

THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRANT PARISH SCHOOL
BOARD OF THE PARISH OF GRANT, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN
AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024

The Parish School Board of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana, met in its regular meeting place, the Grant Parish School Board Office, Colfax, Louisiana, in Regular Session, Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 6:00 o'clock P.M.

There were present Mrs. April Brouillette, Mr. Lloyd Whitman, Mr. Mason Briggs, Mrs. Karen Layton, Mr. Mike Slaughter, Mrs. Deborah "Debbie" McFarland and Mr. William "Bill" Riggs. Mrs. Lisa Roberts was absent.

Dr. Erin Stokes, Secretary-Treasurer was also present.

The Parish School Board of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana, was duly convened by Mr. Mason Briggs, President of the Grant Parish School Board, who then stated that the Grant Parish School Board was ready to transact any business which may come before the Board.

Motion by Mrs. Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mrs. McFarland and unanimously approved the February 6, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes.

No guests signed in to be recognized.

Committee items:

Construction Committee:

Mr. Scott Gaspard, Grant Parish School Board Construction Manager, updated the Board Members on Construction Projects.



Gaspard Construction Services, LLC.
gaspardconstructionservices@gmail.com

Grant Parish School Board
Project Management Services Report
Repairs and New Construction for Grant Parish Schools

March 5, 2024

PROGRESS UPDATE

BH&B

Colfax Elementary

Under contract with MD Descant Construction
Construction Budget \$3,798,000.00

425 calendar days

Notice to Proceed October 6, 2023

Project is 42%

- Masonry crew was laying block in classrooms, shear walls and tornado shelter structure
- Descant Services workers were finishing concrete A/C pad and grouting in anchor bolts
- Plumbers were installing hub drains and working on wall rough in ahead of masonry





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March 5, 2024

Montgomery High School

Under contract JM Lyons Construction

Notice to proceed, 4-3-23

Construction Budget \$1,040,000.00

Project is 74% complete

- Cafeteria roof – contractor stated roof material for cafeteria is on site waiting on vendor to provide shop drawing on mechanical roof stand. The contractor must provide all the required elements, warranty, etc.
- Handrail shop drawings – vendor working on shop drawings. Sidewalk drain plates – same vendor as handrail provider.
- Architect working with contractor to develop itemized list of work to complete





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Grant Parish School Board
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Repairs and New Construction for Grant Parish Schools

March 5, 2024

YEAGER WATSON & ASSOCIATES

Georgetown High School
Under contract with MD Descant Construction
Construction Budget \$10,224,000.00
520 calendar days
Notice to Proceed July 31, 2023
Project is 39% complete

- Steel building installation
- Foundation concrete complete at main building
- Foundation concrete complete at Building F
- Masonry block installation at shelter is underway
- Wall framing scheduled to begin this month





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Repairs and New Construction for Grant Parish Schools

March 5, 2024

Grant High School Track Renovations
Construction Budget \$500,000.00

Project is in the design phase

- Project design is complete
- Project is scheduled to bid March 28, 2024

BRADDOCK COMPANIES

Pollock Elementary

Under contract with Tudor Construction
Notice to proceed, August 28, 2023
396 Calendar days

Construction Budget \$3,696,000.00

Project is 54% complete

- Cafeteria finish painting and flooring installation
- Cafeteria exterior envelope metal and paint installation





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Grant Parish School Board
Project Management Services Report
Repairs and New Construction for Grant Parish Schools

March 5, 2024



- Auditorium building exterior metal work in progress

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Motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mr. Riggs and unanimously approved to accept Mr. Gaspard's Report.

Finance Committee:

Motion by Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mr. Riggs and unanimously approve to amend agenda item number VI-B-1 to read as Discuss and consider approving Change Order #1 for Pollock Elementary School Auditorium, payable to Tudor, Inc, in the amount of \$339,516.00 instead of Discuss and consider approving Change Order #1 for Pollock Elementary School Auditorium, payable to Tudor, Inc, in the amount of \$325,426.00.

Motion by Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mr. Riggs and unanimously approved to discuss and approve Change Order #1 for Pollock Elementary School Auditorium, payable to Tudor, Inc, in the amount of \$339,516.00.

