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, MAY 7, 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, May 7, 2024 at 6:00 o'clock P.M.

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

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 Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mrs. Brouillette and unanimously approved the April 9, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes and the May 2, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Mrs. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Riggs, and unanimously approved to amend the agenda to consider approving Pay Application #12 for Montgomery High payable to JM Lyons Construction, LLC in the amount of \$50,137.22.

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mrs. McFarland, and unanimously approved to consider approving Pay Application #12 for Montgomery High payable to JM Lyons Construction, LLC in the amount of \$50,137.22.

Motion by Mrs. Layton, seconded by Mr. Riggs, and unanimously approved to amend the agenda to consider approving Invoice #13 for Montgomery High School payable to Barron Heinberg & Brocato Architects and Engineers in the amount of \$1,248.50.

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mrs. McFarland, and unanimously approved to consider approving Invoice #13 for Montgomery High School payable to Barron Heinberg & Brocato Architects and Engineers in the amount of \$1,248.50.

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mrs. McFarland, and unanimously approved to amend the agenda to consider approving Invoice #14 for Montgomery High School payable to Barron Heinberg & Brocato Architects and Engineers in the amount of \$1,528.17.

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mr. Slaughter, and unanimously approved to consider approving Invoice #14 for Montgomery High School payable to Barron Heinberg & Brocato Architects and Engineers in the amount of \$1,528.17.

Pam Schooler, from the Louisiana Department of Education spoke to the Board Members and Superintendent concerning the closure of Colfax Elementary. She discussed the Statement of Facts: Colfax Elementary - F rating for four years, the Grant Parish School System has failed to meet the 70% Instructional Requirement as set fourth in state policy, the per-pupil expenditure at Colfax Elementary exceeds the system averages for similarly configured schools, 66% of teachers are uncertified, which is notably higher than the average 35% in the remaining schools within Grant Parish School District and the Grant Parish School System's enrollment has decreased by 378 students from 2013 to 2023.

Pam Schooler also discussed Grant Parish School System using revenue from the closure of Colfax Elementary to be used for teacher/support personnel pay raises. The Louisiana Department of Education will provide funding for the Star Academy at Grant Junior High, funding for model literacy and math classes and art supplies for Pollock Elementary, South Grant Elementary and Verda Elementary. The Louisiana Department of Education will also partner with the Grant Ready Start Network to promote early care and education in the community.

The Representatives from STAR Academy addressed the Board and Superintendent concerning the program that will be provided to Grant Jr. High. The STAR Academy program will work in concert with the Grant Parish School System to identify and support students below grade-level, seeking to remedy their academic deficiencies through tutoring as well as exposure to career opportunities.

Motion by Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mrs. McFarland and unanimously approved to enter into Executive Session to obtain the advice and opinion of counsel relative to pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(10).

Motion by Mrs. Layton, seconded by Mr. Riggs and unanimously approved to return to Regular Session.

Mr. Briggs, President read the Grant Parish School Board Policy concerning Public Comments to the guests.

Several guests addressed the Board with concerns and comments about the closure of Colfax Elementary. Guests expressed support for the current administration, stating that their

children had made progress. Concern for the length of bus rides and parents have transportation was expressed. Several stated they are against closing Colfax Elementary. Parents would like for the district to make plans to help students with behavior issues or academic issues.

Grant Parish School Board Attorney, John Guice addressed the guests: everyone has been very respectful, a few years ago the Board did not close Colfax Elementary – the Board did not make a motion, the closure is a state decision not a Board decision.

Dr. Stokes: This is a hard decision for the Board Members, knowing how difficult this is for the community.

Mr. Briggs: Students will be in good hands and loved at the other schools. We did not plan for this to happen.

Motion by Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and approved the Louisiana

Department of Education directives regarding Colfax Elementary School commencing for the

2024-2025 School Year, concerning closure. Roll Call vote: Mr. Briggs – yay, Mrs. Roberts –

yay, Mrs. Layton – nay, Mr. Whitman – yay, Mrs. McFarland – yay, Mr. Riggs – yay,

Mrs. Brouillette – yay and Mr. Slaughter – yay.

