

The Morehouse Parish School Board met in regular monthly session on October 3, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at Morehouse Student Services Center, with the following members present Karen Diel - President, Louis Melton – Vice President, Robert Johnson, Rick Hixon, Debbie Wilson, Veronica Loche-Tappin. Also, present David Gray, Superintendent and Steve Katz, Attorney.

Adrin Williams (Arrived at 5:47 p.m.)

President Karen Diel called the meeting to order.

The next item on the agenda was the invocation led by Mrs. Debbie Wilson.

The next item was a moment of silence for –

- Vera Henry- Retired Math Coordinator
- Ernest **Choyce**- Retired Principal
- Joan Winnon- Retired Paraprofessional
- Audrey Landers- Retired Teacher

Ms. Karen Diel led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call to Establish a Quorum: Present - Karen Diel - President, Louis Melton – Vice President, Robert Johnson, Rick Hixon, Debbie Wilson, and Veronica Loche-Tappin. **Absent- Adrin Williams**

The next item on the agenda was the approval of the agenda. *On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approval, seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon. Correction made by Mrs. Veronica Tappin pertaining to Ernest Choyce last name spelling. None opposed the motion passed.*

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

The next item on the agenda was Superintendent’s Announcements – Mr. Lyn Kenley stated all projects are on schedule. Updates were given on the ESSER III projects for Bastrop High School, Morehouse Elementary School, Morehouse Magnet School and Delta Elementary School restroom renovations. The running Track for Bastrop High School will be updated after the football season. Modular classrooms at Delta have been delivered. Sites are being prepared for building delivery and will arrive in about two weeks for Morehouse Magnet School and Morehouse Elementary School.

The next item on the agenda was Approval of Minutes – Public Hearing held on September 5, 2023 at 5:30 pm and the Regular School Board Meeting held on September 5, 2023 at 6:00 pm. *On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to approve the minutes of both, seconded by Mr. Louis Melton. 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 Mrs. Debbie Wilson. None opposed the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was Approval of monthly Bus Requests- *On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve the monthly bus request, seconded by Mrs. Debbie Wilson. None opposed the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to receive the Sales Tax Funds report for August 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to approve the Sales Tax Funds report for August 2023, seconded by Mr. Louis Melton. None opposed the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to receive the General Fund report for August 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to approve the General Fund report for August 2023, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin. None opposed the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to receive the School Lunch Fund report for August 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to approve the School Lunch Fund report for August 2023, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin. None opposed the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to receive the East Morehouse Tax Fund report for August 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to approve the East Morehouse Tax Fund report for August 2023, seconded by Mrs. Debbie Wilson. None opposed the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to accept bid and purchase used school buses. (Presented by Mr. Ralph Davenport) *On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to accept the bid and purchase three used school buses from Ross, seconded by Mrs. Debbie Wilson. None opposed the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to adopt Forethought's revisions to sections A, B and C of the policy manual as a "Second Reading" to replace all of the former sections A, B and C of the policy manual except sections A-10.1 and A-10.2, B-14.13, B-17, C-4, C-5, C-6.1 through C-6.10, 6.12 through C-6.14 which will be included on Forethought's section D, E,G and K of the revised policy manual when it is developed by Forethought. (Presented by Mr. Stephen Katz) *On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to adopt Forethought's revisions to sections A, B and C of the policy manual as a "Second Reading" to replace all of the former sections A, B and C of the policy manual except sections A-10.1 and A-10.2, B-14.13, B-17, C-4, C-5, C-6.1 through C-6.10, 6.12 through C-6.14 which will be included on Forethought's section D, E,G and K of the revised policy manual when it is developed by Forethought, seconded by Mrs. Debbie Wilson.*

Roll Call Vote:

Karen Diehl- Yes

Louis Melton- No

Robert Johnson- Yes

Rick Hixon- Yes

Debbie Wilson-Yes

Veronica Tappin-No

Adrin Williams-No

The motion passed. Ms. Adrin Williams wanted to go on record that she voted no, because she will not vote yes without seeing everything in Policy A, B and C.

The next item on the agenda was to adopt policy E-14 Act. 301 Video/Audio Monitoring of School Board Property as a "Second Reading." (Attachment is in your board packets (Presented by Mr. Stephen Katz) *On a motion of Mrs. Debbie Wilson to adopt policy E-14 Act. 301 Video/Audio Monitoring of School Board Property as a "Second Reading, seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon.*

Roll Call Vote:

Karen Diel- Yes

Louis Melton- No

Robert Johnson- Yes

Rick Hixon- Yes

Debbie Wilson-Yes

Veronica Tappin-No

Adrin Williams-No

The motion passed.

The next item on the agenda was to discuss and consider paying the COVID-19/ESSER stipend as a one-time payment of \$1,500 on November 17th instead of two payments of \$750 to be paid on November 17th and March 22nd. (Presented by Mr. Jesse Winston, Jr.) ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to pay COVID-19/ESSER stipend as a one-time payment of \$1,500 on November 17th instead of two payments of \$750 to be paid on November 17th and March 22nd, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin. None opposed the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to discuss and consider paying the one-time stipend of \$2,000 for certified staff and \$1,000 for support staff on October 6th instead of October 20th. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to pay the one-time stipend of \$2,000 for certified staff and \$1,000 for support staff on October 6th instead of October 20th, seconded by Mr. Robert Johnson. None opposed the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to discuss and approve the amended salary schedules for 2023-2024. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to approve the amended salary schedules for 2023-2024, seconded by Mr. Robert Johnson. None opposed the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive the Discipline Report (September 2023). (Presented by Mr. Ralph Davenport) ***This was discussion only.***

The next item on the agenda was "To receive a Fire Marshall's inspection report for each school." (Presented by Mr. Louis Melton) ***This was discussion only.***

The next item on the agenda was "To discuss and take the necessary action to ensure after extracurricular/academic activities, that transportation is provided for students that live outside Bastrop city limits, especially in the Beekman and East Morehouse district area." (Presented by Mr. Louis Melton) ***This was discussion only.***

The next item on the agenda was "To discuss and take the necessary action to amend Policy 10d.2 so that board members may attend National Trainings which are not held in Arkansas, Louisiana, or Mississippi to acquire the necessary CLU's. National Trainings are not held in the aforementioned states and as such needed CLU's cannot be acquired." (Requested by Mrs. Veronica Tappin) ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to amend Policy 10d.2 so that board members may attend National Trainings which are not held in Arkansas, Louisiana, or Mississippi to acquire the necessary CLU's. National Trainings are not held***

in the aforementioned states and as such needed national CLU's cannot be acquired." seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams.

Roll Call Vote:

Karen Diel- No

Louis Melton- Yes

Robert Johnson- No

Rick Hixon- No

Debbie Wilson-No

Veronica Tappin-Yes

Adrin Williams-Yes

The motion failed.

The next item on the agenda was "To discuss and receive a copy of a detailed descriptive list of the funds borrowed from Capital One Bank." (Requested by Ms. Adrin Williams) *This was discussion only.*

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

The next item on the agenda was Personnel:

- a. Personnel Report (See Attachment)

The meeting was adjourned by Ms. Karen Diel, President

Ms. Karen Diel, President

Mr. David Gray, Superintendent

