

The Morehouse Parish School Board met in regular monthly session on August 2, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at Student Services Center, with the following members present Karen Diel, Louis Melton, Rick Hixon, President-Debbie Wilson, Veronica Loche-Tappin and Adrin Williams Vice-President. Also, present David Gray, Superintendent and Steve Katz, Attorney.

Absent- Tab Wilkerson

President Debbie Wilson called the meeting to order.

The next item on the agenda was the invocation led by Mr. Louis Melton.

A moment of silence was held for the following who died recently:

- Betty Johnson- Retired Teacher
- Edna Sue Johnston Jordan Warren- Special Services
- Linda Smith Dorsey – School Board Office Receptionist
- Rosie Spencer- Cafeteria Tech

Mrs. Debbie Wilson led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call to Establish a Quorum: Karen Diel, Louis Melton, Rick Hixon, President- Debbie Wilson, and Adrin Williams Vice-President

Absent- Tab Wilkerson

The next item on the agenda was to approve the agenda. ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon, none opposed the motion passed.***

The next item on the agenda was recognitions: (In honor of Mr. Prince Hutchinson) Hutchinson Family College Assistance Grant was awarded to Alaysia Smith and Raven Davenport for \$250.

The next item on the agenda was Superintendent's Announcements – ***Mr. Gray announced the Playground equipment has arrived for our school district. Mrs. Emfinger announced 21st Century renewed for another 5 years. They purchased a small Solar Array and a presentation was given on the 7th and 8th grade Aquaponics system.***

The next item on the agenda was Approval of Minutes - Regular School Board Meeting held on July 12, 2022 ***.On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to approve the Minutes from the Regular School Board Meeting held on July 12, 2022, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin, none opposed the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was Approval of monthly Travel Requests – ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve the monthly Travel Requests, seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon, none opposed the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was Approval of monthly Bus Requests- ***None for this meeting***

The next item on the agenda was to consider and take action with respect to adopting an ordinance providing for the continued levy within the Parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana, of (i) a one-half of one percent (1/2%) sales and use tax and (ii) a one-half of one percent (1/2%) sales and use tax for school purposes, such taxes having been authorized at a special election held in the Parish on Saturday, November 13, 2021. (Presented by Mrs. Debbie Wilson) ***On a motion of Mrs. Veronica Tappin to adopt an ordinance providing for the continued levy within the Parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana, of***

(i) a one-half of one percent (1/2%) sales and use tax and (ii) a one-half of one percent (1/2%) sales and use tax for school purposes, such taxes having been authorized at a special election held in the Parish on Saturday, November 13, 2021, seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon, Absent Mr. Tab Wilkerson, none opposed the motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to adopt the Morehouse Parish School Board 2022-2023 Revised School Year Calendar effective August 2, 2022. (Presented by Mr. David Gray)

- ✚ 11 month employee last day June 30, 2023
- ✚ June 19, 2023 Juneteenth Holiday

On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to adopt the Morehouse Parish School Board 2022-2023 Revised School Year Calendar effective August 2, 2022, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed the motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to authorize the Superintendent to advertise for bid on Cherry Ridge School with the minimum bids of the appraised value of \$56,000 and to grant the Superintendent the authority to execute all necessary documents. (Requested by Mr. David Gray, presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to authorize the Superintendent to advertise for bid on Cherry Ridge School with the minimum bids of the appraised value of \$56,000 and to grant the Superintendent the authority to execute all necessary documents, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, Three voted yes (Ms. Karen Diel, Mrs. Debbie Wilson and Mr. Rick Hixon) three opposed (Mr. Louis Melton, Mrs. Veronica Tappin and Ms. Adrin Williams), the motion did not pass.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive the Sales Tax Funds report for June 2022. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve the Sales Tax Funds report for June 2022, seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon. None opposed the motion carried unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive the General Fund report for June 2022. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve the General Fund report for June 2022, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin. None opposed the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Louis Melton asked for the estimated fund balance at the next Finance and Advisory committee meeting.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive the School Lunch Fund report for June 2022. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve the School Lunch Fund report for June 2022, seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon. None opposed the motion carried unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was requesting a signed copy of the following contracts, Volkert Construction Management and TBA (Tim Brandon Architecture firm). (Requested by Ms. Adrin Williams) ***Volkert contract provided, TBA (Tim Brandon Architecture firm) contract signing is pending. Ms. Adrin Williams wants a copy once it's signed.***

The next item on the agenda was requesting a copy of the state fire marshal list of code violations for Morehouse. (Requested by Ms. Adrin Williams) ***The list was provided. This was presentation only by Mr. Tony Roberts.***

