

**LAFAYETTE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, May 19, 2004 - 5:30 P. M., Board Room

Michael C. Hefner, President, Presiding

The School Board of the Parish of Lafayette, State of Louisiana, met in regular session at Lafayette Middle School, Lafayette, Louisiana, on Wednesday, May 19, 2004 at 5:30 P.M., pursuant to notice given in writing to every member.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael C. Hefner, President; Rickey Hardy, Vice-President; Judy H. Cox, Kay Gibson, John Earl Guidry, Edward J. Sam, David G. Thibodaux and Beverly Wilson, Board Members; James H. Easton, Secretary-Treasurer/Superintendent

MEMBERS ABSENT: Carl LaCombe (Illness)

I. MEETING OPENINGS

The meeting was called to order by Hefner and opened with a prayer by Cox. Thibodaux led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Motion (Guidry, Gibson) that the Board add to the agenda Approval of Resolution 05-04-1449 - Employ Special Counsel. Motion carried.

II. RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

The Board congratulated the Very Special Arts Festival 2004 Overall Winners. They are as follows: Alayna Alejandro, Acadiana High in the Visual Arts division, and Adison Brannon, Burke Elementary in the Craft Arts division.

Also congratulated was Lindsey Wootsen, second grade pilot enrichment class student from Carencro Heights Elementary, first place winner in non-fiction division of multi-parish "Writes of Spring" contest.

The Board recognized A. Boucher Elementary School second graders pilot enrichment class for their participation in a writing and art project that was presented at the International Reading Association Conference in Reno, Nevada.

Also recognized were the State and Parish Elementary Fitness Champions for 2004. The Fitness Age Group Champions are: Amy Comeaux, J. W. Faulk Elementary; Katelyn Blanchard, Broadmoor Elementary; Amber Lauchner, Plantation Elementary; Megan Eaglin, Ossun Elementary; Kelci Lyons, Acadian Middle; Hunter Register, Ridge Elementary; Shannon Simpson, Carencro Heights Elementary; Daniel Brown, Plantation Elementary; Blair Landry, Ernest Gallet Elementary; and Terry Alfred, N. P. Moss Middle. The Fitness State Competition

winner are: Amber Lauchner, Plantation Elementary; Kelci Lyons, Acadian Middle; Montoya Alfred (alternate), Carencro Heights; Terry Alfred, N. P. Moss Middle; Devonte Flugence, Carencro Heights; and David Spears (alternate), Ernest Gallet Elementary.

The Board congratulated Corey Carbo, student at Moss Annex High School Arts Academy, Winner of 9th-12th Grade Section of the Louisiana Division of the Arts Recycle Arts Contest. Her artwork will help to raise awareness of recycling in Lafayette Parish and encourage greater participation.

Also congratulated was Cory Vidrine, student at Carencro High School, First Place Winner of the 2004 Congressional High School Art Competition from the 7th Congressional District. His oil painting entitled "Special Reflections" will be sent to the U.S. Capitol Building to hang in a national year-long exhibit dedicated to the young artists of America.

The Board recognized the 2004 National Merit Semi-Finalists and Commended Scholars. They are as follows: Andre Breaux, Finalist, Emily Byers, Semi-Finalist, Mitch Dague, Commended Scholar, Kevin Ellis, Commended Scholar, Eric Felder, Commended Scholar, Jacob Gower, Commended Scholar and Danielle Stelly, Commended Scholar from Lafayette High. The National Achievement winners are: Aundrietta Duncan, Finalist and Jeremy Mason, Commended Scholar from Lafayette High.

