

The Morehouse Parish School Board met in regular monthly session on January 13, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at Student Services Center, with the following members present, **Louis Melton, Rick Hixon, Debbie Wilson, President, Veronica Loche-Tappin, and Adrin Williams Vice-President.**

Absent- Karen Diel, and Tab Wilkerson.

Also, present **David Gray, Superintendent and Steve Katz, Attorney.**

Mrs. Debbie Wilson, President called the meeting to order.

The next item on the agenda was the invocation led by Mr. Rick Hixon.

A moment of silence was held for the following who died recently - Mary Faye Watkins-Retired Teacher, and Margaret Norsworthy- Retired Bus Driver.

Mrs. Debbie Wilson led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call to Establish a Quorum:

Louis Melton, Rick Hixon, Debbie Wilson, President, Veronica Loche-Tappin, and Adrin Williams Vice-President.

Absent- Karen Diel, and 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 –

****2021-2022 Teachers of the year were recognized****

Beekman Charter School- Jennifer Mangum, Alexa Robinson and Lindsey Freeland

Morehouse Magnet School- Elementary- Angela McMillan, and High School – Ashley Allen

Delta Elementary School- Carkinda Trotter

Morehouse Elementary School- Minnette Brown

Bastrop High School- Leslie Bolden and William Scarborough

Morehouse Parish Elementary Teacher of the year- Carkinda Trotter

Morehouse Parish Junior High Teacher of the year-Alexa Robinson

Morehouse Parish High School Teacher of the year- Ashley Allen

****The next item on the agenda was the recognition of Mr. Louis Henry****

Mr. Louis Henry and sponsors were recognized for their Community Humanitarian contribution of \$10, 000 to music students and Bastrop High School.

**** The next item on the agenda was recognition of Miss Alyssa Dismuke****

Miss Alyssa Dismuke won the (Distinguished Student Athlete) Heisman Award for the State of Louisiana.

**** The next item on the agenda was recognition of the outgoing School Board President****

Mr. Gray presented Mrs. Veronica Loche-Tappin with a plaque and gavel for her year of service as Morehouse School Board President.

The next item on the agenda was Superintendent's Announcements- **Mr. Gray read a memo celebrating Morehouse Parish School Board members for School Board Recognition Month. This memo was posted on Morehouse Parish School Board website and Morehouse Parish School Board District Facebook page. Certificates were presented to each board member and refreshments were served after the meeting for each member.**

The next item on the agenda was the Approval of Minutes - Regular School Board Meeting held on December 2 & December 15, 2021. **On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve the Minutes from the Regular School Board Meeting held on December 2 & December 15, 2021, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin, none opposed the motion passed unanimously.**

The next item on the agenda was the 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 carried unanimously.**

The next item on the agenda was the Approval of monthly Bus Requests – **On a motion of Ms. Adrin Williams to approve monthly Bus Requests, seconded by Mr. Louis Melton, none opposed, the motion carried unanimously.**

The next item on the agenda was to receive the Sales Tax Funds report for November 2021. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs)**On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve the Sales Tax Funds report for November 2021, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin, none opposed, the motion carried unanimously.**

The next item on the agenda was to receive the General Fund report for November 2021. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) **On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to approve the General Fund report for November 2021, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin, none opposed, the motion carried unanimously.**

The next item on the agenda was to receive the School Lunch Fund report for November 2021. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) **On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to approve the School Lunch Fund report for November 2021, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin, none opposed, the motion carried unanimously.**

The next item on the agenda was to consider and take action with respect to adopting a resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the result of the special elections held in (i) the Parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana to authorize the renewal of sales and use taxes therein, (ii) School District Number A (Parishwide) of the Parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and to authorize the renewal of ad valorem taxes therein and (iii) East Morehouse School District of the Parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana to authorize the renewal of an ad valorem tax therein, on Saturday, November 13, 2021. (Presented by Mr. Gray) ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to adopt the resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the result of the special elections held in (i) the Parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana to authorize the renewal of sales and use taxes therein, (ii) School District Number A (Parishwide) of the Parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and to authorize the renewal of ad valorem taxes therein and (iii) East Morehouse School District of the Parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana to authorize the renewal of an ad valorem tax therein, on Saturday, November 13, 2021, seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon, none opposed, the motion carried unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to review and consider adopting the new (12-30-2021) LDH Covid-19 Screening Decision Tree that will change the current quarantine isolation and masking guidelines. (Presented by Mr. Gray) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to adopt the new (12-30-2021) LDH Covid-19 Screening Decision Tree that will change the current quarantine isolation and masking guidelines, seconded by Mr. Louis Melton, none opposed, the motion carried unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to announce the Committee chairperson and members for 2022 Finance and Advisory Committee. (Presented by Mrs. Debbie Wilson) ***Chairperson- Rick Hixon, Members- Karen Diel, Debbie Wilson, Adrin Williams and Louis Melton. This was presentation only.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive a report of the 2020-2021 simulated test results for each school. (Requested by Ms. Adrin Williams) ***This was presentation only.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive a report from the principals of each school regarding their plan of action on how to increase school performance scores. (Requested by Ms. Adrin Williams) ***This was presentation only.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt Policy F-29 Reasonable Accommodations for Pregnancy, Childbirth and Related Medical Conditions, Act No. 393 as a **First Reading**". (Presented by Mrs. Teresa Merritt) ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to receive and adopt Policy F-29 Reasonable Accommodations for Pregnancy, Childbirth and Related Medical Conditions, Act No. 393 as a First Reading", seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon, none opposed, the motion carried unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt the amendment to Policy D-11 Purchasing & Bids and Quotations Policy as a **First Reading**". (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to receive and adopt the amendment to Policy D-11 Purchasing & Bids and Quotations Policy as a First Reading", seconded by Mr. Louis Melton, none opposed, the motion carried unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and adopt the addition to Policy B-18 adding a paragraph K. on page 42.1B of Act 272 as a **First Reading**". (Presented by Mrs. Teresa Merritt), ***On a motion of Mrs. Veronica Tappin to receive and adopt the addition to Policy B-18 adding a paragraph K. on page 42.1B of Act 272 as a First Reading", seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon, none opposed, the motion carried unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive an update regarding how Covid-19 stipends were distributed to bus drivers and updates on bus routes. Also plan of action for upcoming year on obtaining more drivers. (Requested by Ms. Adrin Williams). *This was presentation only.*

The next item on the agenda was **Public Comment:**

✚ To discuss conflict of interest. **Limit 3-5 minutes** (Presented by Mrs. Sheneka Hatfield)
Mrs. Sheneka Hatfield was not present.

The next item on the agenda was Personnel -

a. Personnel Report (See Attachment)

The meeting was adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED BY Mrs. Debbie Wilson

Mrs. Debbie Wilson, President

David Gray, Superintendent