of the Year. Mrs. Apponey was presented with several items of appreciation by Mr. Jason Edwards, Transportation Director.

On motion of Mr. Graham and seconded by the Mr. Melder, the following Consent Agenda items were unanimously approved by all members present:

1. *Adoption of Agenda.*
2. *Approval of Minutes of August 6, 2015; Special Called Meeting of August 6, 2015*
3. **FINANCE ITEMS**
 - A. *Payment of Bills:*
 - B. *Out of State Travel:*
 - C. *School Bus Routes Changes:*
 - D. *Purchase of Buses:*
 - E. *Advertisements:*
 - Permission to advertise for bids:*
 - F. *Resignations:*
 - G. *Retirements:*
 - H. *Requests for Leave:*
 1. **Ryan Riley**, Lakeview High School, travel to Louisville, Kentucky October 26, 2015-October 30, 2015, to chaperon students at the National FFA Convention for recognition of Gold Star Emblem Chapter. **Students: Allison Friday, Alexis Gourdon, Bayli Quick**
 - I. *Termination:*

Mr. Danzy presented the Finance Report. On motion of Mr. Danzy and seconded by Mr. Garner, the board unanimously approved the timber sale in Section Sixteen (16), Township Seven North West (9W), containing 77 acres more or less.

Mr. Jason Edwards presented the board with the transportation report on Tuesday.

The board received the tax commission report from Mr. Solomon on Tuesday.

Mr. Danzy motioned and Mr. Hilton seconded the approval of the 2015-2016 Consolidated budget. Mr. Graham suggested that the board bring in a Legal Auditor to check over the budget. Audience member Dr. Davis spoke concerning Louisiana law regarding Black History in the schools for K-12. Ms. Joella asked that the board find out more information on implementing a Black History for K-12. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YEAS: Eugene Garner, Ralph Wilson, Russell Danzy, Michael Hilton, Thomas Melder, and George Rhymes. NAYS: Joella Wilson, Harry Graham, Emile Metoyer, Steven Harris. ABSENT: Carroll Daniels. The motion passed.

The board received information concerning the timber sale in Section Sixteen (16), Township Eleven North (11N), of Range Ten West (10W), containing 614.43 acres, more or less, of which NPSB owns 36.69%.

Under the Personnel report, Mr. Metoyer questioned the salary of the three new positions.

Mr. Wilson presented the board with the Executive Report.

On motion of Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Metoyer, the board unanimously approved the Natchitoches Parish Test Security Policy for 2015.

Mr. Skinner provided the board members with the qualification and names of five choices for Disciplinary Hearing Officers. On motion of Mr. Hilton and seconded by Mr. Melder, the board unanimously approved the following names: Jam Downs, Dennis Blunt, Rudy McIntyre, Ron Lewellyn and Joe Bleich.

On motion of Mr. Hilton and seconded by Mr. Daniels, the board unanimously approved the policies and procedures required by ACT 1 and ACT 570.

On Tuesday, Mr. Fred Teresa presented the board with information regarding the 2015 Natchitoches Christmas Festival and the 5th grade art contest for students in the parish. Mr. Wilson offered and Mr. Graham seconded approval for a joint resolution regarding the 5th grade art contest and participation in the Christmas Festival. The board unanimously approved the offer.

President Rhymes asked for volunteers from the board members to be on the Public Relations Committee. There were no volunteers. Mr. Rhymes appointed Mr. Wilson as Chairperson of the Public Relations Committee. Mr. Wilson accepted the position.

Superintendent informed the board that the Chief of Police assured him that the case of the stolen technology items is top priority and that they are doing all they can to recover the items. Mr. Wilson asked that this item remain on the agenda until such time that the items are recovered.

Ms. Anita Dubois presented the board with the 2015-2016 Pupil Progression Plan. On motion of Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Wilson, the board approved the 2015-2016 Pupil Progression Plan.

Superintendent Skinner presented the board with new guidelines for acceptable hair for students in Natchitoches Parish. On motion of Mr. Harris and seconded by Mr. Garner, the board unanimously approved the following hair guidelines: hair will be clean, combed and uncovered; facial hair will be clean, groomed and not distracting; no disruptive/distractive colors or hair styles will be worn (i.e. Mohawks, spikes, shaved head designs (a distractive color is any color other than a natural hair color, purple, green, blue, orange, pink; pullovers/sock/knit/watch caps are allowed in the outdoor setting only (no logos allowed); no other headgear is allowed unless for religious, medical or safety purposes; hairstyles may be further restricted when it pertains to the health and/or safety of students in specific subject areas or extracurricular activities.

Superintendent Skinner presented the board with new guidelines for acceptable uniform bottoms. On motion of Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Wilson, the board unanimously approved the following guidelines: back pockets are legal on uniform bottoms as long as there is no elaborate stitching or designs. All other dress code rules will remain enforced.

On motion of Mr. Metoyer and seconded by Mr. Danzy, the board went into executive session to discuss pending litigation. Mr. Hilton opposed. At 4:48 p.m. the board entered into executive session. At 4:54 p.m. and on motion of Mr. Hilton and seconded by Mr. Danzy the executive session concluded.

On motion of Mr. Hilton and seconded by Mr. Danzy the meeting was adjourned.

DALE SKINNER, SECRETARY-TREASURER

GEORGE RHYMES, PRESIDENT