Also recognized were the 2004 Superintendent's Scholarship Golf Tournament Recipients. They are as follows: Ebony Renee Martin and Jessica Ann Okafor, Acadiana High; Lindsay Anne Broussard, Brandy Michelle George and Charlie Elsie Esie, Carencro High; Tasha Renee Evans, Jacqueline Rae McKeon and Jamie Lee Lewis, Comeaux High; Shandrea Nichole Sinegal, Ha Thi Nguyen, Thy Ngoc Hoang, Jennifer Rae Godfrey and Bridget Ashley Harris, Lafayette High; and Elisha Daniele Sampy, Anna Louise Nicholas, Brentlyn Laura Seaux, Shaquanna Renee Alexander, Chase Christopher Bernard, Shawneeka Ladrea Woods, Raquel Nikeitha August and Lauren Nichole Grimes, Northside High. Ron Gaubert with Louisiana Open presented a check in the amount of \$25,000 for the 21 students from the five high schools to receive scholarship funds to attend a Louisiana college, university, or technical school.

The Board congratulated the Career and Technical Education State Honors and Award Winners. They are as follows: Rand Rouly, state winner in the Skills/USA Competition Photography Contest, W.D. Smith Career Center; Lyndsey Gallet, state representative to the National FBLA Leadership Conference, Comeaux High School FBLA; Jessie Castille, top individual in the State FFA Floriculture Contest, Comeaux High School FFA; Chelsea Latiolais, state winner in Business Procedures, Carencro High School FBLA; Chaz Sargent, FBLA state member for February, Carencro High School FBLA; Alex Fusilier, state winner in the FCCLA "Focus on Children", Acadiana High School Family and Consumer Sciences; and Jayme Herndon, Ashley Says, Jennifer Begnaud, Jasmine Anderson, Ainsley Lavergne and Hannah Cutrera, state recognition for club members in the "Power of One" category for the accomplishment of personal goals, Acadiana High School Family and Consumer Sciences.

The Board recognized the Lafayette Parish Schools who met and exceeded their growth target as outlined by the Louisiana Accountability Program. The following schools received a

label of Exemplary Academic Growth: Carencro Heights Elementary, Comeaux High, Duson Elementary, G. T. Lindon Elementary and Lafayette Charter High Schools. The schools receiving a label of Recognized Academic Growth are: Acadiana High, Alice Boucher Elementary, Carencro High and Katherine Drexel Elementary Schools.

The Board congratulated Coach Rick LeBato, Northside High State Class 4A Boys Basketball Coach of the Year. He was selected by the Louisiana Sports Writers Association.

Also recognized was Paul Hilliard of Badger Oil for his donation of \$5291.95 to the Duson Elementary School Library from the Badger Excellence in Education Foundation.

III. CORRECTIONS AND/OR APPROVAL OF BOARD/COMMITTEE MINUTES

A. CORRECTIONS ON THE MINUTES OF:

- a. Regular Board Meeting of 5/5/04

Motion (Sam, Hardy) that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of May 5, 2004 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

- b. Special Board Meeting of 5/12/04

Motion (Hardy, Sam) that the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of May 12, 2004 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

- c. Special Board Meeting of 5/19/04

Motion (Hardy, Wilson) that the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of May 19, 2004 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

- d. Special Board Meeting of 5/19/04

Motion (Hardy, Wilson) that the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of May 19, 2004 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

B. APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF:

- a. Joint Meeting of the Board Insurance Committee and Employee Insurance Advisory Committee of 5/13/04

Motion (Wilson, Hardy) that the minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Board Insurance Committee and Employee Insurance Advisory Committee of May 13, 2004 be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

IV. FINANCIAL INFORMATION/REPORTS

- A. a. APPROVAL OF BILLS March, 2004

General Fund. \$12,239,072.65

Special Revenues.	454,075.08
Adult Education.	33,975.44
Consolidated Other Federal.	10,714.78
Special Education.	470,077.97
Bond Sinking Fund.	81,986.75
Consolidated School District #1.	53,371.34
Self-Funded Construction.	52,467.15
Construction Account 1999 Bond.	7,244.55
Construction Account 2001 Bond.	-0-
IASA Title I (Federal Programs).	281,219.48
Child Development.	269,249.51
IASA Title II/Title IV/Title VI.	229,982.68
School Food Service.	1,812,580.46
Capital Improvement.	66,229.40
Employee Insurance Fund.	2,006,741.85
LPSB General & Auto Loss Fund.	25,061.13
LPSB Workmen's Compensation.	158,414.32
 TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS.	 \$18,252,464.54

Motion (Sam, Cox) that the Board approve the ratification of bills for March, 2004.
Motion carried.

