

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
RESERVE, LA – MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2014**

ITEM 1: The Chair called the meeting to order and read the following call:

HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
Parish of St. John the Baptist

Dear Board Member:

Upon call of the President, the St. John the Baptist Parish School Board will meet in special session at at Godchaux Grammar Cafeteria, 1600 Highway 44, Reserve, Louisiana, on Thursday, September 18, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.

An agenda for the meeting is attached.

Sincerely, s/Kevin R. George
Superintendent/Secretary

The Chair called for the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 2. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

There were 11 members present, 0 absent.

Board	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention		
Jack	1					
Burl	1					
Keller	1					
Sanders	1					
DeFrancesco	1					
Jones	1					
Johnson	1					
Wise	1					
Bacas	1					
Nicholas	1					
Triche	1					
	11	0	0	0		

ITEM 3. Approval of Minutes – Meeting of September 4, 2014.

MOTION BY: Dr. Keller

SECOND BY: Mr. Bacas

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the meeting of September 4, 2014.

No objections.

The motion carried.

Board	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Jack	1			
Burl	1			
Keller	1			
Sanders	1			
DeFrancesch	1			
Jones	1			
Johnson	1			
Wise	1			
Bacas	1			
Nicholas	1			
Triche	1			
	11	0	0	0

ITEM 4. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT. Mr. Kevin R. George, Superintendent.

Mr. George stated that he had some exciting, big news: six Louisiana high schools are among the best public high schools in the United States, according to Newsweek. Four of them are in the New Orleans area, but the most exciting new is that our very own **West St. John High School** in Edgard ranked 50th

out of 500 schools nationwide on the list honoring schools with low-income students. He stated that a celebration will be planned soon.

a. All South – Update on Rebuilding Efforts

Ms. Cindy Janecke, All South, shared the following information:

**Summary of All South Activities to St. John the Baptist Parish School Board
September 18, 2014**

East St John High School Repairs – Lincoln Builders, General Contractor

- Lincoln Builders has been on the site full time since August 18 (Notice to Proceed)
- Site fencing has been installed around the buildings with combination locks
- Demolition activities are currently focused in the Main Building and Gym/Cafeteria
- Demolition of light fixtures is on-going. Lincoln Builders is providing temporary lighting and ensuring that all areas are electrically sound/ safe before the general demolition crews enter.
- Demolition of ceiling tiles, insulation, and metal ceiling grids is on-going. That work is approximately 50% complete.
- Demolition of gym bleachers began yesterday and is expected to be completed tomorrow.
- Demolition of select mechanical elements is estimated at 30% complete in the Main Building.
- Lincoln Builders is identifying building materials, like lead and asbestos that require special disposal. These items are being separated and pre-stationed for removal by type.
- Demolition work in these buildings is to be completed by early October.

East St John High School Mitigation – Hard Rock Construction, General Contractor

- Hard Rock Construction's contracts were recorded and executed; the pre-construction meeting was held last Tuesday, September 9.
- They were issued a Notice to Proceed on Monday, September 15.
- Currently, they are completing their schedule, submitting the parish building permit application, etc.
- They will begin to mobilize at the site late next week

Coordination with the School Administration, Teachers and Staff at High School

- Contractors will work closely with School Board to minimize inconvenience and perform more disruptive work afterhours, on weekends, and during breaks.
- However, we ask everyone's patience and understanding that there will be changes to traffic flows, parking and other issues as the contractors move through various phases of the project
- We will work with Ms. Triche, her staff and contractors to alleviate problems or find alternate solutions if possible

Lake Pontchartrain Elementary School

- Existing Lake Pontchartrain Elementary School demolition documents are 95% complete.
- Demolition bids documents are being finalized. No specific schedule yet, but the demolition will be advertised in the next few weeks.
- Yeates and Yeates are working on the new LPE schematic design phase. The Board will have documents to review in mid-October.

b. Eliza Eugene – Update on Local Participation

Ms. Eugene was not present. Mr. George asked if she could present her update upon her arrival.

ITEM 5. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS BY THE BOARD OR STAFF

a. Presentation – Technology Student Association – Beverly Reed, Teacher, ESJHS

The students shared with the board and audience pictures and stories of their trip to Washington, D.C. The students thanked the board for their support. The students thanked Mr. Wise for coordinating a tour of the White House with Bill Cassidy's office.

Ms. Eliza Eugene arrived and gave the board an update on local participation.