The next item on the agenda was to give an annual report on East Morehouse Tax Fund. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***This was presentation only***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt the following amendment as a “**Second Reading**” to Policy C-7, Sports Injury Management and Concussions **Act No. 113** paragraph 6 on page 2. (Presented by Mr. David Gray) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt the following***

amendment as a “Second Reading” to Policy C-7, Sports Injury Management and Concussions Act No. 113 paragraph 6 on page 2, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt policy **H-30**, page **155.H** from **Act No. 624**, as a **“Second Reading”**, It essentially provides a process by which each high school is to provide an opportunity for each high school senior who is at least seventeen years of age to register to vote by using a school computer, etc. (Presented by Mr. Ralph Davenport), ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt policy H-30, page 155.H from Act No. 624, as a “Second Reading”, It essentially provides a process by which each high school is to provide an opportunity for each high school senior who is at least seventeen years of age to register to vote by using a school computer, etc, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt new policy **H-3.7g** beginning with page **72.H-1** passed from **Act No. 472** as a **“Second Reading”**. The Policy would require that if the school does not provide child care on campus or off campus, then the administration of that school should adopt policy itself for assisting parenting students in identifying child care providers. (Presented by Mr. Ralph Davenport) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt new policy H-3.7g beginning with page 72.H-1 passed from Act No. 472 as a “Second Reading”. The Policy would require that if the school does not provide child care on campus or off campus, then the administration of that school should adopt policy itself for assisting parenting students in identifying child care providers, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt new policy **H-4.8** from **Act. No. 324**, Requirements for the removal of a student for “protective custody” by some court or law enforcement official, as a **“Second Reading”**. (Presented by Mr. David Gray) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt new policy H-4.8 from Act. No. 324, Requirements for the removal of a student for “protective custody” by some court or law enforcement official, as a “Second Reading”, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt new policy **H-3.7h** from **Act. No. 562** as a **“Second Reading”**, which requires certain training for seizure disorder. It also requires school nurses and such school employees, such as school bus operators, to complete courses of instruction regarding treating students with seizure disorders developed by the Louisiana Department of Education. (Presented by Mr. Ralph Davenport) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt new policy H-3.7h from Act. No. 562 as a “Second Reading”, which requires certain training for seizure disorder. It also requires school nurses and such school employees, such as school bus operators, to complete courses of instruction regarding treating students with seizure disorders developed by the Louisiana Department of Education, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt policy **C-8** from **Act. No. 385** as a **“Second Reading”**, requires certain employees to receive annual training for sudden cardiac arrest. The State Department of Education is required to have such a program on its website to access free of charge, effective August 1, 2022. (Presented by Mr. Ralph Davenport) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt policy C-8 from Act. No. 385 as a “Second Reading”, requires certain employees to receive annual training for sudden cardiac arrest. The State Department of Education is required to have such a program on its website to access free of charge, effective August 1, 2022, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt an addition to policy **H-2.8** from **Act. No. 325** as a **“Second Reading”** adding a fourth paragraph that requires the principal of each school to adopt a check-

out policy. (Presented by Mr. David Gray) *On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt an addition to policy H-2.8 from Act. No. 325 as a “First Reading” adding a fourth paragraph that requires the principal of each school to adopt a check-out policy, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt amendment to policies **F-2, Equal Employment Opportunity and H-1, Equal Educational Opportunities from Act. No. 529**, to add that statutory prohibition of not discriminating based upon natural, protective or cultural hairstyle, as a “**First Reading**”. (Presented by Mrs. Teresa Merritt and Mr. Ralph Davenport) *On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt amendment to policies F-2, Equal Employment Opportunity and H-1, Equal Educational Opportunities from Act. No. 529, to add that statutory prohibition of not discriminating based upon natural, protective or cultural hairstyle, as a “Second Reading”, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt an addition to **section H**, as policy **H-3.7i** from **Act. No. 315** as a “**First Reading**”, It deals with the requirement to have a secure location in each classroom where auto-injectable epinephrine is stored if a student has a condition that puts him or her at risk of anaphylaxis. It is also required each school to place this policy in the student handbook and post it on its website. (Presented by Mr. David Gray) *On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt an addition to section H, as policy H-3.7i from Act. No. 315 as a “Second Reading”, It deals with the requirement to have a secure location in each classroom where auto-injectable epinephrine is stored if a student has a condition that puts him or her at risk of anaphylaxis. It is also required each school to place this policy in the student handbook and post it on its website, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt amendment to policy **F-10.4** on page **66.F** to include “special circumstances” as grounds for sick leave, from **Act No. 648**, as a “**Second Reading**”. (Presented by Mrs. Teresa Merritt) *On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt amendment to policy F-10.4 on page 66.F to include “special circumstances” as grounds for sick leave, from Act No. 648, as a “Second Reading”, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt new policy **E-1.7b** to be inserted as page **12.E-1** as a “**Second Reading**”. This is from **Act. No. 485**, It requires that each “patriotic organization “ that has a youth group listed as a “patriotic society” in Title 36 of the United States Code can use a public school building for student participation and activities at times other than instructional time during the school day. (Presented by Mr. David Gray) *On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt new policy E-1.7b to be inserted as page 12.E-1 as a “Second Reading”. This is from Act. No. 485, It requires that each “patriotic organization “ that has a youth group listed as a “patriotic society” in Title 36 of the United States Code can use a public school building for student participation and activities at times other than instructional time during the school day, seconded Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt the following revision requirements of **Act No. 204 & 424** to Policy **E-11, Purchasing & Bids** and quotations as a “**Second Reading**”. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt the following revision requirements of Act No. 204 & 424 to Policy E-11, Purchasing & Bids and quotations as a “Second Reading , seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt the following additions to current school board policy **G-15.13, PARENTS’ RIGHTS**, with the additions beginning with section D as a “**Second Reading**”. The requirements of **Act. No. 466** require that the entirety of policy **G-15.13** be posted on the

