

TANGIPAHOA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD PROCEEDINGS

February 3, 2009

The Tangipahoa Parish School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Central Office Board room, 59656 Puleston Road, Amite, Louisiana, with President Danny Ridgel presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Al Link, Leonard Genco, Robert Potts, Sonya Traylor
Eric Dangerfield, Rose Dominguez, Danny Ridgel and
Ann Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sandra Bailey-Simmons

Amanda Sistrunk, student, Champ Cooper Elementary School, led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Champ Cooper Elementary Band played "Beginning Band Greatest Hits" and the Choir sang "America's Song."

President Ridgel announced that Ms. Bailey-Simmons was in Washington, DC attending the 2009 FRN Conference.

Representative John Bel Edwards addressed the Board regarding the decision for state assistance with the school fire at St. Helena Central High School, but not for Kentwood High School. He also mentioned the uncertain impact the state's financial shortfall will have on the educational systems.

It was moved by Mr. Link, seconded by Ms. Dominguez, to amend the agenda by adding an item. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

It was moved by Mr. Link, seconded by Mr. Genco, to add an Addendum to the Superintendent's Reports and/or Recommendations, 6 C and D. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Ms. Dominguez, to approve the Board minutes of January 20, 2009 as distributed. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

It was unanimously moved to accept the Committee and Delegation Reports contained on the agenda. The approved reports are as follows:

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT – JANUARY 20, 2009

1. Chief Academic Officer Melissa Stilley gave an overview of progress on the high priority/high needs schools.
2. Chief Academic Officer Stilley gave an update on the progress of the District plan to increase graduation rates.
3. Ms. Keri Wickam, LA4 Coordinator, presented three (3) options for the Continuation/Expansion Application for the 2009-10 LA4 Pre-K Program

for Loranger Elementary. It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Mr. Link, to approve Option 2, which continues the two (2) LA4 classes at the Central Tangi Head Start with Independence Elementary being the collaborative partner. Students from the Independence area will be given priority and bus transportation will be provided; however, eligible students from the Loranger area could attend if space is available. Loranger will continue having one (1) Title I Pre-K class on campus as in previous years and two additional classes will be applied for through the Expansion Grant, contingent on state funding and available space. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT – JANUARY 27, 2009

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Ms. Dominguez, to approve the items contained in the Agenda. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

It was moved by Mr. Ridgel, seconded by Ms. Dominguez, to accept the resignation of Mark Catalanotto as the Head Football Coach at Sumner High School, approve his transfer into a teaching position, and to approve the advertisement of the position of Head Football Coach at Sumner High School. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

TEACHER – NEW HIRE

Cynthia Foster, Teacher – Northwood High (place of Emma McCoy-Wilson – retired) January 5, 2009, TAT
Mary Loving, Teacher – Hammond Eastside Upper (place of Lonita Smith- leave) January 7, 2009, TAT
Steven Chalmers, Band Teacher – Kentwood High (vacancy) January 5, 2009
Mary Terrell, Teacher – Hammond Westside Upper (place of Judith Dunomes – leave) January 12, 2009
Bonnie Falcon, Teacher – Champ Cooper Elementary (place of Cyndi Burchfield – leave) January 5, 2009, Substitute
Bridgett Landrews, Teacher – Kentwood High (place of Jeffrey Schiro – leave) January 5, 2009, TAT

TEACHER – REHIRE/RECLASSIFICATION

Kathy LaMarca, From: Librarian – Loranger High, To: Teacher – Loranger High (place of Corey Martin – leave) January 5, 2009, Substitute

TEACHER – TRANSFER/RECLASSIFICATION

Emily Garaudy, From: Child Specific Para – Perrin ELC, To: Speech Therapist – Loranger Middle (place of Jolene Hugent – leave) January 28, 2009, Substitute

SUPPORT PERSONNEL – NEW HIRE

Bertha Harris, Para – Special Education (place of Turnisha Smith – transferred)
January 6, 2009
Hillary Clayton, Custodian 9 mo 8 hr – Ponchatoula High (place of Phillip Brown
– transferred)