The president stated that ITEM 10: ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS will be addressed at this time.

Mr. Burl asked the board to waive policy to address a resolution.

MOTION BY: Mr. Wise

SECOND BY: Mr. Jones

MOTION: To waive policy to present the Board with a Resolution to encourage Ochsner Health System to reconsider its decision to close River Parishes Hospital.

No objections.

The motion carried.

Board	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Jack	1			
Burl	1			
Keller	1			
Sanders	1			
DeFrancesch	1			
Jones	1			
Johnson	1			
Wise	1			
Bacas	1			
Nicholas	1			
Triche	1			
	11	0	0	0

MOTION BY: Entire Board

SECOND BY:

MOTION: To adopt the Resolution to encourage Ochsner Health System to reconsider its decision to close River Parishes Hospital.

No objections.

The motion carried.

Board	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Jack	1			
Burl	1			
Keller	1			
Sanders	1			
DeFrancesch	1			
Jones	1			
Johnson	1			
Wise	1			
Bacas	1			
Nicholas	1			
Triche	1			
	11	0	0	0

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

STATE OF LOUISIANA

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PRESERVING A FULL SERVICE HOSPITAL IN ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

WHEREAS, the St. John the Baptist Parish School Board is aware that Ochsner Health System is in the process of acquiring River Parishes Hospital;

WHEREAS, Ochsner Health System has expressed its plan to end inpatient services and convert the River Parishes Hospital campus into an outpatient center with emergency, laboratory, primary care and radiology services within the next two years;

WHEREAS, patients in need of surgery, inpatient care or cardiology services will now have to travel to St. James, St. Charles or Jefferson parishes;

WHEREAS, sixty (60) percent of River Parishes Hospital’s full-time staff will lose their jobs by November 1, 2014;

WHEREAS, due to its proximity and ease of access, the St. John the Baptist Parish School Board and its employees are highly dependent on the full services currently being offered by River Parishes Hospital;

WHEREAS, the St. John the Baptist School Board would consider the loss of a full service hospital to have a devastating impact on its employees;

THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED, that the St. John the Baptist Parish School Board encourages Ochsner Health System to reconsider and revisit its plan to eliminate a full service hospital in St. John the Baptist Parish.

ITEM 6. PERSONNEL MATTERS

None.

ITEM 7. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

ITEM 7a. Mr. Peter Montz – Request Board approval on Proposal 15.26 General and Fleet Insurance

MOTION BY: Mr. Jones

SECOND BY: Mr. Bacas

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of administration and accept the following: General Liability – LA Insurance Service - \$22,866; Fleet Liability – LA Insurance Service - \$171,459; Bus Physical Damage – LA Insurance Service - \$37,630; Errors and Omissions – LA Insurance Service \$21,140; Boiler/Machinery – Riverlands Insurance - \$4,075; Employee Bond – LA Insurance Service - \$1,782; Workers Compensation – Dave Millet Insurance - \$63,635; TPA Services – Hammerman and Gainer - \$25,000.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION BY: Mr. Burl

SECOND BY: Dr. Keller

MOTION: To accept all proposals as presented with the exception of: TPA Services – Hammerman and Gainer - \$25,000.

Following discussion, Mr. Burl rescinded his substitute motion.

Upon roll call on the original motion, there were:

Board	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Jack	1			
Burl		1		
Keller	1			
Sanders	1			
DeFrancesch	1			
Jones	1			
Johnson	1			
Wise	1			
Bacas	1			
Nicholas	1			
Triche	1			
	10	1	0	0

The original motion carried.

ITEM 7b. Mr. Peter Montz – Request Board approval on Proposal 15.22 Emergency Water Damage Restoration Service.

MOTION BY: Mr. Wise

SECOND BY: Mr. Nicholas

MOTION: To accept Enterprise Restoration Services, LLC for Proposal 15.22 Emergency Water Damage Restoration Services for three years.

No objections.

The motion carried.

Board	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Jack	1			
Burl	1			
Keller	1			
Sanders	1			
DeFrancesch	1			
Jones	1			
Johnson	1			
Wise	1			
Bacas	1			
Nicholas	1			
Triche	1			
	11	0	0	0

ITEM 8. OLD BUSINESS

ITEM 8a. Mr. Kevin George – Request authorization of the creation of a Land and Facilities Committee

Mr. George presented the board with two options for the creation of the Land and Facilities Committee.

