

DATE, TIME, PLACE OF MEETING

The Calcasieu Parish School Board met in the Board Room of the Calcasieu Parish School Board, located at 3310 Broad Street, Lake Charles, Louisiana, 70615, on Tuesday, January 21, 2014, at 4:45 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Annette Ballard, President. The prayer was led by Randy Burleigh; the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mack Dellafosse.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Superintendent Savoy and the following members were present: Joe Andrepont, Annette Ballard, Billy Breaux, Randy Burleigh, Mack Dellafosse, Clara Duhon, Chad Guidry, Fred Hardy, Bill Jongbloed, Jim Karr, Bryan LaRocque, Jim Schooler, Roman Thompson, and R. L. Webb.

Mr. Bernard was absent.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Budget Committee, December 17, 2013

At the meeting, Mrs. Ballard recognized elected officials in the audience.

2013 Vice Chair, Joe Andrepont, gave the following report:

The Calcasieu Parish School Board Budget/Fiscal Management Committee met at 4:45 p.m., Tuesday, December 17, 2013 in the Board Room, 3310 Broad Street, Lake Charles, Louisiana. A quorum was present.

Present: - Annette Ballard, Chairman, Joe Andrepont - Vice Chairman, committee members, Billy Breaux, Randy Burleigh, Mack Dellafosse, Clara Duhon, Chad Guidry, Fred Hardy, Bill Jongbloed, James Karr and Secretary, Karl Bruchhaus. Other Board members present were Dale Bernard, Bryan LaRocque, Jim Schooler, Roman Thompson, and R. L. Webb.

Ms. Ballard called the meeting to order.

Mr. Bruchhaus presented the first item on agenda, the 2014-2015 General Fund Budget Revised Outlook. With additional property tax growth of \$1,304,299 for the current year and other anticipated tax growth, the revised estimated 2014-2015 shortfall would be at approximately \$10,000,000.

Staff recommendations for 2014-2015 reductions for board approval were:

Para-Professional position	35 @ \$22, 720 with benefits	\$795,220
Testing Line Item Reductions	Terra-Nova & STAR Duplicate Processes	\$225,000
Athletic/School Activity Ins.	Committee of administrators meeting to craft plan within new budget - current budget \$600,000	\$300,000
Maintenance Line Item Reductions	Will focus on repairs only with with few new projects	\$500,000
Director of School Improvement	Retirement - not filled - with benefits	\$115,000
	Subtotal	<hr/> \$1,935,220

On motion by Mr. Webb, seconded by Mr. Karr, and approved, recommendations of staff were approved as presented.

Blue card:

Mike Oakley, regarding staffing formulas

On behalf of the committee, Mr. Andrepont made a motion to accept the staff recommendations. A second was not needed and on a vote, the motion carried.

Other possible reductions were reviewed and considered by the board individually.

The first potential school consolidation discussed was Reynaud Middle to Molo Middle and schools of choice with an anticipated savings of \$1,496,195.

A motion by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to defer the discussion of consolidating Reynaud to Molo Middle with schools of choice, failed with a roll call vote of 12 to 3. Those opposed were Ms. Ballard, Mr. Andrepont, Mr. Breaux, Mr. Dellafosse, Mr. Guidry, Mr. Jongbloed, Mr. Karr, Mr. Schooler, Mr. Bernard, Mr. Burleigh, Mr. LaRocque, and Mr. Webb. Those in favor were Mrs. Duhon, Mr. Hardy, and Mr. Thompson.

On motion by Mr. Burleigh, seconded by Mr. Webb and approved, it was recommended that staff move forward with the consolidation of Reynaud to Molo Middle and schools of choice. A roll call vote was called and those in favor were Ms. Ballard, Mr. Andrepont, Mr. Breaux, Mr. Dellafosse, Mr. Guidry, Mr. Jongbloed, Mr. Karr, Mr. Schooler, Mr. Bernard, Mr. Burleigh, Mr. LaRocque, and Mr. Webb. Those opposed were Mrs. Duhon, Mr. Hardy, and Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Dellafosse asked that the minutes reflect that Reynaud students would consolidate with not only Molo Middle and schools of choice, but also Oak Park Middle School.

On behalf of the committee, Mr. Andrepont made a motion to approve the consolidation and the closure of Reynaud Middle School. A second was not needed.

Blue cards:

**Wendy Robinson, yielded to Ms. Nichols
Cherie Nichols, in favor of Reynaud not closing and asking for a phasing out program**

Mrs. Duhon made a substitute motion to consider phasing out Reynaud over a matter of two years; Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. The motion failed on a vote.

On a roll call vote for the original motion:

For: Mr. Andrepont, Mrs. Ballard, Mr. Breaux, Mr. Burleigh, Mr. Dellafosse, Mr. Guidry, Mr. Jongbloed, Mr. Karr, Mr. LaRocque, Mr. Schooler, Mr. Webb

Against: Mrs. Duhon, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Thompson

The original motion carried.

The next school discussed for consolidation was T. H. Watkins with a potential savings of \$944,200.

