

The Parish School Board of the Parish of West Carroll, State of Louisiana, met in a public meeting at its regular meeting place, the West Carroll Parish Media Auditorium, in Oak Grove, Louisiana, Monday, November 1, 2021 at 5:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: James C. Burrell, Marilyn Haley, Tracey Rios, and Shane Ray

MEMBERS ABSENT: Julie Linson, Cullen Kovac, and Todd Smith

James C. Burrell gave the Invocation.

The public meeting was called to order by President, Marilyn Haley.

Todd Smith arrived at 5:10 p.m.

Dough Mitchell of North Delta Regional Planning and Development District provided potential Census redistricting maps for consideration by the board and stakeholders. Options discussed by the Board. The public meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the West Carroll Parish School Board was called to order by President Marilyn Haley at 6:30 p.m.

Todd Smith gave the Invocation

MEMBERS PRESENT: James C. Burrell, Marilyn Haley, Tracey Rios, Cullen Kovac, Todd Smith, and Shane Ray

MEMBERS ABSENT: Julie Linson

Agenda Item #1 To approve the minutes of the October 4, 2021, Regular School Board meeting.

On the motion of James C. Burrell, seconded by Cullen Kovac, **the Board approved agenda item #1**

Agenda Item #2 To receive the September 2021 financial report.

Item discussed. No action taken.

Agenda Item #3 To adopt a redistricting plan for the West Carroll Parish School Board based on data generated by the 2020 United States Census.

On the motion of James C. Burrell, seconded by Shane Ray, **the Board tabled the adoption of a redistricting plan until next board meeting.**

Agenda Item #4 To recognize the 2023 West Carroll Parish Schools teachers and principal of the year:

- i. 2023 Elementary Teacher of the Year: Amberly Smith;
- ii. 2023 Middle School Teacher of the Year: Tara Hurley;
- iii. 2023 High School Teacher of the Year: Shenequa Williams;
- iv. 2023 Principal of the Year: John Robert Warner.

Plaques presented by secondary supervisor, Trent Heard, to each winner. No action taken.

Agenda Item #5 To renew its employment of Hammonds, Sills, Adkins Guice, Noah & Perkins, LLP (formerly Hammonds & Sills) as special counsel.

On the motion of Cullen Kovac, seconded by Todd Smith, **the Board approved agenda item #5.**

Agenda Item #6 To approve an hourly rate payable to Hammonds, Sills, Adkins Guice, Noah & Perkins, LLP (formerly Hammonds & Sills) equal to the maximum hourly fee for special counsel published by the Attorney General for the State of Louisiana, currently \$125 to \$225 per hour for attorneys and \$75 per hour for paralegal work, 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 that result from legal services for the West Carroll Parish School Board.

On the motion of Tracey Rios, seconded by Todd Smith, **the Board approved agenda item #6.**

Agenda Item #7 To consider accepting bids on 9 used buses that were below the minimum advertised bids but higher than projected salvage rates.

On the motion of Tracey Rios, seconded by James C, Burrell, **the board reviewed two options, one consolidated and one combination bid. The Board approved the combined bids of Tammy Hartley, Darrin Knowles, and Mike Jones which totaled \$7400.00.**

Agenda Item #8 To consider accepting bids on kitchen equipment that was below the minimum advertised bids but higher than projected salvage rates.

On the motion of Cullen Kovac, seconded by Todd Smith, **the board approved agenda item #8.**

Agenda Item #8b To consider accepting offer from Mike Jones on kitchen equipment.

On the motion of Todd Smith, seconded by Tracey Rios, **the board approved agenda item #8b.**

Agenda Item #9 To consider offering 4 operational, tilting skillets for surplus sale.

On the motion of Tracey Rios, seconded by Todd Smith, **the board approved agenda item #9.**

Agenda Item #10 To approve lifting the mask mandate and enforcing the LDH quarantine guidance, in accordance with guidance from Governor John Bel Edwards, in the offices/schools of the West Carroll Parish School Board.

On the motion of Shane Ray, seconded by Tracey Rios, **the board approved agenda item #10.**

Agenda Item #11 To adopt policy revisions to keep the West Carroll Parish School Board in compliance with revised federal and state laws.

- i. **File BH – School Board Ethics** – allows family members of school board members to be hired as bus drivers.

On the motion of Todd Smith, seconded by Shane Ray, **the board approved policy BH.**

- ii. **File EBBC – Emergency/Crisis Management Drills** – includes detailed descriptions and plans that align to state law/removes escape route details and schedules.

On the motion of Todd Smith, seconded by James C. Burrell, **the board approved policy EBBC.**

- iii. **File EBCB – Video Monitoring of School Board Property** – details the installation and operation of cameras on school property, provides information about the storage of video footage, and limits access to recordings.