MOTION BY: Rev. Nicholas

SECOND BY: Mr. Sanders

MOTION: To approve the creation of a Land and Facilities Committee using Option 1.

MOTION BY: Rev. Nicholas

SECOND BY: Mr. Jack

MOTION: To authorize the creation of a Land and Facilities Committee using Option 1 with the amendment that the President will bring a recommendation of 5 names to the full Board for approval.

No objections

The motion carried.

Board	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Jack	1			
Burl	1			
Keller	1			
Sanders	1			
DeFrancesch	1			
Jones	1			
Johnson	1			
Wise	1			
Bacas	1			
Nicholas	1			
Triche	1			
	11	0	0	0

Land & Facilities Committee

The St. John the Baptist School Board authorizes the creation of a Land & Facilities committee, to be charged with the following:

- Develop and recommend a maintenance and replacement schedule for building, grounds, and major mechanical systems;
- Review periodic inspection reports of school facilities and report to the School Board;
- Recommend studies and serve as the liaison to administration on matters pertaining to facilities, security, space and community use of facilities;
- Monitor all matters involving procurement, public bid, construction projects, awarding of contracts, awarding of leases and right of ways, 16th Section Land issues;
- Receive project status reports from the School Board's engineers and architects on all public works projects.

The Land & Facilities committee shall be composed of five (5) members of the School Board. This committee shall have a chairperson from its membership, who shall be elected by the members of the committee. The term of appointment shall be for a period of two (2) years or the remaining term of the member, whichever is shorter. Nothing herein shall prevent membership on a committee for consecutive terms.

Selection of Land & Facilities Committee Members (OPTION 1)

Prior to a specified Board Meeting, the Board President will call upon Board Members to volunteer to serve on the Land & Facilities Committee. At the Board Meeting, the Board President will announce the members of the Land & Facilities Committee Members.

Selection of Land & Facilities Committee Members (OPTION 2)

At the appropriate time, the Board President will call upon Board Members to volunteer to serve on the Land & Facilities Committee.

Election of the five (5) members shall proceed as follows:

- The President shall ask for nominations for members of the Land & Facilities Committee. Nominations shall be received from members of the School Board.
- No second is required to nominate someone and a School Board member may nominate himself/herself. A motion shall be required to close nominations.
- Each School Board member shall vote for two Members by ballot, sign it, and return to the Board President.
- The Board will go into recess to tabulate the ballots. The five (5) School Board Members with the most votes will be elected to the Land & Facilities Committee.
- In the event of a tie, the Board President will conduct a runoff election with the respective Board Members.

ITEM 9. NEW BUSINESS

ITEM 9a. Ms. Page Eschette – Introduction of Discipline Hearing Officer List

District Hearing Officer List ~ August, 2014

Patrick Amedee
P.O. Box 1092
Thibodaux, LA 70302
985-446-4811
pamedee@amedeelaw.com

Lana Ourso Chaney
P.O. Box 580
Pierre Part, LA 70339
985-252-1336

Eric Duplantis
Duplantis & McNulty, L.L.P.
Attorneys at Law
P.O. Box 238
200 Willow Street
Franklin, LA 70538
337-828-5480
duplantis@aol.com

Mike Fanning
Grant and Barrow
238 Huey P. Long Ave.
Gretna, LA
504-368-7888

Wayne Landry
P.O. Box 200
1500 Jane Street
New Iberia, LA 70560
337-365-2341
wlandry@iberia.k12.la.us

Lloyd LeBlanc
P. O. Box 1415
Gramercy, LA 70052
Office Address:
1703 Chantilly Drive
LaPlace, LA 70068
504-269-5559

Clayton Lovell
Duvall, Thunderburk, Sundberry, Lovell, & Watkins
101 Wilson Avenue
Houma, LA 985-876-6410

Angie Peraza
P.O. Box 514
Gonzales, LA 70707
225-717-8391

Calvin "Woody" Woodruff
220 S. Jefferson Street
P.O. Drawer 511
Abbeville, LA 70511
337-898-5777
Woody.woodruff@vpsb.net

ITEM 9b. Mr. Kevin R. George – Introduction of JBCE: School Choice Policy

This item was for introduction only.