Committee items:

Construction Committee:

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



May 7, 2024

PROGRESS UPDATE

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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 57%

- Roofing system is installed
- Paint prep work is underway
- Electrical rough in to rooms is underway



Montgomery High School
Under contract JM Lyons Construction
Notice to proceed, 4-3-23
Construction Budget \$1,040,000.00

Project is 86% complete

- Contractor working on walkway covers
- · Final paint is underway
- · Fire marshal final fire alarm inspection is pending



May 7, 2024





May 7, 2024

Montgomery High School Competition Gym Floor Installation

- Project funded
 Flooring materials ordered
- Notice to proceed May 22, 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

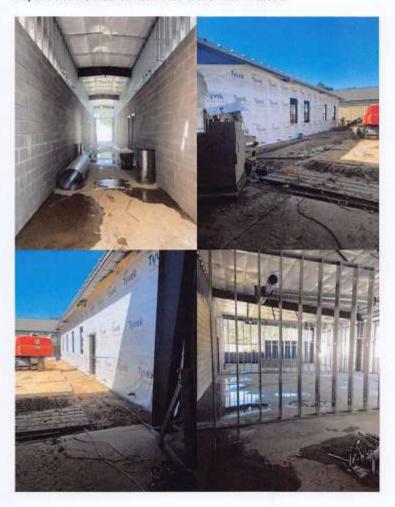
- Project is 53% complete

 - Exterior wall framing underway
 Interior wall framing underway
 Duct work installation
 Masonry block installation at corridors is underway





May 7, 2024





May 7, 2024

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

Project awarded to Regional Construction Contracts signed Preconstruction meeting scheduled for 5/13/24, 10 am

Grant High School Gym Floor Replacement Construction Budget \$106,300.00

- Demolition is complete New flooring installation is underway





May 7, 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

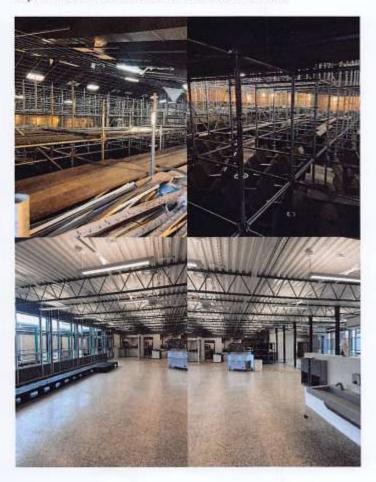
Project is 69% complete

- Kitchen equipment start up and testing complete

- Fire Marshal inspection complete Cafeteria finish painting complete Cafeteria exterior envelope metal and paint installation complete
- Auditorium cleaning complete
 Auditorium interior framing and sheetrock installation is underway



May 7, 2024





May 7, 2024



Grant Junior High School ball field restrooms/ concession Construction Budget \$120,000.00

- Does the Board choose to fund the project using available construction funding?
- Does the Board choose to use the Architect of record for the previous Grant Junior High construction, Braddock Companies, Mike Holt?

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

Finance Committee:

Motion by Mrs. Layton, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously approved 2024

Proposed Budget Revisions: Lunch: Purchase updated software program, \$29,300.00 (prior year funds).

Motion by Mrs. Roberts, seconded by Mrs. McFarland and unanimously approved, Approve Project: Pollock Elementary: Wash and paint exterior front of school \$18,500.00 (money already in district budget).

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously approved, Approve Project: South Grant Elementary: Replace flooring in dining area \$17,000.00 (money already in district budget).

Motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mr. Whitman and unanimously approved, Approve Project: Grant High School: Flooring replaced, \$12,135.00; Remove vinyl wall coverings and paint, \$11,800.00; Update Special Education room cabinets, counters, sink and hood vent, \$9,743.00 (money already in district budget).