school board's website in a "prominent location that is readily accessible from the main landing page of the website." The act also requires the same information to be distributed to parents during the first week of school each year when paperwork is sent home or any electronic means through which communication is routinely delivered to parents. (Presented by Mr. David Gray) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt the following additions to current school board policy G-15.13, PARENTS' RIGHTS, with the additions beginning with section D as a "Second Reading". The requirements of Act. No. 466 require that the entirety of policy G-15.13 be posted on the school board's website in a "prominent location that is readily accessible from the main landing page of the website." The act also requires the same information to be distributed to parents during the first week of school each year when paperwork is sent home or any electronic means through which communication is routinely delivered to parents, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt the following Policy and Act. 456 procedures for using cameras in Special Education Classrooms **G-16**, page **50.G**, as a "**Second Reading**". Please see the attachment at board members stations. (Presented by Dr. Dana Boockoff) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt the following Policy and Act. 456 procedures for using cameras in Special Education Classrooms G-16, page 50.G, as a "Second Reading", seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt the following Discipline Policy Review Committee's recommendation to the Morehouse Parish Discipline Policies:

- To adopt as a "**Second Reading**" an additional revision to policy **H-3.5** as recommended by the discipline Policy Review Committee." (Presented by Mr. Ralph Davenport) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to adopt as a "Second Reading" an additional revision to policy H-3.5 as recommended by the discipline Policy Review Committee.***, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.
- To adopt as a "**Second Reading**" a revised Student Usage Of Cell Phones, Electronic Devices, Games And Toys, policy **H-3.4c-2** as recommended by the Discipline Policy Review Committee. (Presented by Mr. Ralph Davenport) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to adopt as a "Second Reading" a revised Student Usage Of Cell Phones, Electronic Devices, Games And Toys, policy H-3.4c-2 as recommended by the Discipline Policy Review Committee, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, two opposed (Mrs. Veronica Tappin & Ms. Adrin Williams and the motion passed .***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt the amendment policy **H-15.1, Act. No. 697** Bullying (Policy Prohibiting Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying of Students by other Students) as a '**First Reading**', (Presented by Mr. Ralph Davenport) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to adopt the amendment policy H-15.1, Act. No. 697 Bullying (Policy Prohibiting Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying of Students by other Students) As a 'First Reading', seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt the addition to policy **E-1.7** Regulations Governing the use of School Facilities in Morehouse parish, **item 15**, Any nonprofit organization which has utilized Bastrop High School and/or other school facilities for at least ten years during the summer months when school is not in session for the purpose of a day camp for youth shall be granted a 90% reduction in charges for use of school facilities for up to four days in the summer for the purpose of conducting a camp for youth. Permission for the use of any facility must be obtained from the principal of the school and approved by the Superintendent. As a "**First Reading**", (Presented by Mr. David Gray) ***On a motion of Ms. Karen Diel to adopt the addition to policy E-1.7 Regulations Governing the use of School Facilities in Morehouse parish, item 15, Any nonprofit organization which has utilized Bastrop High School and/or other school facilities for at least ten years during the summer months when school is***

not in session for the purpose of a day camp for youth shall be granted a 90% reduction in charges for use of school facilities for up to four days in the summer for the purpose of conducting a camp for youth. Permission for the use of any facility must be obtained from the principal of the school and approved by the Superintendent. As a “First Reading”, with correction of (Superintendent Office), seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon, none opposed the motion passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to consider and take necessary action to create the position of Math Specialist at Bastrop High School. This would be an 11- month position. (Presented by Mrs. Marilyn Taylor) *On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to create the position of Math Specialist at Bastrop High School. This would be an 11- month position, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel, none opposed the motion passed unanimously.*

To discuss and take the appropriate action to name the football field at Bastrop High School “Brad Bradshaw Field” in honor of Coach Brad Bradshaw. (Requested by Coach Korea Davis and community members, Presented by Coach Korea Davis and community members) *This was presented by Mr. Van Lee, on a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to name the football field at Bastrop High School “Brad Bradshaw Field” in honor of Coach Brad Bradshaw, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin, none opposed the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to present and updated repair list for schools and offices (Presented by Mr. Tony Roberts.) *This was discussion only.*

The next item on the agenda was the Personnel Report (See Attachment)

The next item on the agenda was Public Comment: *None for this meeting*

The meeting was adjourned by Mrs. Debbie Wilson, President

Mrs. Debbie Wilson, President

Mr. David Gray, Superintendent