

CLAIBORNE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

August 11, 2022

The Claiborne Parish School Board met in a regular session at the Homer High Cottage in Homer, Louisiana at six o'clock August 11, 2022 with the following members:

Present: Danny Lee, Yolanda Coleman, Dr. Robert Haynes, Linda Knox, William Maddox, Tommy Davidson, Shelley Malsam, Chris Chandler, Terry Willis

Absent: Norman Meadors

There was also present Mr. William Kennedy, Secretary of the Board.

Will Maddox, Board President, opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent Kennedy asked the Board to add two agenda items: (4a) – Request Permission to Bid for Camera Systems for all Campuses and (4b) – Request Permission to Bid for FM Systems for Elementary Campuses. Motion to add Item (4a) was made by Dr. Haynes, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Motion passed by a vote of 9 yes, 0 no. Motion to add Item (4b) was made by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion passed by a vote of 9 yes, 0 no.

Terry Willis, Board Member, requested to amend the August 2, 2022 minutes to reflect he would like to modify his vote to 'abstained' for Item #4 – Approve Memorandum of Understanding with Town of Homer (SRO). The amendment will be reflected in the August 2, 2022 minutes. The minutes of the Regular Meeting held July 14, 2022, and the Special Called Meeting held August 2nd, 2022, which had been emailed to the Board Members previously, were approved, with the amendment added.

Mr. Kennedy requested permission to bid for camera systems on all campuses. Motion to grant permission to bid was made by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Ms. Knox. Motion passed by a vote of 9 yes, 0 no.

Mr. Kennedy also requested permission to bid for FM systems for the elementary campuses. Ms. Prior, Special Education Supervisor, indicated they would benefit students and teachers. This would help students that may be auditory learners to hear the instruction being presented better, as well as allowing elementary students to hear the correct sounds being made by letters more clearly. The cameras and the FM systems would be purchased with ESSER funds. Motion to grant permission to bid was made by Mr. Willis, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Motion passed by a vote of 9 yes, 0 no.

It was requested in a Regular Called meeting and the Long-Range Planning Committee meeting that the district consider setting a retention goal for effective teachers. Superintendent Kennedy agrees and proposes the district set an annual goal of retaining 90% effective teachers. He realizes it may seem a high percentage, but believes it is attainable. The way this goal can be achieved is through specific initiatives that have been developed and are being implemented. Each initiative will be monitored throughout the year and at the end of the school year, we will be able to determine if the goal has been met. Additionally, an exit questionnaire will be developed that contains the most cited reasons for leaving. The teachers will be asked to share honestly their reasons for exiting. This information can then be used to guide in making adjustments to the factors the district is able to control. Ms. Malsam made a motion to set an annual retention goal of 90% effective teachers. Motion was seconded by Dr. Haynes. Motion passed by a vote of 9 yes, 0 no.

Superintendent Kennedy requested to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Haynesville to provide two (2) SROs at the Haynesville campuses. The rate will be \$27/hour for each with a maximum amount of \$35,000 per fiscal school year, per officer. Motion to approve was made by Ms. Knox, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion passed by a vote of 9 yes, 0 no.

Mr. Kennedy requested approval of the revised salary schedules. He explained to the Board the revision is a state-wide pay increase passed by the legislature. It will be in the amounts of \$1,500 for certified staff and \$750 for support staff. Normally, the pay increase will be reflected in the 14th check in May. There was discussion in regards to rather staff would prefer to receive in their monthly paychecks. Several teachers in attendance stated they prefer the total amount of the increase being paid in a lump sum amount in May. Motion to approve the revised salary schedules was made by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Dr. Haynes. Motion passed by a vote of 9 yes, 0 no.

Mrs. Heather Brooks, Haynesville Elementary Principal, was recently named the 2023 Louisiana Elementary Principal of the Year at the 16th Annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Awards Gala on July 30, 2022. In partnership with Dream Teachers and the Louisiana Association of Principals, the Louisiana Department of Education annually recognizes and celebrates the state's leading educators through Louisiana's Educator Awards Programs. Mrs. Brooks was distinguished with this award out of more than 1,500 schools in 70 districts. Superintendent Kennedy congratulated and praised Mrs. Brooks on this outstanding accomplishment. Mrs. Brooks was presented with a glass plaque and flowers on behalf of the Claiborne Parish School Board, and surprised with a slideshow presentation with celebratory 'well-wishes' and 'congratulations', from her students, staff, and mentors. Mrs. Brooks thanked and acknowledged her staff for their dedication to the students and attributed her success as a principal in large part to them. She shared her goal is to make learning fun for her students and the workplace a fun environment for her staff. In her two years as principal, she has led staff and students through challenging times and excelled. During her administration through 2020-2021, she was able to guide teachers in providing effective instruction to classroom and virtual students. Mrs. Brooks reminds students, daily, of their importance and worth. She asked the Board to always invest in our teachers, because ultimately, they are the ones that can change lives.