On the motion of Todd Smith, seconded by Tracey Rios, **the board approved policy EBCB.**

- iv. **File EBCB-P—Video Surveillance Procedures**—Provides definitions, authority, control and security permissions, use of information, student privacy, and the process for requesting the right to view recordings.

On the motion of Cullen Kovac, seconded by Todd Smith, **the board approved policy EBCB-P.**

- v. **File GAAA—Equal Opportunity Employment**—Includes additional nondiscrimination language, employee responsibilities, and guidance for the investigation of complaints.

On the motion of Shane Ray, seconded by Tracey Rios, **the board approved policy GAAA.**

- vi. **File GAE—Complaints and Grievances (non-Title IX)**—Removes sexual harassment claims and includes more detailed definitions;

On the motion of Todd Smith, seconded by Tracey Rios, **the board approved policy GAE.**

- vii. **File GAEAA—Title VII Employee Sexual Harassment**—Defines sexual harassment *in the workplace* and includes reporting and investigation procedures as well as training requirements aligned to state law.

On the motion of Shane Ray, seconded by Tracey Rios, **the board approved policy GAEAA.**

- viii. **File GAMC—Investigations**—Aligns investigation policy to state law, removes board activity, provides procedures and assurance of confidentiality.

On the motion of Tracey Rios, seconded by James C. Burrell, **the board approved policy GAMC.**

- ix. **File ID—Curriculum**—Provides an updated timeline and includes parents in the development and revision of students' Individual Graduation Plans.

On the motion of Tracey Rios, seconded by Todd Smith, **the board approved policy ID.**

- x. **File IDCC—Kindergarten**—Provides Kindergarten for each child who turns 5 years old on or before September 30th.

On the motion of Todd Smith, seconded by Shane Ray, **the board approved policy IDCC.**

- xi. **File IDDF—Education of Students with Exceptionalities**—Revises the definition of physical restraint and requires the posting of Seclusion and Restraint Guidelines approved by BESE on the district website.

On the motion of Tracey Rios, seconded by Todd Smith, **the board approved policy IDDF.**

- xii. **File IDDFC—Cameras in Special Education Classroom**—New policy based on new state law—Provides guidelines for parents of special education students who want to have cameras placed in the classrooms and training/student privacy information for schools.

On the motion of Tracey Rios, seconded by Shane Ray, **the board approved policy IDDFC.**

- xiii. **File JAAA—Title IX Sexual Harassment**—This is a new policy that is required by state law—Defines sexual harassment *in educational activities and organizations that receive federal funds* and includes reporting and investigation procedures as well as training requirements aligned to state law.

On the motion of Todd Smith, seconded James C. Burrell, **the board approved policy JAAA.**

- xiv. **File JBA—Compulsory School Attendance Ages**—Shifts the age from 7 to 5, based on the requirement that all students attend kindergarten, beginning in the 2022-2023 school year.

On the motion of Todd Smith, seconded Shane Ray, **the board approved policy JBA.**

- xv. **File JBC—School Admission**—Provides for remote enrollment of students in military families.

On the motion of Cullen Kovac, seconded by Tracey Rios, **the board approved policy JBC.**

- xvi. **File JBCE—Public School Choice**—Allows students who are enrolled in schools that receive a letter grade of D or F to transfer to higher achieving schools provided the receiving school has the capacity to provide for their education.

On the motion of Tracey Rios, seconded by Todd Smith, **the board approved policy JBCE.**

- xvii. **File JCEA—Sexually Related Student Misconduct (previously Student Sexual Harassment)**—Disapproves of sexual misconduct and provides coverage, complaint and investigation procedures.

On the motion of Todd Smith, seconded by James C. Burrell, **the board approved policy JCEA.**

- xviii. **File JDA—Corporal Punishment**—prohibits the use of corporal punishment for students with exceptionalities (excluding gifted and talented students).

On the motion of Todd Smith, seconded by Shane Ray, **the board approved policy JDA.**

- xix. **File JR—Student Privacy and Education Records**—Includes race and ethnicity as a protected domain, adds the Board of Regents as an approved recipient of student information, and details expectations for parental notification.

On the motion of Tracey Rios, seconded by Todd Smith, **the board approved policy JR.**

Agenda Item #12 To receive comments not exceeding 3 minutes from Colin Miley, a student at Forest High School, about centralization of power in the school system.

No action taken.

Agenda Item #13 To begin the 2020-2021 evaluation of the superintendent.

Handouts given. No action taken.

Agenda Item #14 To receive information concerning resignations, leaves, contracts, and transfers.

Contract: Chance Yates, 12-month janitor at OGE.

On the motion of Cullen Kovac, seconded by James C. Burrell, **the meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.**

Marilyn Haley, President
West Carroll Parish School Board

Christy Boyte, Secretary
West Carroll Parish School Board