B. OTHER FINANCIAL REPORTS

a. None

V. REPORTS/INFORMATION/INTRODUCTION ITEMS

- A. INFORMATION REPORTS
- B. INTRODUCTION ITEMS
- C. OTHER REPORTS

VI. APPROVAL OF ACTION ITEMS

- A. APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL CHANGES

PERSONNEL CHANGES

(positions are funded via General Fund, unless noted otherwise)

NEW EMPLOYEES:

JOLIVETTE, Carl, Head Custodian II - L. J. Alleman Middle (Effective 05/20/2004)
MENARD, Yvonne, Account Clerk I - Business Dept. (Effective 04/19/2004)

EXITING EMPLOYEES:

ESTILETTE, Letha, Child Nutrition Manager II - L. J. Alleman Middle (Service Retirement
Effective 04/27/2004)

LECOMPTE, Lori, Interpreter - L. J. Alleman Middle (Resignation Effective End of the Day 05/28/2004)

CHAMPAGNE, Mildred, Head Custodian II - Broussard Middle (Service Retirement Effective 05/01/2004)

HOLLAND, Vicki, Speech Therapist - Charles Burke Elem. (Resignation Effective End of the Day 05/28/2004)

RYDER, Joseph, Teacher - 4th - Carencro Hghts. Elem. (Service Retirement Effective 05/29/2004)

DEPA, Anthony, Teacher - Math - Carencro High (Resignation Effective End of the Day 05/28/2004)

GHORBANOFHAMID, Fatemeh, Teacher - Math - Carencro High (Resignation Effective End of the Day 05/28/2004)

SAVOY, Robert, Head Custodian I - Duson Elem. (Resignation Effective At Noon 05/21/2004 instead of 05/03/2004)

MAHEU, Lyne, Teacher - French Immersion - Evangeline Elem. (Resignation Effective End of the Day 05/28/2004)

CAGLE, Diane, Teacher - SLS - Myrtle Place Elem. (Service Retirement Effective 05/29/2004)

ALEXANDER, Theresa, Tea. Asst. - N. P. Moss Middle (Service Retirement Effective 05/29/2004)

WEBER, Martha, Teacher - 2nd - Prairie Elem. (Service Retirement Effective 05/29/2004)

VICKNAIR, Jeanine, Tea. Asst. - Pre-K - Truman Montessori (Resignation Effective End of the Day 05/28/2004)

DUGAS, Elaine, Teacher - Gifted - Itinerant (Service Retirement Effective 05/29/2004)

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT RENEWAL:

COOK, Louella, Asst. Prin. - Acadiana High (Effective 05/20/2004 - 05/19/2006)

TRANSFERS:

CAESAR, Alicia, from Teacher - ARP - Lafayette High to Small Learning Communities Site Coordinator - Lafayette High (Effective 05/31/2004)

HARMAN, Matt, from Teacher - M/M - Carencro High to Small Learning Communities Site Coordinator - Carencro High (Effective 05/31/2004)

LEJEUNE, Sheryl, from Teacher - English - Carencro High to Small Learning Communities Site Coordinator - Acadiana High (Effective 05/31/2004)

LEWIS, Tiffanie, from Counselor - Carencro High to Small Learning Communities Site Coordinator - Northside High (Effective 05/31/2004)

MONUS, Sheila, from Teacher - 5th - L. J. Alleman Middle to Small Learning Communities Site Coordinator - Comeaux High (Effective 05/31/2004)