SUPPORT PERSONNEL – RECLASSIFICATION

Marie Scioneaux, From: SpEd Para – Loranger Elementary, To: Child Specific
Para – Loranger Elementary (place of Debbie Pierce –reclassified) January 12,
2009
Debbie Pierce, From: Child Specific Para – Loranger Elementary, To: SpEd Para
– Loranger Elementary (place of Gloria Elfert – retired) January 12, 2009

SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE – NEW HIRE

Natalie Elzy, SFS Worker 4 hr – Kentwood High (place of Patricia Taylor –
reclassified) January 12, 2009

LEAVES*RESIGNATIONS*RETIREMENTS

SABBATICAL LEAVE

Rebecca Neal, Occupational Therapist, Medical 1 semester, 2nd semester 08-09

LEAVES

Corey Martin, Teacher – Loranger High (extended sick leave due to illness using
sick days first – June 1, 2009) January 5, 2009
Deanna Arthur, Teacher – Champ Cooper Elementary (extended sick leave due
to maternity using sick days first – May 25, 2009) February 25, 2009
Theolesia Carr, Bus Driver (extended sick leave due to surgery using sick days
first – February 2, 2009) January 6, 2009
Bessie Cousain, SFS Manager (extended sick leave due to illness using sick
days first – February 27, 2009) November 3, 2009
Tonja Jackson-Keith, Teacher – Hammond Eastside Upper (extended sick leave
due to maternity using sick days first – June 1, 2009) February 1, 2009
Roxanne Clouatre, SFS Worker – Hammond High (extended sick leave due to
illness using sick days first – March 9, 2009) January 6, 2009
Danna McDaniel, Para – Sumner Middle (extended sick leave due to illness
using sick days first – February 23, 2009) January 6, 2009
Catherine Legard, Teacher – Loranger Middle (extended sick leave due to
surgery using sick days first – February 9, 2009) January 5, 2009

RESIGNATIONS

Hiram Porter, Teacher – Northwood High, January 29, 2009

RETIREMENTS

Irma Gordon, Teacher – Kentwood High, December 20, 2008
Mae Wilson, Teacher – Independence Elementary, February 28, 2009
Velda Ryan, SFS Manager – Hammond Eastside Primary, May 23, 2009
Jeffrey Sylvest, Custodian – Hammond High, December 4, 2008
Carol Conti, Bus Driver – Amite High, January 15, 2009
Eartha Cross, Teacher – Hammond Junior High, June 3, 2009

LORANGER DELEGATION REPORT – JANUARY 20, 2009

1. It was moved by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, seconded by Mr. Potts, to nominate Mr. Genco as Chairman for year 2009. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.
2. Discussion on the added cost for the Faculty Workroom Building at Loranger High School was deferred and will be placed on the next delegation agenda.
3. It was moved by Mr. Potts, seconded by Mrs. Bailey-Simmons, to authorize Henry C. Eyre Jr., PE, Inc. to seek bids for the replacement of the Loranger High School Sewer Lift Station. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted. Mr. LaMarca gave an update on other pending Loranger District projects.

Superintendent Mark Kolwe presented the Board with the final Transportation Bus Driver and Bus Attendant Handbook.

It was moved by Mr. Potts, seconded by Ms. Smith, to approve Resolutions 1 and 2 authorizing the Superintendent to execute the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) certifying the “Urgent Need” following Hurricane Katrina. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted. Following are the resolutions as approved:

RESOLUTION NO. 1

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT TO EXECUTE THOSE DOCUMENTS AND AGREEMENTS REQUIRED IN THE SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF MONIES EXPENDED IN THE ACQUISITION OF EMERGENCY GENERATORS FOLLOWING HURRICANE KATRINA, AS PROVIDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT—PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAM AND CERTIFYING THAT THE “URGENT NEED” NATIONAL POLICY OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET.

