

# MOREHOUSE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

"Obtaining Excellence in Education Through Quality Teaching"

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Karen Diel, President  
District 1

Louis Melton, Vice President  
District 2

Robert Johnson  
District 3

Rick Hixon  
District 4

Debbie Wilson  
District 5

Veronica Loche-Tappin  
District 6

Adrin Williams  
District 7

*Mission: "Academic Excellence through Quality Teaching"*  
*Vision: "Continuing to a 'C' in 2023"*

**DAVID GRAY**  
Superintendent

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

Notice Posted:

May 3, 2023 at 1:44 pm

A public meeting will be held as follows:

**DATE: Thursday, May 4, 2023**

**TIME: 5:30 p.m.**

**PLACE OF MEETING:** Morehouse Student Services Center  
1607 Martin Luther King South  
Bastrop, LA 71220

## **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation
3. A moment of silence for –
  - Rosie Hobbs – Retired Custodian
  - Sara Nell Woodall Younger – Retired Teacher
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Roll Call to Establish a Quorum
6. Approval of Agenda
7. Recognitions:
  - Employee of the month
  - JAG Achievement Award
  - JAG Community Service Award
  - JAG Academic Achievement Award
  - Recognize Morehouse parish School District's newly certified teachers.

**"An Equal Opportunity Employer"**

- Recognize Morehouse Parish Schools' Certified Mentor Teachers
8. Superintendent's Announcements (Mr. David Gray)
  9. Approval of Minutes – Regular School Board Meeting held on April 6, 2023.

### **Old Business**

10. To receive the report from the Finance and Advisory Committee meeting held on April 25, 2023.

The Finance and Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 5:30 pm. **Rick Hixon-Chairperson** called the meeting to order. In attendance were the following: **Louis Melton, Robert Johnson and Adrin Williams**. Also present were **Mrs. Veronica Loche-Tappin, Mrs. Debbie Wilson, David Gray, Superintendent, and Stephen Katz, Attorney**.  
**Absent- Ms. Karen Diel**

The following agenda items were presented to the Finance and Advisory Committee:

1. To receive the Sales Tax Funds report for March 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to approve the Sales Tax Funds report for March 2023, seconded by Mr. Robert Johnson. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.*  
**Madam President, I so move.**
2. To receive the General Fund report for March 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to approve the General Fund report for March 2023, seconded by Mr. Robert Johnson. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.*  
**Madam President, I so move.**
3. To receive the School Lunch Fund report for March 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to approve the School Lunch Fund report for March 2023, seconded by Mr. Robert Johnson. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.*  
**Madam President, I so move.**
4. To receive the East Morehouse Tax Fund report for March 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to approve the East Morehouse Tax Fund report for March 2023, seconded by Mr. Robert Johnson. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.*  
**Madam President, I so move.**
5. To receive the quarterly budget to actual comparisons on the funds below.
  - A. Sales Tax Funds

- B. General Fund
- C. School Lunch Fund
- D. East Morehouse Tax Fund

*On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to approve the quarterly budget to actual comparisons for the Sales Tax Funds, General Fund, School Lunch Fund, and East Morehouse Tax Fund for the first quarter of 2023, seconded by Mr. Robert Johnson. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.*

**Madam President, I so move.**

- 6. To receive the Semi- annual budget to actual comparisons on all funds below.
  - A. Sales Tax Funds
  - B. General Fund
  - C. School Lunch Fund
  - D. East Morehouse Tax Fund
  - E. Special Revenue Funds

*On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to approve the Semi-annual budget to actual comparisons for the Sales Tax Funds, General Fund, School Lunch Fund, East Morehouse Tax Fund, and Special Revenue Funds for 2023, seconded by Mr. Robert Johnson. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.*