EXITING EMPLOYEES:

Number of full-time employees by funding source for March, 2004, payroll:

General Fund (01).....	3,687
2002 Sales Tax (15).....	122

Special Revenues (20).....	25
Consolidated Adult Education (30).....	15
Consolidated Other Federal (35).....	7
Special Education (40).....	52
LPSS Self-Funded Construction (45).....	2
IASA Title I (50).....	91
Child Development–Head Start (60).....	82
IASA Titles II/III/IV/VI (65).....	38
Child Nutrition (70).....	205
LPSS Group Insurance Fund (85).....	2

TOTAL.....4,328

Total last month: 4,347

- B. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 05-04-1447 - NATIONAL PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS MONTH AND NATIONAL EMPLOYEE FITNESS MONTH
That the Board adopt Resolution 05-04-1447 - National Physical Education and Sports Month and National Employee Fitness Month.

RESOLUTION 05-04-1447

WHEREAS, the President’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports has designated the month of May, 2004 as National Physical Education and Sports Month and National Employee Fitness Month; and,

WHEREAS, National Physical Education and Sports Month is our country’s celebration of Fitness and Sports and many agencies have initiated fitness programs designed to improve our quality of life; and,

WHEREAS, the opportunities they provide have been instrumental in influencing millions of Americans to participate in Fitness and Sports activities; and,

WHEREAS, National Physical Education and Sports Month is a time when we can do something special to direct deserved national attention to this extraordinary effort; and,

WHEREAS, all employees will have the opportunity to participate in some type of physical fitness programs and activities; and,

WHEREAS, it is imperative that children learn the sports and other skills that lead to participation and enjoyment throughout life; now,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lafayette Parish School System does hereby proclaim the month of May, 2004 as

**NATIONAL PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS MONTH
AND
NATIONAL EMPLOYEE FITNESS MONTH**

in Lafayette Parish and urge our community to promote activities in recognition of this month.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, the undersigned Secretary-Treasurer of the Lafayette Parish School Board, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted at its Regular Board Meeting of May 19, 2004 at which time a quorum was present and that same is in full force and effect.

Dated at Lafayette, Louisiana,
this 19th day of May, 2004.

/s/ James H. Easton

James H. Easton, Ed.D., Secretary-Treasurer
LAFAYETTE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

C. PARTICIPATION IN GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR STUDENTS NOT PASSING THE EXIT EXAM

Wilson requested that this item be pulled for discussion.

D. FURTHER DISCUSSION REGARDING 5 AND 10 YEAR PLAN WITH THE OPTION OF CLOSING VERMILION

Sam requested that this item be pulled for discussion.

E. APPROVAL OF STAFFING REQUIREMENTS FOR BLOCK SCHEDULING AT ACADIANA HIGH AND LAFAYETTE HIGH SCHOOLS

Hardy requested that this item be pulled for discussion.

F. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 05-04-1449 - EMPLOY SPECIAL COUNSEL
That the Board adopt Resolution 05-04-1449 - Employ Special Counsel.

Hardy requested that this item be pulled for discussion.

Motion (Gibson, Sam) that the Board approve Action Items and A and B, and that Actions Items C, D, E and F be pulled for discussion. Motion carried. Thibodaux requested that he be recorded as voting NO on Action Item A.

C. PARTICIPATION IN GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR STUDENTS NOT PASSING THE EXIT EXAM

Motion (Sam, Cox) that the Board request the Superintendent to look at other ways of recognitions for those students who have not passed the GEE requirements for graduation.

After discussion on the above motion, Wilson called for the question.

A substitute motion was made by Hardy that the Board allow students to graduate on stage and that staff hold their diplomas until they pass the GEE Exit Exam. Motion died for lack of a second.

After further discussion, Cox withdrew her second to the original motion. Original motion died for lack of a second.