Motion by Mrs. Brouillette, seconded by Mrs. McFarland and unanimously approved Invoice #22005.010 for Verda Elementary payable to Barron Heinberg & Brocato Architects and Engineers in the amount of \$1,900.00, services provided to resolve door lock issues.

Motion by Mrs. Brouillette seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously approved Pay Application #7 for Pollock Elementary payable to Tudor, Inc. in the amount of \$363,649.00.

Motion by Mrs. Layton seconded by Mrs. McFarland and unanimously approved Pay Application #6 for Colfax Elementary payable to M.D. Descant, LLC in the amount of \$367,498.95.

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mrs. Layton and unanimously approved Pay Application #9 for Georgetown High payable to M.D. Descant, LLC in the amount of \$538,616.59.

Motion by Mrs. Layton, seconded by Mr. Whitman and unanimously approved Consider approving Invoice #7 for Colfax Elementary payable to Barron Heinberg & Brocato Architects and Engineers, in the amount of \$11,738.52

Motion by Mrs. McFarland, seconded by Mr. Whitman and unanimously approved Proposed Budget Revision: District Funds: Grant High, football field lights \$60,000.00 - (Prior year funds).

Motion by Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mrs. McFarland and unanimously approved Proposed Budget Revision: Parishwide Funds: Grant High, football field lights \$40,000.00 - (Prior year funds).

Robert Cowan with Alliant Insurance presented Workers' Compensation Insurance quotes to the Finance Committee and full Board.

Motion by Mrs. Layton, seconded by Mr. Riggs and unanimously approved Resolution authorizing Superintendent to request unclaimed property.



Grant Parish School Board

P.O. Box 208
Colfax, Louisiana 71417-0208
Phone: 318-627-3274 • Fax: 318-627-5931
Dr. Erin Stokes, Superintendent

Board Members:
Mason Briggs, President
April Brouillette, Vice-President
Mike Slaughter
Lloyd Whitman
Bill Riggs
Debbie McFarland
Karen Layton
Lisa Roberts

BOARD RESOLUTION

On the 5th day of March 2024 at a meeting of the Grant Parish School Board held in Colfax, Louisiana a quorum of the Board present, the following business was conducted:

It was duly moved and seconded that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Grant Parish School Board does hereby authorize Dr. Erin Stokes, Superintendent, on the terms and conditions that she may deem advisable, to sign on behalf of the Board in requesting any and all unclaimed property held by the Louisiana Department of the Treasury. This is to include funds held under the name of the Grant Parish School Board, Colfax Elementary School, Dry Prong Jr High School, Grant High School, Grant Jr High School, Pollock Elementary School, South Grant Elementary, Georgetown High School, Verda Elementary School, and Montgomery High School.

I certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of a part of the minutes of a meeting of the Grant Parish School Board.

Subscribed and sworn before me,

Mason Briggs
Board President
Erin Stokes
Superintendent
March 5, 2024
Date

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mrs. Brouillette and unanimously approved
Resolution of Grant Parish School Board Regarding Continued Employment of Counsel.

**RESOLUTION OF GRANT PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
REGARDING CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT OF COUNSEL**

WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statutes 42:263 authorizes the retention of special counsel by any school board upon a statement of reasons why such counsel is necessary and upon the approval by the Attorney General; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statutes 42:261.1 authorizes each parish and city school board to select, employ, fix the salary of, and pay its own general attorney, in which case, the District Attorney shall be relieved of the responsibility to serve as counsel for such board; and

WHEREAS, the law firm of Hammonds, Sills, Adkins, Guice, Noah & Perkins, LLP (formerly Hammonds & Sills) has been employed as legal counsel for the Grant Parish School Board for many years as special counsel and as general counsel; and

WHEREAS, the law firm of Hammonds, Sills, Adkins, Guice, Noah & Perkins, LLP has special experience, training, and expertise in issues of school law and legal issues impacting public school systems; and

WHEREAS, the law firm of Hammonds, Sills, Adkins, Guice, Noah & Perkins, LLP has provided exemplary legal services to the Grant Parish School Board in the past, and said school board desires to continue its relationship with such firm.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED by the Grant Parish School Board in regular session duly convened:

Section I – The Grant Parish School Board does hereby employ and/or continue the employment of the law firm of Hammonds, Sills, Adkins, Guice, Noah & Perkins, LLP as general counsel for the purpose of advising, consulting with, and representing this School Board in connection with legal matters involving the school system.