Superintendent Kennedy invited everyone to attend a reception celebrating Mrs. Brooks immediately following the board meeting.

Superintendent's Report:

I. To be Hired:

a. Certified Teaching or Administrative Positions

Name	Position	Effective	Replacing
Jordan Bostick-Summ	Teacher	8-1-22	Julia Rockett
Jose Calles-Homer	Counselor	8-1-22	New Position
Casandra Davis-Homer El	Teacher	8-1-22	LTS
Tyrone Davis- Homer High	Teacher	8-1-22	Noah Higdon
Shanda Gann- Homer El	Teacher	8-1-22	Laura Gryder
Bridgette Gray- Summ	Teacher	8-1-22	Ashley Martin
Felicia Harris- Homer Jr	Teacher	8-1-22	Alex Feaster
Katie Hoolan-Summ	Teacher	8-1-22	Thomas McRae
Deaquanita Jackson-Homer Jr	Teacher	8-1-22	Allison Legendre
Shonora Johnson-Homer Jr	Teacher	8-1-22	Shae Black
Vevelyn Johnson- Homer	Counselor	8-1-22	New Position
Jessica Johnston- Summ	Teacher	8-1-22	Haley Aycock
Tina Jones-SPED	Occ. Therapist	8-1-22	Elizabeth McBride
Consuella Lockhart-Ho High	Teacher	8-1-22	Lisa Owens
Marilyn Martin-Homer El	Teacher	8-1-22	Tierney Turner
Debra Morgan-Homer High	Teacher	8-1-22	Kim Beavers
Jennifer ODonnell-Homer Jr	Teacher	8-1-22	Cheyenne Higdon
Amanda Reed-Homer El	Teacher	8-1-22	Carol Odom
Dierdre Richardson-Ho High	Teacher	8-1-22	Brendan Robinson
Dusty Roberts-Hay Jr/Sr	Teacher	8-1-22	Stephanie Gray
Nettie Russell-Summ	Counselor	7-1-22	Joy Dean
Sandra Singleton-Summ	Teacher	8-1-22	Craig Kelley
Kayla Skrokov-Homer El	Teacher	8-1-22	Barbara Kemp
Miranda Tapp-Summ	Teacher	8-1-22	Jennifer Ramsay

Mary Taylor-Homer El	Teacher	8-1-22	LTS
Riley Jo Taylor-Hay El	Teacher	8-1-22	Tinique Beene
Matthew Ward-Summ	Teacher	8-1-22	Greg Scriber
Sharon Warren-Homer El	Teacher	8-1-22	Mark Bahr
Sarah Williams-Summ	Teacher	8-1-22	Melinda Campbell
Adrienne Willis-Homer El	Teacher	8-1-22	Ashley Wafer
Khadejah Willis-Homer Jr	Teacher	8-1-22	Robin Wendt
Brenda Worthan-Homer El	Teacher	8-1-22	Lori Lewis
Dustin Danzie-Homer High	Teacher	8-1-22	Sarah Hilton
Sovella Thompson-Hay El	Teacher	8-1-22	Felicia Buffett
Carla Ellis- Homer El	Teacher	8-1-22	Twana Staten

b. Classified, Support, Bus Drivers or Other Non-Certificated Positions

Name	Position	Effective	Replacing
Vanita Caldwell	Bus Driver	8-1-22	Glen Guin
Carolyn Harris	Bus Driver	8-1-22	Ricky Smith
Quincy Kennedy	Custodian	7-21-22	Gerome Cooper
Jody McClure	Para	8-1-22	Stephanie Walker
Jessica O'Donnel	Para	8-1-22	Misty Nail
Emerald Rummel	Para	8-1-22	Valinda Webb
Vickie Shelton	Para	8-1-22	Alean Jones
Hannah Tinsley	Para	8-1-22	ESSR
Jennifer Andrews	Para	8-1-22	CS
Tracy Verdin	Para	8-1-22	Mallory Gray

II. Resignations, Retirements:

Name	Position	Effective	Reason
Lisa Owens-Homer High	Teacher	7-20-22	Resigned
Mark Bahr-Homer High	Teacher	7-28-22	Resigned

III. Transfers:

Name	Position	Effective	Reason

2. Reminder to board members - Disclosure Forms are due 30 days from the first day of school. These apply if you have immediate family employed within the district.
3. A very nice thank-you card was received from Vince Ory and Beverly Smith thanking the Board for giving Mt. Olive Rosenwald School project the time and attention to allow a legal and equitable path for the transfer of property to the Mt. Olive Baptist Church.
4. The telemedicine equipment is now in place on our campuses. If a parent 'opts in' for their child, the telemedicine services are available to them virtually.
5. Ms. Terri Fedrick, Business Manager, has once again received the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting award. This certificate is the highest form of recognition for excellence in state and local government in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

William Maddox, President
Claiborne Parish School Board

ATTEST:

Mr. William Kennedy, Secretary
Claiborne Parish School Board