FILE: JBCE

PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE

General

Act 853 of 2014 provides for the right of a parent or legal guardians to enroll his child in a school other than the school to which the child was scheduled to be enrolled based upon a school district attendance zone, if the school at which the child was most recently enrolled received an SPS of "D" or "F" in the most recent assessment and the school to which the child is sought to be enrolled was most recently enrolled received an SPS of "C" or better in the most recent assessment. To facilitate the operation of this Act the St. John the Baptist Parish School System ("System") establishes the following policy and procedure. As Act 853 provides for certain variable eligibility criterion, any enrollment based upon Act 853 will be considered an annual enrollment and will not obligate the System to allow for enrollment beyond one school year.

Single Point of Contact

- a. A parent or guardian wishing to utilize Act 853 who resides and intends on continuing to reside during the upcoming school year outside of St. John the Baptist Parish must contact the Child Welfare and Attendance Office at 118 West 10th Street, Reserve, LA. This will be the only office authorized to process an application to enroll under Act 853.
- b. A birth certificate, identification and/or proof of guardianship must be provided at the time of application.

- c. An application for enrollment under Act 853 shall serve as consent for the System to obtain the records and information necessary to determine the eligibility/ineligibility of the student.

Verification of Initial Eligibility

- a. Documentation of the prior school enrollment of the student must be provided; such as report card or official correspondence.
- b. The System will verify that the school of prior enrollment was most recently assessed as a “D” or “F”.
- c. The parent shall identify the school to which the student is sought to be enrolled, and the System will verify that such school was most recently assessed as a “C” or better.

Verification of Capacity

- a. The primary obligation of the System is to provide for the enrollment of students who reside within St. John the Baptist Parish and more specifically to provide for enrollment of students in St. John the Baptist Parish in the schools aligned with duly established attendance zones. Therefore, the System will not enroll Act 853 students to the extent that such enrollment may conflict with this primary obligation.
- b. Upon receipt of an application for enrollment under Act 853 the System will verify whether the school to which the student is sought to be enrolled has sufficient capacity.
- c. The capacity verification shall take into account grade level and special program requirement, such as gifted and talented and shall be made on a school by school basis.
- d. For purposes of determining capacity, any school which has an anticipated enrollment of greater than 80% of its optimal total student capacity, in the grade in which the student seeks to enroll, will be deemed to have insufficient capacity to allow for an Act 853 enrollment.
- e. Upon such a determination, the parent will be advised that the school to which enrollment is sought has insufficient capacity.
- f. The verification of capacity shall be an annual determination for the re-enrollment of Act 853 students for each subsequent year.

Excess Applications

- a. In the event the number of applications for enrollment exceed the capacity in any particular school, students enrolled in the school for the prior year shall have preference.
- b. If, after enrolling all prior year students applicants exceed the remaining capacity, applicants will be selected at random until capacity is no longer available.

ALTERNATIVELY

First Come First Served

Applicants will be enrolled to the extent capacity is available on a first come first served basis.

Athletic Eligibility

Parents and guardians are responsible for contacting the LHSAA to determine the eligibility of the student for participation in varsity sports. In order to participate in varsity sports sanctioned by the LHSAA, students must have written approval of the LHSAA.

Transportation

Parents and guardians who access schools via Act 853 will be responsible for the transportation of students to and from school.

Ineligibility

A student meeting any of the following will be ineligible to enroll as an Act 853 student:

- a. The student was expelled for disciplinary reasons in the preceding school year;
- b. The student was suspended more than once in the preceding school year;
- c. The student was involved in more than one fight or other act of violence on school grounds in the preceding school year;
- d. The student was found in possession of any illicit drug or narcotic on school grounds in the preceding school year;
- e. The student had more than 10 unexcused absences during the preceding school year;

After enrollment a student shall be ineligible to continue enrollment as an Act 853 student if any of the following apply:

- a. The student is suspended more than once in the school year;
- b. The student is expelled for disciplinary reasons during the school year;
- c. The student is involved in more than one fight or other act of violence on school grounds during the school year;
- d. The student is found in possession of any illicit drug or narcotic on school grounds during the school year;
- e. The student has more than 10 unexcused absences during the school year

Consent of Home School District

No student may enroll without the written consent of the school system, with which the student was previously enrolled, to both of the following:

- a. when there is a shortfall between the MFP State funds and the actual per student expenditures associated with the education of students in St. John Parish Public Schools, parents, or legal guardians of students who reside outside of St. John Parish but seek to educate their child in the District under the provisions of the Louisiana Public Schools Choice Law, Act 853 of 2014, will be informed through the Child Welfare and Attendance Office of the St. John Parish Public Schools of that amount. Fifty (50%) percent of this amount must be paid to the Business Office prior to enrollment. The other 50% must be paid within the next 4 months after the initial payment. Failure to meet these financial responsibilities will result in the student being denied enrollment or being excluded from St. John Parish Public Schools; and
- b. to provide records and information necessary for the System to determine the students eligibility/ineligibility.