The following submitted a blue card to address the Board concerning why T. H. Watkins should not be consolidated:

Kay Victorian, Principal, T. H. Watkins

Phyllis Godfrey, Assistant Principal, T. H. Watkins

Kacie Pugh, Curriculum Coordinator, T. H. Watkins

Ashley Johnson, Instructional Coach, T. H. Watkins

Teneisha Wright, Parent of student at T. H. Watkins
Mary Guidry, Teacher, T. H. Watkins
Ida Aucoin, Retired Teacher, T. H. Watkins
Shalanda Prince, Parent of student at T. H. Watkins

On motion by Mr. Dellafosse, seconded by Mr. Thompson and approved, it was recommended that staff remove T. H. Watkins from consideration for consolidation. On roll call vote, those voting in favor were Ms. Ballard, Mr. Andrepont, Mr. Dellafosse, Mrs. Duhon, Mr. Guidry, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Jongbloed, Mr. Schooler, Mr. Bernard, Mr. Burleigh, Mr. LaRocque, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. Webb. Those opposed were Mr. Breaux, and Mr. Karr.

Blue cards: (all in favor of not closing T.H. Watkins)

Kay Victorian

Ashley Johnson

Shalanda Prince

Ida Aucoin

Keli English

Teneisha Wright

Mr. Schooler called a question to cease discussion, as T.H. Watkins Elementary School had been removed from consideration for consolidation, as mentioned by Mr. Webb.

On behalf of the committee, Mr. Andrepont made a motion to accept the staff recommendation to remove T.H. Watkins from consideration for consolidation. A second was not needed and on a vote, the motion carried.

The last school discussed for consolidation was Ralph Wilson with a potential savings of \$836,851.

On motion by Mr. Breaux, seconded by Mr. Guidry and approved, it was recommended that staff move forward with the consolidation of Ralph Wilson to Clifton and Johnson Elementary. After a roll call vote, those voting in favor were Ms. Ballard, Mr. Andrepont, Mr. Breaux, Mr. Guidry, Mr. Jongbloed, Mr. Karr, Mr. Schooler, Mr. Bernard, Mr. Burleigh, Mr. LaRocque, and Mr. Webb. Those opposed were Mr. Dellafosse, Mrs. Duhon, Mr. Hardy, and Mr. Thompson.

On behalf of the committee, Mr. Andrepont made a motion to approve the recommendation to consolidate Ralph Wilson to Clifton and Johnson Elementary Schools. A second was not needed.

Mr. Dellafosse made a subsidiary motion to table the discussion of closing Ralph Wilson Elementary School; Mr. Hardy seconded the motion.

Mr. Belfour stated that it would be better to postpone the consideration of this item until a specific time, rather than table the item, with no specified time line and the need for it to come back to the board at the next meeting.

Mr. Dellafosse asked to postpone the discussion until November of 2014, with a second by Mr. Andrepont.

Several board members mentioned the outpouring of community interest and support at the meeting and the hope that it continues.

Blue Cards: (in favor of not closing Ralph Wilson Elementary School)

Natalye Orphey

Willie King

Damian Boudreaux

Betty Raglin

Joseph Lockwood

Nick Nicosia

Randy Thibodeaux (no blue card)

On a roll call vote to postpone until November:

For: Mr. Andrepont, Mrs. Ballard, Mr. Burleigh, Mr. Dellafosse, Mrs. Duhon, Mr. Guidry, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Breaux, Mr. Karr, Mr. LaRocque, Mr. Karr, Mr. Thompson

Against: Mr. Breaux, Mr. Webb

The next item discussed was a staggered bell schedule which would reduce up to 20 buses with a cost savings of \$700,000.

On motion by Mr. Dellafosse, seconded by Mr. Guidry and approved, it was recommended that a study be performed on the feasibility of a staggered bell schedule.

On behalf of the committee, Mr. Andrepont made a motion to approve. A second was not needed and on a vote, the motion carried.

Potential teacher reductions were then discussed as a possible method of obtaining the balance of necessary reductions. The use of staffing formulas could result in a cost savings of \$55,500 per position including benefits.

Terri Johnson, CFT, submitted a Blue card opposed to teacher reductions.

On motion by Mr. Webb seconded by Mr. LaRocque and approved, it was recommended to draft staffing formulas for teacher reductions.

On behalf of the committee, Mr. Andrepont made a motion to approve. A second was not needed.

Mr. Burleigh made a substitute motion to not move forward now regarding teacher reductions until a full staffing formula is presented. Mr. Andrepont seconded the motion. On a vote, the motion carried.

Mrs. Duhon left the meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Webb, seconded by Mr. Breaux, recommending a study on consolidating Kennedy Elementary.

An amendment to the motion was made by Mr. Dellafosse, seconded by Mr. Thompson to add a study to consolidate Vinton Middle to Vinton Elementary and Vinton High School. After much discussion, Mr. Dellafosse rescinded his motion.

The original motion that a study be conducted on consolidating Kennedy Elementary was then voted on. The motion passed by hand vote 10 to 4. Those in favor were Ms. Ballard, Mr. Breaux, Mr. Guidry, Mr. Jongbloed, Mr. Karr, Mr. Schooler, Mr. Bernard, Mr. Burleigh, Mr. LaRocque, and Mr. Webb. Those opposed were Mr. Andrepont, Mr. Dellafosse, Mr. Hardy, and Mr. Thompson.

