

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, JANUARY 9, 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, January 9, 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 Mrs. Lisa Roberts, 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.

Superintendent Dr. Erin Stokes recognized Lisa Roberts as the 2023 Grant Parish School Board President.

Motion by Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mrs. Layton and unanimously approved Mr. Mason Briggs as Grant Parish School Board President for 2024.

Motion by Mrs. Layton, seconded by Mrs. Roberts and unanimously approved Mrs. April Brouillette as Grant Parish School Board Vice President for 2024.

Mr. Briggs, Board President, will form Standing Committees at the February Meeting.

Motion by Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mrs. McFarland and unanimously approved authorized signature for Colfax Banking Company.

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mrs. Roberts and unanimously approved setting time and day for the 2024 School Board Meetings. Board Meetings will be at 6:00PM on the first Tuesday of the month in 2024.

Motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mr. Riggs and unanimously approved the December 5, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Superintendent Dr. Erin Stokes recognized the Board Members and thanked them for all that they do for the students of Grant Parish. January is School Board Member Appreciation Month, a reception was held for the Board Members at 5:15PM at the PDC.

No one signed in to be recognized.

Retirement: Guenell Whitstine, Finance Director at the Central Office, effective December 21, 2023.

The following guests were recognized:

Lee Willis, Auditor with Rozier, McKay & Willis, to give the Audit Report 2022-2023 Fiscal Year.

Brennon Black, Bond Council Attorney with Foley & Judell, L.L.P.

Keith Maxwell, Grant Parish Tax Assessor – Reassessment Year.

Motion by Mr. Whitman, seconded by Mrs. McFarland and unanimously approved (Roll Call Vote: Mr. Briggs – aye, Mrs. Roberts – aye, Mrs. Layton – aye, Mr. Whitman – aye, Mrs. McFarland – aye, Mr. Riggs – aye, Mrs. Brouillette – aye and Mr. Slaughter – aye) a resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein, making application to the State Board Commission and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

The following resolution was offered by Lloyd Whitman and seconded by Deborah McFarland

RESOLUTION

A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein, making application to the State Bond Commission and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

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. Election Call. Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, and under the authority conferred by the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, including Article VIII, Section 13(C) Third thereof, the applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, and other constitutional and statutory authority, a special election is hereby called and ordered to be held in the District on **SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024**, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, and at the said election there shall be submitted to all registered voters qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and laws of this State 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?

SECTION 2. Publication of Notice of Election. A Notice of Special Election shall be published in the official journal of the District once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election, which Notice shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference the same as if it were set forth herein in full.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, prior to the publication of the Notice of Election, the President of the Governing Authority is authorized and directed to make any amendments to the foregoing proposition that may be required to comply with any state or federal regulatory agencies.

SECTION 3. Canvass. This Governing Authority shall 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.

SECTION 4. Polling Places. The polling places for the precincts set forth in the aforesaid Notice of Special Election are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, will be the same persons as those designated in accordance with law.

SECTION 5. Election Commissioners; Voting Machines. The officers designated to serve as Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners pursuant to Section 4 hereof, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, shall hold the said special election as herein provided, and shall make due returns of said election for the meeting of the Governing Authority to be held as provided in Section 3 hereof. All registered voters in the District will be entitled to vote at the special election, and voting machines shall be used.

SECTION 6. Authorization of Officers. The Secretary of the Governing Authority is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for and to furnish to said election officers in ample time for the holding of said election, the necessary equipment, forms and other paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said election and the President and/or Secretary of the Governing Authority are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal law to arrange for the election.

SECTION 7. Furnishing Election Call to Election Officials. Certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Parish Custodian of Voting Machines of Grant Parish and the Registrar of Voters of Grant Parish, as notification of the special election, in order that each may prepare for said election and perform their respective functions as required by law.

SECTION 8. Application to State Bond Commission. Application is made to the State Bond Commission for consent and authority to hold the special election as herein provided, and in the event said election carries for further consent and authority to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of this Governing Authority, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application.

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

YEAS: Mason Briggs, Lisa Roberts, Karen Layton, Lloyd Whitman, Deborah McFarland, Bill Riggs, Mike Slaughter, April Brouillette

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 9th day of January, 2024.


Secretary


President

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)
- 02-1
- 02-2(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.

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"), 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 taken by the Governing Authority on January 9, 2024, ordering and calling a special election to be held in Consolidated School District No. 33 of the Parish of Grant, Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein, making application to the State Bond Commission, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature at Colfax, Louisiana, on this, the 9th day of January, 2024.


