

The Finance Committee 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, August 5, 2024, at 6:15 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shane Ray, Laura Perkins, and Todd Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Invocation by Shane Ray. The regular meeting of the West Carroll Parish School Board was called to order by Finance Committee Chair, Todd Smith, at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Item #1 To approve the agenda.

On the motion of Shane Ray, seconded by Laura Perkins, **the Board approved agenda item #1. The motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item #2 To review the quarterly financial report for the months of April through June 2024, including budget-to-actual comparisons.

Report presented by business manager, Angela Johnson.

Agenda Item #3 To consider approving the payment of stipends of \$2,000 for all certified employees and \$1,000 for all support staff as approved in the 2024 legislative session.

On the motion of Shane Ray, seconded by Laura Perkins, **the Board approved agenda item #3. The motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item #4 To consider the option to match stipends in the amount of \$2,000 for all certified employees and \$1,000 for all support staff using sales tax funds.

On the motion of Shane Ray, seconded by Laura Perkins, **the Board approved agenda item #4. The motion passed unanimously.**

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, August 5, 2024, at 6:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shane Ray, Cullen Kovac, Laura Perkins, Todd Smith, Charles Townsend, and Johnny Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: Truman Smith (arrived @ 6:53 p.m.)

Invocation by Cullen Kovac. The regular meeting of the West Carroll Parish School Board was called to order by President, Laura Perkins, at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Item #1 To approve the agenda.

On the motion of Cullen Kovac, seconded by Todd Smith, **the Board approved agenda item #1. The motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item #2 To observe a moment of silence in remembrance of Mikel “Mike” Hudolin, West Carroll Parish School Board member from January 1995 to February 2003.

Agenda Item #3 To approve the minutes of the July 8, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.

On the motion of Todd Smith, seconded by Johnny Smith, **the Board approved agenda item #3. The motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item #4 To receive the June 2024 monthly financial report, including budget-to-actual comparisons.

Report presented by business manager, Angela Johnson.

Agenda Item #5 To receive an update on audit findings from the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2023.

Report presented by business manager, Angela Johnson.

Agenda Item #6 To change the date of the September Board Meeting to September 12, 2024.

On the motion of Cullen Kovac, seconded by Shane Ray, **the Board approved agenda item #6. The motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item #7 To approve changes to the West Carroll parish Pupil Progression Plan as recommended by the Pupil Progression Committee.

On the motion of Todd Smith, seconded by Truman Smith, **the Board approved agenda item #7. The motion was opposed by Shane Ray; Cullen Kovac abstained from voting.**

Agenda Item #8 To approve the following policy revisions which were proposed by Forethought after the 2024 legislative session and approved Board special counsel.

1. Policy EB: Building and Grounds Management—Adds marijuana to the list of products to be prohibited on all district grounds, in all district vehicles, and at all school-sponsored functions and events,
2. Policy GAMA: Employee Smoking, Tobacco, and Marijuana Use—Adds marijuana to the list of products to be prohibited on all district grounds, in all district vehicles, and at all school-sponsored functions and events,

3. Policy IDCH: Home Study Program—Allows qualifying students enrolled in an approved home study program to try out for athletics and/or participate in extracurricular activities in the attendance zone in which they live,
4. Policy IDE: Co-curricular Activities and Extracurricular Activities—Prohibits the public school system from disqualifying students from participating in extracurricular activities solely on the basis of their enrollment in an approved home study program,
5. Policy IDFA: Interscholastic Athletics—Prohibits the public school system from disqualifying students who live in appropriate attendance zones from participating in interscholastic athletics solely on the basis of their enrollment in an approved home study program,
6. Policy JBE: Truancy—Places additional responsibility on parents and legal guardians to make sure absent/truant students make up missed schoolwork,
7. Policy JCDA: Student Smoking, Tobacco, and Marijuana Use—Adds “marijuana in any form” to the list of products prohibited on all district grounds, in all vehicles, and at all school-sponsored functions and events,
8. Policy JCDAE: Student Electronic Telecommunication Devices—Requires student devices be turned off and properly stowed away for the instructional day or prohibited from being turned on during the instructional day,
9. Policy JD: Discipline—Prohibits school administrators from discouraging or disallowing teachers to take disciplinary action and prohibits retaliation against teachers who take disciplinary action in accordance with Board policy,
10. Policy JDD: Suspension—Requires a determination of the need for behavioral or mental health support after the second suspension of any student; mandates an expulsion recommendation for students in grades 6–12 on the third suspension in the same school year for offenses not related to dress code or tardiness,
11. Policy JDE: Expulsion—Increases the time of expulsion to four semesters for students in grades 6–12 carrying a knife with a blade of at least 2.5 inches in length; authorizes but does not require recommendations for expulsion of students in grades Pk–5 carrying a knife with a blade of at least 2.5 inches in length; and authorizes but does not require recommendations of expulsion for students in grades 6–12 found in possession of tobacco, alcohol, and vaping products on school property,
12. Policy JGCE: Child Abuse—Adds school resource officers (SROs) to the list of mandatory reporters of child abuse and neglect, removes SROs as recipients of child abuse reports; specifies the process for reporting suspected child abuse and neglect.

On the motion of Cullen Kovac, seconded by Truman Smith, **the Board approved agenda item #8. The motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item #9 To approve the recommendations of the finance committee on the following items:

- a. To consider approving the payment of stipends of \$2,000 for all certified employees and \$1,000 for all support staff as approved in the 2024 legislative session, and
- b. To consider the option to match stipends in the amount of \$2,000 for all certified employees and \$1,000 for all support staff in using sales tax funds.

On the motion of Cullen Kovac, seconded by Todd Smith, **the Board approved agenda item #9. The motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item #10 To receive the monthly maintenance report and an update on projects.

Report presented by maintenance supervisor, Larry Boyte.

Agenda Item #11 To receive the monthly personnel report.

Cullen Kovac announced his Board resignation and recommended Raymond Desselle as interim board member for District 6.

On the motion of Shane Ray, seconded by Todd Smith, **the Board accepted the recommendation of Raymond Desselle as interim District 6 board member. The motion was opposed by Johnny Smith and Charles Townsend; Laura Perkins abstained from voting.**

On the motion of Cullen Kovac, seconded by Shane Ray, **the meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M. The motion passed unanimously.**

Laura Perkins, President
West Carroll Parish School Board

Christy Boyte, Secretary
West Carroll Parish School Board