Section II – Said law firm shall be paid for their services at hourly rates published by the Attorney General of the State of Louisiana for special counsel in effect at the time of the services except that the paralegal rate shall be \$75.00 per hour and the rate for law clerk shall be \$45.00 per hour. In addition, the firm shall be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses such as long distance telephone calls, document duplication, expert witness fees, court reporter fees, printing costs, automobile travel, and other expenses as a result of the legal services to and for the Grant Parish School Board.

Section III – Said law firm shall keep itemized time records for presentation to the Superintendent with respect to services rendered at said hourly rates and the expenses incurred.

Section IV – This employment shall continue, and the compensation rates previously referenced herein shall be effective immediately upon adoption of this resolution.

The vote, in open meeting, on the resolution was as follows:

YEAS: Mike Slaughter, Debbie McFarland, Bill Riss, April Brauillotte, Lloyd Whitman, Kaven Layton, Mason Briggs
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Lisa Roberts

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Grant Parish School Board in regular session duly convened on March 5, 2024 and that same has not been rescinded or repealed.

Cottax, LOUISIANA, this 5th day of March 2024,
2024.

Mason Briggs
Mason Briggs, President
Grant Parish School Board

Erin Stokes
Erin Stokes, Secretary-Treasurer
Grant Parish School Board

Dr. Erin Stokes, Superintendent, and Shana Delrie, Elementary Supervisor discussed Grant Parish Celebrates Month of the Child – Early Childhood Event with the Board Members. This event will be held on March 7, 2024 at Rue 22 in Dry Prong.

Motion by Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mrs. McFarland and unanimously approved the proposed Grant Parish Schools 2024-2025 Calendar (Option A, Option B or Option C). Option C was approved. Three guests addressed the Board with concerns about increasing the length of the school day and how that would affect special needs students.

Adopted 3/5/24

GRANT PARISH SCHOOLS | 2024-2025 CALENDAR

<p>1-2, 5, 6 Teacher Workdays Student 1st day</p>	<p>AUGUST '24</p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S							3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<p>JANUARY '25</p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		<p>1-2 New Year's Holiday 3, 6 Teacher Workdays 7 Students Return 2nd semester begins 15 Report Cards</p>							
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<p>20 End of 2nd 9 weeks End of 1st semester 24-31 Christmas Holidays</p>	<p>DECEMBER '24</p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					<p>MAY '25</p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<p>9 Senior's Last Day 16 Last Day PK, K, 6th 23 Student last day End of 4th 9 weeks 27 Teacher Workday/PTC</p>							
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Calculations are based on start and end times will of 7:40 am – 3:45 pm with 430 instructional minutes per day. There are 75 student days in the first semester (32,250 minutes) and 76 student days in the second semester (32,680 minutes). Total of 151 student days (64,930). State requirement – 63,720. 2 Weather/Emergency dismissal days built into calendar.

Teacher Workday First Day of Semester Holiday End of 9 Weeks Report Cards

The Superintendent discussed with the board members: Personnel Report, Financial Report, Calendars, Student Count, LSBA Annual Convention – Crown Plaza, Baton Rouge – March 10-12-2024, LSBA Capitol Conference 2024 – Hilton Baton Rouge Capital – Wednesday April 17, 2024 – (more information coming soon), Tier 3 Personal Financial Disclosure Statement, due May 15, 2024 and 2024 Southern Region Leadership Conference – Beau Rivage, Biloxi, MS – Sunday, July 21st – Tuesday, July 23rd – (more information coming soon).

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mrs. McFarland and unanimously approved entering into executive session pursuant to La.R.S. 42.17 (A)(2) to discuss potential litigation against Cimarron Underground Services, LLC relative to hurricane/storm damage projects.

Superintendent, Board Members and Legal Counsel discussed in executive session pursuant to La.R.S. 42.17 (A)(2) to discuss potential litigation against Cimarron Underground Services, LLC relative to hurricane/storm damage projects.

Motion by Mrs. Layton and seconded by Mr. Whitman and unanimously approved returning to regular session.

Motion by Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mr. Riggs and unanimously approved adjourning the meeting.

s/Mason Briggs
Mason Briggs
President
Grant Parish School Board

ATTEST: _____
Dr. Erin Stokes
Secretary-Treasurer
Grant Parish School Board