Motion (Sam, Hardy) that the Superintendent come back to the Board with a recommendation for a separate ceremony for those students who have not met the requirements for graduation but have completed their work.

A substitute motion was made by Gibson and seconded by Cox that only students who have satisfied all graduation requirements be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies.

After discussion on the substitution motion, Gibson withdrew her substitute motion.

After further discussion, Sam withdrew his original motion.

No action was taken by the Board on the above agenda item.

D. FURTHER DISCUSSION REGARDING 5 AND 10 YEAR PLAN WITH THE OPTION OF CLOSING VERMILION ELEMENTARY

Motion (Hardy, Cox) that the Board approve the closing of Vermilion Elementary and that it not be open under any circumstances for children in the age groups of 4-17 years of age.

A substitute motion was made by Sam and seconded by Thibodaux that the Board defer action on the closing of Vermilion Elementary until a later time.

After discussion on the above, Thibodaux withdrew his second to the substitute motion. Substitute motion died for lack of a second.

A substitute motion was made by Sam and seconded by Wilson that if the Board decides to close Vermilion Elementary that every consideration be given to relocating CAPS/LAPS/Charter High to Vermilion Elementary and that the student body from Vermilion Elementary be relocated at the CAPS/LAPS/Charter High (W. A. LeRosen Alternative School) and make it a School of Choice.

After discussion on the above, Wilson withdrew her second to the substitute motion. Substitute motion died for lack of a second.

The Chair called for a roll call vote on the original motion. Voting for were Cox, Guidry, Hardy and Hefner. Voting against were Gibson, Sam, Thibodaux and Wilson. Motion failed because of a tie vote. LaCombe was absent.

Motion (Cox, Guidry) that the Board approve the closing of Vermilion Elementary and that the Board allow Vermilion Elementary to be used as a LA4 PreK school, provided that it can be totally funded by LA4 grant money.

Hardy exited the meeting.

It was moved by Wilson that the motion be amended that the Board approve the closing of Vermilion Elementary and that if there were no funds available from LA4, that the student body from CAPS/LAPS/Charter High (W. A. LeRosen Alternative School) be relocated at Vermilion Elementary and that the student body at Vermilion Elementary be relocated at CAPS/LAPS/Charter High (W. A. LeRosen Alternative School).

After further discussion, Wilson withdrew her amendment to the motion.

Wilson called for the question.

The Chair called for a roll call vote on the original motion. Voting for were Cox, Guidry, Hefner and Wilson. Voting against were Gibson, Sam and Thibodaux. Motion carried. Hardy and LaCombe were absent.

E. APPROVAL OF STAFFING REQUIREMENTS FOR BLOCK SCHEDULING AT ACADIANA HIGH AND LAFAYETTE HIGH SCHOOLS

Motion (Cox, Gibson) that the Board approve block scheduling for Acadiana High and Lafayette High by adding four (4) teachers at Acadiana High and five (5) teachers at Lafayette High.

It was moved by Guidry that the motion be amended that if monies are available that the Board approve block scheduling for Acadiana High and Lafayette High by adding four (4) teachers at Acadiana High and five (5) teachers at Lafayette High and that Carencro High, Comeaux High and Northside High not lose any teaching staff.

Cox did not accept Guidry's amendment to the motion.

Wilson called for the question.

The Chair called for a roll call vote to cease debate. Voting for were Cox, Hefner, Sam, Thibodaux and Wilson. Voting against were Gibson, Guidry and Thibodaux. Motion carried. Hardy and LaCombe were absent.

A substitute motion was made by Guidry and seconded by Sam that the meeting be adjourned.

The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion to adjourn. Voting for were Guidry, Sam and Wilson. Voting against were Cox, Gibson, Hefner and Thibodaux. Motion failed. Hardy and LaCombe were absent.