Motion by Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously approved Invoice #9 for Colfax Elementary payable to Barron, Heinberg & Brocato Architects and Engineers in the amount of \$17,074.20.

Motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mrs. Layton and unanimously approved Pay App. #8 for Colfax Elementary payable to M.D. Descant, LLC in the amount of \$360,037.65.

Motion by Mrs. McFarland, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously approved Pay App. #9 for Pollock Elementary payable to Tudor, Inc. in the amount of \$265,392.00.

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously approved Invoice #2022-10.B-002 for Georgetown High payable to Yeager, Watson & Associates, LLC in the amount of \$89,306.63.

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mr. Whitman and unanimously approved Pay App. #11 for Georgetown High payable to M.D. Descant, LLC in the amount of \$606,235.85.

Motion by Mrs. McFarland, seconded by Mr. Riggs and unanimously approved funding a Grant Jr. High School Ball Field Restroom Project with a budget of \$120,000.00 (funding is budgeted from the construction funds).

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mrs. McFarland and unanimously approved entering into a contract with Braddock Companies, Mike Holt, Architect, for the design development of the Grant Jr. High School Ball Field Restroom Project.

Motion by Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mrs. Layton and unanimously approved granting the superintendent permission to disburse sales tax and millage tax supplements checks as funding becomes available.

Motion by Mrs. Roberts, seconded by Mrs. Layton and unanimously approved The Colfax Chronicle as the Official Journal July1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mrs. Layton and unanimously approved Consider approving the Emergency Evacuation Agreement with Legacy Nursing and Rehabilitation of Pollock.



Grant Parish School Board

P.O. Box 208 Colfax, Louisiana 71417-0208 Phone: 318-627-3274 • Fax: 318-627-5931 Paxton Teddlie, Superintendent Board Members:
Masson Briggs, President
April Bronillette, Vice-President
Mike Slaughter
Lloyd Whitman
Bill Riggs
Debbie McFarland
Karen Layton
Lisa Roberts

EMERGENCY EVACUATION ACCOMMODATIONS AGREEMENT

Be it known this 7th day of May, 2024 and in the event of a natural disaster or emergency, the members of the Grant Parish School Board unanimously approved a resolution granting unto the Legacy Nursing and Rehabilitation of Pollock, Grant Parish, Louisiana, the permission to place the residents, patients, and staff of the Legacy Nursing and Rehabilitation of Pollock within either or both the Grant High gymnasium or the Grant Jr. High gymnasium. However, placement preference will be given to students and staff within both educational institutions in the event an evacuation need should arise involving students and staff.

The Grant Parish School Board will be indemnified by the Legacy Nursing and Rehabilitation of Pollock in the event a claim against same arises involving injury to a Legacy Nursing and Rehabilitation of Pollock resident, patient or staff member while occupying the said evacuation centers.

THUS DONE and passed this 7th day of May, 2024, Colfax, Grant Parish, Louisiana.

Debbie Nugent, Administrator Legacy Nursing and Rehabilitation or. Erin Stokes, Superintendent Grant Parish School Board

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mrs. Roberts and unanimously received and approved the Highly Skilled Educator revised Job Description.

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mrs. Layton and unanimously received and approved the District Accountant Job Description.

Motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mrs. Layton and unanimously received and approved the School Literacy Coach Job Description.

Motion by Mrs. McFarland, seconded by Mr. Riggs and unanimously received and approved a Resolution to sell desks from Verda Elementary School.

RESOLUTION

The Grant Parish School Board having ownership of 60 surplus K-2 Student Desks intends to conduct a private sale of said items; and

WHEREAS, the desks are located at Verda Elementary School with the minimum bid of \$600.00 for the lot.

THERFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Grant Parish School Board will advertise and enter into private sale of this building to the person with the highest bid.

