



Special Session School Board Meeting (Friday, February 23, 2018)

Generated by Gwendolyn B Kerner on Sunday, February 25, 2018

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM

1. Meeting Opening

Procedural: 1.01 Roll Call

Members present

Sandy Denapolis-Bosarge, Tiffany Kuhn, Melinda L. Doucet, Marion Bonura, Melinda L Bourgeois, Mark C Morgan, Ricky Johnson, Larry Dale, Cedric Floyd.

Procedural: 1.02 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The Invocation was led by Ricky Johnson and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sheriff Joe Lopinto.

2. Agenda

Mr. Morgan amended the agenda to allow Sheriff Joe Lopinto to address the board.

Motion by Marion Bonura, second by Larry Dale

Final Resolution: carried.

Yeas: Sandy Denapolis-Bosarge, Tiffany Kuhn, Melinda L. Doucet, Marion Bonura, Melinda L Bourgeois, Mark C Morgan, Ricky Johnson, Larry Dale, Cedric Floyd.

Sheriff Lopinto stated that due to the recent news of the Florida school shooting he wanted to address the board to ensure the public that the Sheriff's office is doing everything possible to keep the students safe. Sheriff Lopinto stated that the Sherriff's office works closely with the Jefferson Parish School System and said that we have a great community and is safe. He explained that if parents know of things are going on social media to please inform the Sheriff's office not to repost it. Mr. Morgan asked the Sherriff if the protocols that the school system has in place are adequate. Sheriff Lopinto said that he felt it was and offered to sit down with the board and Administration to see if there may be ways to improve.

Action, Discussion: 2.01 Acceptance of Applications for Superintendent.

Mr. Morgan asked Gwen Kerner, Acting Executive Assistant to the Board, if any applications had been received. Ms. Kerner said that two applications had been received one being from Dr. Cade Brumley and the second from Glenn Mayeaux. Mr. Morgan said that the advertisement stated that it had to be post marked by February 23, 2018 and that we would need to wait until Monday, February 26, 2018.

Action, Discussion: 2.02 Schedule of Public Interviews for a New Superintendent

There was a brief discussion by the board. Mr. Bonura asked Mr. Morgan if they were going to vote on a schedule for the interview process, Mr. Morgan stated that there was going to be a vote on it. Ms. Bourgeois asked is there a process that they had to go through before a date could be picked. Mr. Bonura asked if someone had a plan for the process. Mr. Morgan said that they needed to know how many applications they would receive which was the reason for the meeting. Mr. Bonura stated that he was not pleased with how it was not advertised nationwide and there was not a plan. Mr. Floyd said that he had done a second reading on a process that was done in 2015. Mr. Bonura also stated that his plan was to have A. to have teacher and staff, B. public (Parish Officials, business community, C. Board Members in the interview process.

Mr. Floyd made a motion as stated: Move that the board adopt a schedule similar to what was done in 2015 with the process going forward.

Motion was moved by Cedric Floyd, second by Ricky Johnson

Mr. Dale made a substitute motion as follows:

Move that we advertise starting Monday, March 5th, the credentials and qualification and do an infomercial if needed of the candidates, check references for the entire week at which time of March 5th we will have a public interview with the questions as spoken by Ms. Doucet and then vote for the new Superintendent.

Public comments: Cathy Johnson, Roberto Ferttata spoke in favor of a more transparent process. Rosalyn Spencer was not in favor of the short process. Matthew Gibson was in favor of re-opening the application process.

Mr. Floyd stated that he was not in favor of the substitute motion. Ms. Denapolis-Bosarge stated that only two people applied and all the legal requirements were completed and was in favor of the substitute motion. Mr. Bonura was not in favor of the process to be done in one night. He stated that it was not being transparent and wanted the public to know that it was a done deal. Ms. Doucet suggested that the questions could be done in writing in advance so that all could have a full representation.

Moved by Larry Dale, second by Mark C Morgan

Final Resolution: motion carried

Yeas: Mark C Morgan, Sandy Denapolis-Bosarge, Tiffany Kuhn, Melinda L Doucet, Melinda L Bourgeois, Larry Dale.

Nays: Marion Bonura, Ricky Johnson, Cedric Floyd

Mr. Morgan stated for the minutes to reflect that Mr. Bonura was out of order. Mr. Morgan directed the administration that the questions by the reading of Ms. Doucet be advertised, collected and sorted by the administration for the meeting in March 5, 2018.

Action, Discussion: 2.03 Selection of Interim/Acting Superintendent

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to nominate Lale Geer as Acting Superintendent.

Public comment: Jessie Isadore spoke that he was dissatisfied with how the board is conducting itself. Mr. Morgan apologized for the disruption and the disrespect to the process that is in place.

Mr. Floyd stated that a contract should be done regardless of the time frame and if there was a difference in pay. Mr. Morgan asked Mr. Fanning was the board required to have a contract and Mr. Fanning stated that there was not requirement that a contract be done. Mr. Floyd stated that the board needed to approve the contract and would want to have it at this meeting. Mr. Morgan spoke with Mr. Geer and that he didn't expect any additional compensation. Mr. Floyd stated that the effective date would be March 1st. Mr. Bonura no matter the difference of the board they are all concern about the safety of the students. Mr. Morgan spoke about the importance of being a Superintendent and that he had all the confidence with Mr. Geer with the transitioning of the staff.

Mr. Morgan converted the motion to a joint motion of the entire Board to appoint Lale Geer to Acting Superintendent.

Final Resolution: motion carried

Yeas: Mark C Morgan, Sandy Denapolis-Bosarge, Tiffany Kuhn, Melinda L Doucet, Melinda L Bourgeois, Larry Dale, Marion Bonura, Ricky Johnson, Cedric Floyd.

First Reading authored by Mr. Bonura

Move that the President appoint a board and/or committee to discuss a new contract for the next Superintendent.

First Reading authored by Mr. Morgan

Move that the Jefferson Parish School Board prohibit political and/or election comments at meetings of the board, having deemed that such comment is disruptive, inflammatory, self-promoting, threatening and/or interferers with the conducting of the business of the board and the school system.

Political and/or election comment is defined as, any reference, comment, communication or discussion, direct or veiled, that references, directly or indirectly an individual's or collection of individuals' past, present or future election, campaign, or defeat in an election, to the Jefferson Parish School Board.

Any person addressing the board who engages in political and/or election comment shall be found out of order and forfeit the right to further address the board at that meeting. Any board member who engages in political and/or election comment shall be found out of order and in violation of board policy.

First Reading authored by Mr. Morgan

Move that the Jefferson Parish School Board establish a policy that upon a board member being found out of order such that the business of the board and school system cannot be conducted and the meeting of the Jefferson Parish School is adjourned due to the conduct, the board attorney or his designee shall immediately cause an action to be brought in the 24th Judicial District for Jefferson Parish seeking to restrain and enjoin the disruptive behavior at future meetings.

3. End Meeting

Procedural: 3.01 Adjourn