The Chair called for a roll call vote on the original motion. Voting for were Cox, Gibson, Hefner, Sam, Thibodaux and Wilson. Voting against was Guidry. Motion carried. Hardy and LaCombe were absent.

F. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 05-04-1449 - EMPLOY SPECIAL COUNSEL

Motion (Thibodaux, Wilson) that the Board adopt Resolution 05-04-1449 - Employ Special Counsel. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION – 05-04-1449

EMPLOY SPECIAL COUNSEL

WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statutes 42:263 authorizes the retention of special counsel by any School Board upon a statement of reasons why such counsel is necessary and upon approval by the Attorney General; and,

WHEREAS, Lafayette Parish School Board and its staff are in need of special counsel experienced in the issues of various tort claims, desegregation and litigation, to be required on an as-needed basis as determined in writing, by the Assistant District Attorney presently general counsel for the Board; and,

WHEREAS, the Lafayette Parish School Board now determines that existing conditions make it imperative that this School Board and its staff obtain specialized legal counsel with experience, training and expertise in the areas of various tort claims, desegregation and litigation; and,

WHEREAS, through his representation, Lane Roy of Preis, Kraft and Roy of Lafayette, Louisiana has such experience, training and expertise to represent the Lafayette Parish School Board; now,

THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED, by the Lafayette Parish School Board that Lane Roy be retained as special counsel with respect to desegregation lawsuit, tort claims and litigation to be assigned on an as-needed basis upon the written recommendation of the Assistant District Attorney representing the Lafayette Parish School Board as general counsel for the purpose of advising, consulting with, and representing this School Board, its individual members, Superintendent, and administrative staff in connection with these described matters involving the school system including administrative hearings and/or litigation which might become necessary, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the said Lane Roy, individually and representing Preis, Kraft and Roy, shall be paid for his services, as well as the members and staff of Preis,

Kraft and Roy in accordance with the attached fee schedule, said fees not exceeding those set by the State Attorney General's Office; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Lane Roy shall keep itemized records for presentation to the Superintendent with respect to the services rendered at said hourly rates with the fees and charges and the Superintendent is hereby authorized and directed to pay the same upon submission and receipt thereof, with a copy of same being furnished to the Assistant District Attorney representing the school board as general counsel; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that subject to the approval of this resolution by the Attorney General, the employment of the Lane Roy shall be effective as of May 19, 2004, and this action ratifies the arrangements previously made by the Superintendent of Schools.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, the undersigned Secretary-Treasurer of the Lafayette Parish School Board, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted at its Regular Board Meeting of May 19, 2004, at which time a quorum was present and that same is in full force and effect.

Dated at Lafayette, Louisiana
this 19th day of May 2004.

/s/ James H. Easton
James H. Easton, Ed.D., Secretary-Treasurer
LAFAYETTE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Exhibit (A) to Resolution to Employ Special Counsel

\$150.00	Per Hour for Attorneys Having Experience of Ten Years or More in the Practice of Law
\$140.00	Per Hour for Attorneys Having Experience of Five to Ten Years in the Practice of Law
\$125.00	Per Hour for Attorneys Having Experience of Three to Five Years in the Practice of Law
\$100.00	Per Hour for Attorneys Having Experience of Less Than Three Years in the Practice of Law
\$ 45.00	Per Hour for Paralegal Services
\$ 25.00	Per Hour for Law Clerk Services

VII. REPORTS

A. Public Comments

Comments were made by the public. No action was taken.

B. Board President/Members

Comments were made by the Board members. No action was taken.

C. Superintendent

Comments were made by the Superintendent. No action was taken.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IX. ADJOURN

There being no further business, it was moved by Guidry, seconded by Sam, and carried that the meeting adjourn.

SIGNED:

/s/ Michael C. Hefner
Michael C. Hefner, President
LAFAYETTE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

SIGNED:

/s/ James H. Easton
James H. Easton, Ed.D., Secretary-Treasurer
LAFAYETTE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

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