This is to certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution unanimously adopted by the Grant Parish School Board in regular session held at Colfax, Louisiana, on May 7, 2024.

Mason Briggs, President Grant Parish School Board

Erin Stokes, Ed.D, Superintendent Grant Parish School Board

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously approved a resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana, on Saturday, April 27, 2024, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein.

The following resolution was offered by William Riggs and seconded by: Michael Slaughter

RESOLUTION

A resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana, on Saturday, April 27, 2024, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish School Board of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana (the "District"), that:

SECTION 1. <u>Canvass.</u> This Governing Authority does now proceed in open and public session to examine the official tabulations of votes cast at the special election held in the District, on SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024 (the "Election"), to authorize the levy of a special tax therein pursuant to the following proposition (the "Proposition"):

PROPOSITION (IN-LIEU MILLAGE)

Shall Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana (the "District"), levy a special tax of 2 mills on all property subject to taxation within the District for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2024 and ending with the year 2033 (an estimated \$121,800 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for the purpose of improving, repairing, maintaining or operating Grant Junior High School, said tax to be in lieu of and replace the 4.03 mills authorized to be levied in Consolidated School District No. 11 through the year 2032 pursuant to an election held on December 11, 2021?

This Governing Authority does further proceed to examine and canvass the returns of the Election thereof.

SECTION 2. <u>Election Results.</u> According to the official certified tabulation of votes cast at said Election, there was a total of **579** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** the Proposition and a total of **244** votes cast **AGAINST** the Proposition, resulting in a majority of **335** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** the Proposition. The Proposition was therefore duly **CARRIED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the Election.

SECTION 3. <u>Promulgation of Election Result.</u> The results of said election shall be promulgated by publication in the manner provided by law, after receipt from the Secretary of State's office of the actual costs of the election, as required by §18:1292 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended.

SECTION 4. <u>Declaration</u>. The forgoing results of the Election are hereby declared by this Governing Authority and shall be published as required by law.

SECTION 5. <u>Procès Verbal.</u> A *Procès Verbal* of the canvass of the returns of the Election shall be made and a certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who shall record the same in her office; another certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Recorder of Mortgages in and for the Parish of Grant, who shall record the same in the Mortgage Records of said Parish; and another copy thereof shall be retained in the archives of this Governing Authority.

YEAS: Mason Briggs, Lisa Roberts, Karen Layton, Lloyd Whitman, Deborah McFarland,

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

William Riggs, April Brou	illette and Michael Slaughter
NAYS: None	
ABSENT: None	
And the resolution was declared a	dopted on this, the 7th day of May, 2024.
//E: 0.1	////
/s/ Erin Stokes	/s/ Mason Briggs
Secretary	President

PROCÈS VERBAL OF THE CANVASS OF THE VOTES CAST AT THE SPECIAL ELECTION HELD IN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 33 OF THE PARISH OF GRANT, LOUISIANA, ON SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024.

BE IT KNOWN AND REMEMBERED that on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., at its regular meeting place, the Grant Parish School Board Office, 512 Main Street, Colfax, Louisiana, the Parish School Board of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana (the "District"), and being the authority ordering the special election held therein on Saturday, April 27, 2024, with a quorum being present, did examine the official certified tabulations of votes cast at the said election, and did examine and canvass the returns of said election, there having been submitted at said election the following proposition to wit:

PROPOSITION (IN-LIEU MILLAGE)

Shall Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana (the "District"), levy a special tax of 2 mills on all property subject to taxation within the District for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2024 and ending with the year 2033 (an estimated \$121,800 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for the purpose of improving, repairing, maintaining or operating Grant Junior High School, said tax to be in lieu of and replace the 4.03 mills authorized to be levied in Consolidated School District No. 11 through the year 2032 pursuant to an election held on December 11, 2021?

There was found by said count and canvass that there was a total of **579** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition and a total of **244** votes cast **AGAINST** Proposition, as hereinabove set forth, and it was further found and determined that there was a majority of **335** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition as hereinabove set forth.