WHEREAS, the Tangipahoa Parish School Board is submitting an application for reimbursement funding under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Primary and Secondary Education Program from the Louisiana Office of Community

Development—Disaster Recovery Unit to reimburse funding expended in the acquisition of emergency generators following Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, in order to apply for such a grant, the Parish must submit its CDBG-P&S Education application package in compliance with HUD Program Regulations; and

WHEREAS, such regulations require that the Tangipahoa Parish School Board provide as part of such package a certified copy of a resolution which authorizes submission of the application and designates the Superintendent, as the authorized representative of the School Board, to sign all application documents and certifications; and

WHEREAS, such regulations further require that the Tangipahoa Parish School Board certify that the activity for which CDBG funds are being requested to reimburse the School Board for funds expended following Hurricane Katrina were urgently needed to alleviate conditions which posed a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the Parish; and, which were a direct result of the experiences and damages sustained in the Hurricane; and

WHEREAS, with no other funding source, the monies to acquire the emergency generators were taken from the School Board's operations and maintenance budget resulting in a critical reduction in revenues for programs and operations of the School Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tangipahoa Parish School Board:

SECTION 1: That the submission of the CDBG-Primary and Secondary Education Program application package is hereby authorized, with the proceeds from such grant to be used to reimburse the School Board for monies expended in the acquisition of emergency generators;

SECTION 2: That the Superintendent, being the chief administrative official of the Tangipahoa Parish School Board, is the authorized representative for the project and as such is authorized to file an application and any amendments thereto for a CDBG—Primary and Secondary Education Program Grant on behalf of the Tangipahoa Parish School Board with full authority to execute all documents pertaining to the project.

SECTION 3: That the Tangipahoa Parish School Board hereby certifies that the funding being requested under the CDBG-P&S Education Program will be used to reimburse the School Board for the acquisition of emergency generators---a project which was urgently needed to alleviate conditions which posed a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the Parish as a result of the experiences and damages sustained in the Hurricane; and, with no other funding source, the monies to acquire the emergency generators were taken from the School Board's

operations and maintenance budget resulting in a critical reduction in revenues for programs and operations of the School Board.

Section 4: That the Tangipahoa Parish School Board hereby certifies that the funds taken from the operations and maintenance budget are required to be repaid and that the School Board has no other sources of funding available to be used for the required reimbursement.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:	Al Link, Leonard Genco, Robert Potts, Sonya Traylor, Eric Dangerfield, Rose Dominguez, Danny Ridgel and Ann Smith
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Sandra Bailey-Simmons
NOT VOTING:	NA

The President declared the resolution adopted on this, the 3rd day of February, 2009.

Mark Kolwe, Secretary-Treasurer

Danny Ridgel, Board President

RESOLUTION NO. 2

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT TO EXECUTE THOSE DOCUMENTS AND AGREEMENTS REQUIRED IN THE SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF MONIES EXPENDED IN THE ACQUISITION OF MODULAR CLASSROOMS FOLLOWING HURRICANE KATRINA, AS PROVIDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT—PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAM AND CERTIFYING THAT THE “URGENT NEED” NATIONAL POLICY OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET.

WHEREAS, the Tangipahoa Parish School Board is submitting an application for reimbursement funding under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Primary and Secondary Education Program from the Louisiana Office of Community Development—Disaster Recovery Unit to reimburse funding expended in the acquisition of modular classrooms following Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, in order to apply for such a grant, the Parish must submit its CDBG-P&S Education application package in compliance with HUD Program Regulations; and

WHEREAS, such regulations require that the Tangipahoa Parish School Board provide as part of such package a certified copy of a resolution which authorizes submission of the application and designates the Superintendent, as the authorized representative of the School Board, to sign all application documents and certifications; and

WHEREAS, such regulations further require that the Tangipahoa Parish School Board certify that the activity for which CDBG funds are being requested to reimburse the School Board for funds expended following Hurricane Katrina were urgently needed to alleviate conditions which posed a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the Parish; and, which were a direct result of the damages sustained in the Hurricane; and

WHEREAS, with no other funding source, the monies to acquire the classrooms were taken from the School Board's operations and maintenance budget resulting in a critical reduction in revenues for programs and operations of the School Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tangipahoa Parish School Board:

SECTION 1: That the submission of the CDBG-Primary and Secondary Education Program application package is hereby authorized, with the proceeds from such grant to be used to reimburse the School Board for monies expended in the acquisition of modular classrooms;

SECTION 2: That the Superintendent, being the chief administrative official of the Tangipahoa Parish School Board, is the authorized representative for the project and as such is authorized to file an application and any amendments thereto for a CDBG—Primary and Secondary Education Program Grant on behalf of the Tangipahoa Parish School Board with full authority to execute all documents pertaining to the project.