On behalf of the committee, Mr. Andrepont made a motion to approve the recommendation for a study regarding the consolidating of John F. Kennedy Elementary School. A second was not needed.

Mr. Webb, with a second by Mrs. Duhon, made a motion to amend the original motion and address a study on the consolidation of John F. Kennedy Elementary School, along with Ralph Wilson Elementary School, in November of 2014.

Blue cards: (in favor of John F. Kennedy Elementary School)

**Dr. Dinah Robinson
Phyllis Cole
Braylon Harris
Brent Guillory
Verlia McDonald
Sean Papillion (no blue card)**

Mr. Hardy made a motion to rescind the amended motion made by Mr. Webb. Mr. Belfour stated that a motion could not be rescinded until it is voted on.

Mr. Dellafosse clarified what the study would consist of, regarding the number and cost involved of:

Regular teachers
Regular aides
Special teachers
Special teachers, aides combination
Special teachers inclusion
Special teachers work program
Gifted teachers, talented teachers
Special teachers, aides Pre-K
Librarian
Social Workers
Clerical
Interns
Custodians
Cafeteria
Counselors
Foreign language
Principal

On a roll call vote for the amended motion to delay the study until November:

For: Mrs. Ballard, Mr. Dellafosse, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Duhon, Mr. Webb, Mr. Guidry, Mr. Karr, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Schooler

Against: Mr. Andrepont, Mr. Breaux, Mr. Burleigh, Mr. Jongbloed, Mr. LaRocque

The motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Dellafosse, seconded by Mr. Thompson, a study to review consolidating Vinton schools failed by an 11 to 3 vote. Those opposed were Ms. Ballard, Mr. Andrepont, Mr. Breaux, Mr. Guidry, Mr. Jongbloed, Mr. Karr, Mr. Schooler, Mr. Bernard, Mr. Burleigh, Mr. LaRocque, and Mr. Webb. Those in favor were Mr. Dellafosse, Mr. Hardy, and Mr. Thompson.

The next item presented for approval was school audits. Mr. Wayne Foster, Director of Internal Auditing, advised the committee that there were significant deficiencies noted for Westlake High School which resulted in the school receiving an overall audit grade of 'Unsatisfactory'. A significant deficiency (exception), as defined by the Index to Individual Findings Ratings, is as follows: Significant exception to regulation, internal controls, school policies and procedures and/or prudent business practices was noted, which could or would likely result in fines, penalties, a loss of funds and/or exposure of school assets. Mr. Foster recommended that the audits for the following schools be approved: Barbe Elementary, DeQuincy High School, Sam Houston High School, E. K. Key Elementary, LaGrange High School Moss Bluff Elementary School and Extended Day Program, and Cypress Cove Elementary Extended Day Program.

On motion by Mr. Webb seconded by Mr. Karr and approved, it was recommended that the school audits be approved as presented.

On behalf of the committee, Mr. Andrepont made a motion to approve. A second was not needed and on a vote, the motion carried.

The last item presented was the revision of policy DFL – Cash Management and Investments. The investment objective concerning safety of principal was revised to include “investment grade debt issued by the state of Louisiana or any of its political subdivisions, and investment grade bonds, debentures, notes, or other indebtedness issued by a state of the United States of America other than Louisiana or any such state’s political subdivisions.” “Municipal Debt at the time of purchase, must have a minimum rating of A 3 or higher by Moody’s Investor Service, a rating of A- or higher by the Standard and Poor Cooperation or a rating of A- or higher by Fitch, Inc.” was added to the quality control guidelines.

On motion by Mr. Andrepont seconded by Mr. Bernard and approved, it was recommended that the DFL policy revision be approved as presented.

On behalf of the committee, Mr. Andrepont made a motion to approve. A second was not needed and on a vote, the motion carried.

Several Board Members had requests for staff which included:

Mr. Jongbloed requested additional options for budget cuts.

Mr. Schooler requested a study on the cost of busing out of zone students to south Lake Charles schools.

Mr. Hardy requested a review of all schools considering the minimum enrollment standards.

Mr. Dellafosse requested a building to student/adult occupancy ratio for Positive Connections, and D. S. Perkins. He asked about possible plans for vacant buildings.

Mr. Andrepont requested that vacant buildings not occupied by staff be leased with an out clause rather than sold in case the buildings were needed for future use. He also requested a study on funding of school personnel trips and the benefit to the school. Lastly, Mr. Andrepont requested the balance in each school's bank account and wants to make sure the money earned by students was benefiting the students.

There being no further business to discuss, on motion by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Mr. Burleigh, the committee adjourned the meeting at 7:21p.m.

SCHEDULE COMMITTEES

Mrs. Ballard gave information to each board member, regarding the superintendent search and the search committee.

- Board Meeting..... Tuesday, February 11, 2014, 4:45 p.m.

On a motion to adjourn by Mr. Dellafosse and a second by Mr. Breaux, the meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Annette Ballard, President

Wayne Savoy, Secretary