Therefore, the Governing Authority did declare and proclaim and does hereby declare and proclaim in open and public session that the Proposition as hereinabove set forth was duly **CARRIED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the said special election held in the District on Saturday, April 27, 2024.

Results by precinct are available from the Secretary of this Governing Authority during regular business hours or via the Louisiana Secretary of State's website (voterportal.sos.la.gov).

Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part of this *Procès Verbal* is a copy of the Notice of Special Election and proof of publication thereof.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Colfax, Louisiana, on this, the 7th day of May, 2024.

ATTEST:	/s/ Mason Briggs
	President
/s/ Erin Stokes	
Secretary	

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Parish School Board of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana (the "District"), on January 9, 2024, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held within the District on **SATURDAY**, **APRIL 27**, **2024**, and that at the said election there will be submitted to all registered voters in the District qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION (IN-LIEU MILLAGE)

Shall Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana (the "District"), levy a special tax of 2 mills on all property subject to taxation within the District for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2024 and ending with the year 2033 (an estimated \$121,800 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for the purpose of improving, repairing, maintaining or operating Grant Junior High School, said tax to be in lieu of and replace the 4.03 mills authorized to be levied in Consolidated School District No. 11 through the year 2032 pursuant to an election held on December 11, 2021?

The said special election will be held at the polling places for the following precincts, which polls will open at seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and close at eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, to-wit:

PRECINCTS 01-3(PART) 01-4(PART) 02-102-2(PART) 02-3 02-5 02-6 03-1 03-2 03-3 04-1 04-2 04-3 05-1 05-2 05-3 06-1 06-2 06-3 06-4 07-1 07-2 07-3 07-5 07-6 08-1(PART) 08-2(PART) 08-4(PART)

The polling places for the precincts set forth above are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, shall be those persons designated according to law.

The estimated cost of this election as determined by the Secretary of State based upon the provisions of Chapter 8-A of Title 18 and actual costs of similar elections is \$34,000.

Notice is further given that a portion of the monies collected from the tax described in the Proposition shall be remitted to certain state and statewide retirement systems in the manner required by law.

The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to said Governing Authority, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will meet at its regular meeting place, the Grant Parish School Board Office, 512 Main Street, Colfax, Louisiana, on TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024, at SIX O'CLOCK (6:00) P.M., and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the results of the said special election. All registered voters of the District are entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

PROCLAMATION

I, the undersigned President of the Parish School Board of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana, the governing authority of Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana (the "District"), do hereby declare, proclaim and announce that the proposition submitted at the special election held in the District on Saturday, April 27, 2024, was CARRIED by a majority of the votes cast at the said special election, all as described and set out in the above *Procès Verbal*.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Colfax, Louisiana, on this, the 7th day of May, 2024.

/s/ Mason Briggs
President

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF GRANT

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Parish School Board of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana (the "District"), do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of the proceedings and *Procès Verbal* made by said Governing Authority on May 7, 2024, providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in the District on Saturday, April 27, 2024, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature at Colfax, Louisiana, on this, the 7th day of May, 2024.

Custoley

The Superintendent discussed with the board members Personnel Report, Financial Report, Calendars, Student Count, Tier 3 Personal Financial Disclosure Statement, due May 15, 2024 and the Southern Region Leadership Conference – Beau Rivage, Biloxi, MS – Sunday, July 21st – Tuesday, July 23rd and we will work hard with the community to move forward and make plans for the Colfax Elementary building.

Mr. Whitman said the Colfax Elementary Students will be treated fairly at Pollock Elementary, South Grant Elementary and Verda Elementary Schools.

A guest asked if Mrs. Layton would be a Board Member due to the closing of Colfax Elementary. Mrs. Layton will still be over District 3.

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

s/Mason Briggs Mason Briggs President Grant Parish School Board