**Madam President, I so move.**

- 7. To receive a report on the MFP mid-year adjustment. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *This was report only.*
- 8. Request to receive quotes for Student accident insurance. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to grant authority to receive quotes for Student accident insurance, seconded by Mr. Robert Johnson. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.*  
**Madam President, I so move.**
- 9. Request to receive quotes for Casualty insurance. ( Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to grant authority to receive quotes for Casualty insurance, seconded by Mr. Robert Johnson. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.*  
**Madam President, I so move.**
- 10. Request to change agent of record workers comp through LUBA insurance. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to grant authority to change agent of record workers comp through LUBA insurance, seconded by Mr. Robert Johnson. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.*  
**Madam President, I so move.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**

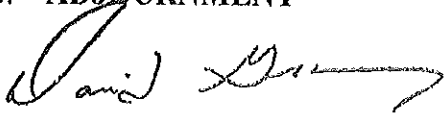
### **New Business**

- 11. Adopt the 2023 millage rate(s). (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs.)
- 12. Approval of monthly Travel Requests (Presented by Mr. David Gray)
- 13. Approval of monthly Bus Requests (Presented by Mr. David Gray)

14. To consider and take action with respect to adopting a resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the result of the special election held in School District Number A (Parishwide) of the Parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, April 29, 2023 to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds therein. (Presented by Ms. Karen Diel)
15. To request that the board accept the construction **low** bid from Gentry Construction Company for the ESSER III capitol improvement program in the amount of \$4,200,000. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs)
16. To adopt a proposal for the 2023 Summer Work Schedule. (Presented by Mr. David Gray)
17. To adopt a proposal for the 2023-2024 School Calendar effective July 1, 2023. (Presented by Mr. David Gray).
18. To adopt a proposal for the 2023-2024 Morehouse Parish School Board/Committee Meeting Schedule. ( Presented by Ms. Karen Diel)
19. To grant permission to advertise the Lease of land for hunting purposes in Section 16, Township 23 North, Range 4 East, containing approximately 642 acres, for five years commencing August 1, 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs)
20. To authorize the Superintendent to advertise for bids on property located at 4619 Keller Avenue, Collinston, LA a bid of 85% of the appraised value of \$70,000.00 and to grant the Superintendent the authority to execute all necessary documents. (Requested by Mr. David Gray, presented by Ms. Ersula Downs)
21. To receive the Discipline Report ( April 2023) (Presented by Mr. Ralph Davenport)
22. To consider adopting an amendment to policy H-3.4c-2 Student Usage of Cell Phones, Electronic Devices, Games and Toys by substituting two new paragraphs for the old first paragraph and amending the fifth paragraph as a “**First Reading**” *Violation of this policy will result in the confiscation of the device by school authorities and shall be grounds for disciplinary action according to the individual school's hierarchy of consequences for violations of the Student Usage of Cell Phones, Electronic Devices, Games and Toys Policy.* (Presented by Mr. Ralph Davenport)
23. To consider adopting an amendment to the fifth paragraph of policy **H-3.6f** as a “**First Reading**” so it will now read *Each student participating in the fight will give his/her account of the incident to the school administrator. The school administrator may require the student to write an account of the incident. If a student's participation in the fight is deemed as self-defense, no punishment will be issued to that participant.* (Presented by Mr. Ralph Davenport)

24. "To discuss and take the necessary action to authorize the summer program at Bastrop High School and Delta Elementary School." (Presented by Mr. Louis Melton)
25. "To list, discuss, compare and contrast the items that need to be repaired at schools." (Information from all principals and Mr. Tony Roberts, Requested by Mr. Louis Melton)
26. Public Comment: None for this meeting.
27. Personnel :
  - a. Personnel Report (See Attachment)

28. **ADJOURNMENT**



David Gray, Superintendent  
Morehouse Parish Schools

Pursuant to the requirements of LSA-R.S. 42:19, no matter may be discussed by the Morehouse Parish School Board unless it appears on the agenda published at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting unless a unanimous vote of the members of the school board votes to take up the matter.

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