SECTION 3: That the Tangipahoa Parish School Board hereby certifies that the funding being requested under the CDBG-P&S Education Program will be used to reimburse the School Board for the acquisition of modular classrooms---a project which was urgently needed to alleviate conditions which posed a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the Parish as a result of the damages sustained in the Hurricane; and, with no other funding source, the monies to acquire the modular classrooms were taken from the School Board's operations and maintenance budget resulting in a critical reduction in revenues for programs and operations of the School Board.

SECTION 4: That the Tangipahoa Parish School Board hereby certifies that the funds taken from the operations and maintenance budget are required to be repaid and that the School Board has no other sources of funding available to be used for the required reimbursement.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Al Link, Leonard Genco, Robert Potts, Sonya Traylor, Eric Dangerfield, Rose Dominguez, Danny Ridgel and Ann Smith
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Sandra Bailey-Simmons
NOT VOTING: NA

The President declared the resolution adopted on this, the 3rd day of February 2009.

Mark Kolwe, Secretary-Treasurer

Danny Ridgel, Board President

Superintendent Kolwe read and requested adoption of a Resolution declaring February 2 – 6, 2009 as National School Counseling Week.

It was moved by Ms. Dominguez, seconded by Ms. Traylor, to accept the National School Counseling Week Resolution as read. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted. Following is the resolution as approved:

TANGIPAHOA PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM
RESOLUTION

NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK

WHEREAS, the American School Counselor Association has declared the week of February 2 - 6, 2009 as National School Counseling Week; and

WHEREAS, the Tangipahoa Parish School System has recognized the importance of school counseling through the inclusion of elementary and secondary school counseling programs in every school in the parish; and

WHEREAS, personal and social growth results in increased academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, school counselors help develop well-rounded students by guiding them through their academic, personal, social, and career development; and

WHEREAS, students face myriad challenges every day, including peer pressure, depression and violence; and

WHEREAS, school counselors are usually the only professionals in a school building who are trained in both education and mental health matters; and

WHEREAS; the celebration of National School Counseling Week would increase awareness of the important and necessary role school counselors play in the lives of students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tangipahoa Parish School Board designates the week of February 2 through February 6, 2009 as National School Counseling Week and encourages the faculty, staff and students at each school to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the role school counselors perform.

This is to certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Tangipahoa Parish School Board in regular session in Amite, Louisiana
February 3, 2009.

Mark Kolwe, Secretary-Treasurer

Danny Ridgel, Board President

Superintendent Kolwe updated the Board regarding the Federal Economic Stimulus Package. He stated that a meeting with his staff will determine the needs of the school system and that Board Members will be notified of the results.

There was no Public Input.

In personal privilege, Mr. Ridgel commended Ms. Dominguez on her project to receive Monthly Status Reports from the Maintenance Department. He also thanked Mr. Pasquale LaMarca, Director of Maintenance and Construction and Ms. Judy Amerson, Secretary, for their efforts in getting this accomplished. Mr. Ridgel welcomed Ms. Ann Smith back from Washington, DC.

In personal privilege, Mr. Genco requested the Maintenance Monthly Status Report be presented in a larger print. He also requested that letter be sent to principals notifying them of the schedule of their district delegation meetings.

In personal privilege, Ms Smith thanked President Ridgel for requesting that principals send notices of school activities to the Board.

It was moved by Mr. Genco, seconded by Mr. Link, to enter Executive Session to discuss the cases of Joyce M. Moore vs. TPSB and Osa Williams vs. TPSB. Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted.

The Board entered Executive Session.

The Board returned to Open Session.

There was no action in the cases of Joyce M. Moore vs. TPSB or Osa Williams vs. TPSB.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. (7:03 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Ridgel
President

Mark Kolwe, Secretary-Treasurer

Recorded By: Cynthia Jenkins (February 3, 2009)