ITEM 9c. Mr. Charles Patin - Executive Session – Update on MFP Lawsuit

ITEM 9d. Mr. Felix Boughton – Executive Session – Pending Sales Tax Litigation

ITEM 9e. Mr. Kevin R. George – Executive Session – Update on Negotiations

ITEM 9f. Mr. Kevin R. George – Executive Session – SJAE/Administration Procedural Dispute (Personnel Matter)

MOTION BY: Mr. Nicholas

SECOND BY: Dr. Keller

MOTION: To convene in Executive Session to discuss ITEMS 9b, 9c, 9d, 9e, and 9f.

No objections.

The motion carried.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 7:16 p.m.

Dr. Keller left the meeting at 7:20 p.m. and was recorded as absent.

MOTION BY: Mr. Johnson
 SECOND BY: Mr. Bacas
 MOTION: To reconvene in Regular Session.
 No objections.
 The motion carried.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 7:56 p.m.

MOTION BY: Mr. Nicholas
 SECOND BY: Mr. Sanders
 MOTION: To extend the SJAE Contract for 60 days.

Ms. Iona Holloway asked the motion maker to amend his motion to include that the leadership team be granted release time from work in order to negotiate.

Rev. Nicholas amended his motion to include the amendment to include that the leadership team be granted release time from work in order to negotiate. This amendment was seconded by the entire seated board.

The motion carried.

Board	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Jack	1			
Burl	1			
Keller	1			
Sanders			1	
DeFrancesch	1			
Jones	1			
Johnson	1			
Wise	1			
Bacas	1			
Nicholas	1			
Triche	1			
	10	0	1	0

ITEM 10. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Addressed above.

ITEM 11. BOARD ITEMS OF INTEREST

ITEM 9f. Mr. Orenthal Jasmin, Board Attorney, stated that a grievance has been received and ruled upon by the Superintendent, dealing with paraprofessionals in the ISS classrooms as monitors. SJAE disagrees with the interpretation of the Superintendent’s decision. The purpose of ITEM 9f is to challenge the procedure that was handled by administration. Particularly that the grievance went to the HR Director first and because it was filed as a class action, it should have gone first to the Superintendent’s office. If this matter is on the agenda to address the procedure, then it is properly before the board. However, if SJAE is actually addressing the merits of the grievance, it is my opinion that the board lacks jurisdiction as it relates to this grievance, pursuant to LA Revised Statute 1781, as amended by Act 1, which gives the Superintendent the authority for hiring and placement of all school personnel.

Ms. Iona Holloway, President of SJAE and SJAE Attorney Brian Blackwell approached the board. Ms. Holloway stated that she did not give the grievance to the HR Director, but gave it to the Superintendent’s Office. Mr. Brian Blackwell stated that regardless of Act 1, the SJAE contract states that the next level is to have the Board heard the grievance. He stated that the Superintendent wants to bypass the board and go straight to arbitration. Mr. Blackwell stated that, “Act 1 cannot change the contractual rights that the board and the association entered into and therefore should hear the class action grievance dealing with the paraprofessionals.”

ITEM 12. ADJOURNMENT - The agenda having been completed, and there being no further business, there was a

MOTION BY: Mr. Wise
 SECOND BY: Mr. Jones
 MOTION: Motion for adjournment.

There was an objection. Upon roll call, there were:

Board	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Jack		1		
Burl		1		
Keller		1		
Sanders			1	
DeFrancesch	1			
Jones	1			
Johnson	1			
Wise	1			
Bacas				1
Nicholas		1		
Triche	1			
	5	4	1	1

The motion to adjourn failed.

Mr. Jones left the meeting at 8:16 and was recorded as absent.

MOTION BY: Mr. Burl

SECOND BY:

MOTION: To waive policy to hear ITEM 9f.

Mr. Burl withdrew his motion because Ms. Iona Holloway stated that SJAE was not prepared to be heard regarding ITEM 9f (Administration Procedural Dispute) at this time.

MOTION BY: Mr. Burl

SECOND BY: Mr. Johnson

MOTION: Motion for adjournment.

There were no objections.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Kevin R. George, Secretary

Clarence Triche, President