Secretary

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



Gaspard Construction Services, LLC.
gaspardconstructionservices@gmail.com

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

January 9, 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 24%

- Sub roofing/ steel structure cleaning and repair
- Masonry walls are being installed
- Shelter area foundation installed
- Door and window frames being installed

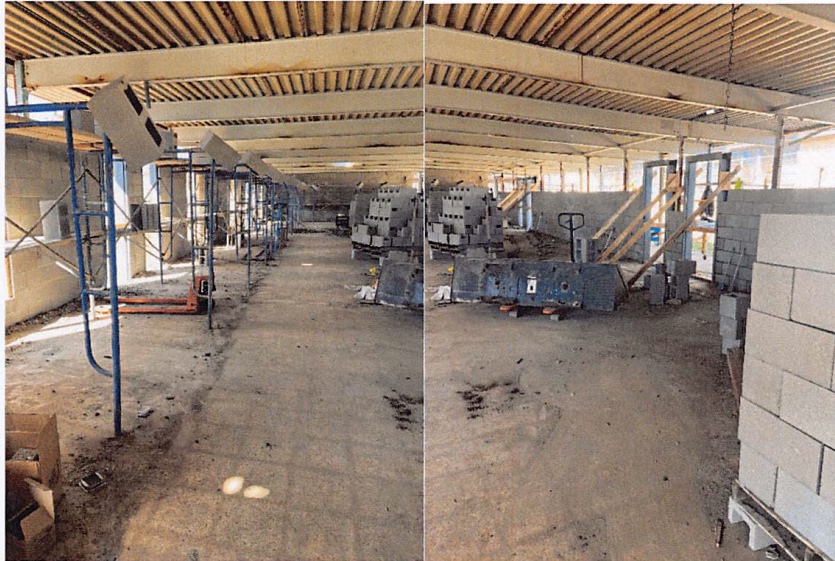




Gaspard Construction Services, LLC.
gaspardconstructionservices@gmail.com

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

January 9, 2024



Montgomery High School
Under contract JM Lyons Construction
Notice to proceed, 4-3-23
Construction Budget \$1,040,000.00
Project is 62% complete

- Updated Schedule of completion has been requested
- Updated submittal log has been requested
- Contractor has been notified of unsatisfactory project conditions
- Contractor has been notified of unsatisfactory project progression



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gaspardconstructionservices@gmail.com

Grant Parish School Board
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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 22% complete

- Building foundation/ slab underway
- Plumbing underground installed and inspected
- Electrical underground installed
- Steel bldg. delivery is underway





Gaspard Construction Services, LLC.
gaspardconstructionservices@gmail.com

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

January 9, 2024

Grant High School Track Renovations

Construction Budget \$500,000.00

Project is in the design phase

- Project survey and topographic study complete
- Pending site plan development

After the survey work and existing conditions plans are developed, we will have a design meeting with the Architect. Most likely sometime end of January.

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 36% complete

- Cafeteria exhaust hood installed
- Cafeteria roof installed
- Cafeteria exterior envelope (windows, frames, walls, etc....) installation underway
- Auditorium scaffolding in place
- Loading dock new construction is underway



Gaspard Construction Services, LLC.
gaspardconstructionservices@gmail.com

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

January 9, 2024



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

Motion by Mrs. Brouillette, seconded by Mrs. Layton and unanimously approved Consider Invoice #5 for Colfax Elementary payable to Barron, Heinberg & Brocato Architects and Engineers in the amount of \$13,872.79.

Motion by Mrs. Mrs. Layton, seconded by Mrs. Roberts and unanimously approved Pay Application #4 for Colfax Elementary payable to M.D. Descant, LLC in the amount of \$434,542.37.

Motion by Mrs. McFarland, seconded by Mr. Riggs and unanimously approved Pay Application #5 for Pollock Elementary payable to Tudor, Inc. in the amount of \$464,639.00.

Motion by Mrs. Roberts, seconded by Mrs. Layton and unanimously approved Pay Application #9 for Montgomery High payable to JM Lyons Construction LLC in the amount of \$33,809.55.

Motion by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mr. Whitman and unanimously approved Pay Application #7 for Georgetown High payable to M.D. Descant LLC in the amount of \$310, 866.60.

Motion by Mrs. McFarland, seconded by Mr. Whitman and unanimously approved granting Superintendent permission to disperse Millage Checks when the money becomes available.

Motion by Mrs. Roberts, seconded by Mrs. Layton and unanimously approved Policy File: CN, Administrative Records, Policy File: DFF, Grants, Policy File: DFK, Gifts and Donations, Policy File: EBBH, Use of Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and Cardiac Emergency Plan, Policy File: GBG, Probation, Policy File: IHAD, Parent Conferences, Policy File: JGB, School Wellness and Policy File: JGC, Student Health Services.

The Superintendent discussed with the board members Personnel Report, Financial Report, Calendars, Student Count, Artwork/Contest Exhibit at 2024 LSBA Convention – Submissions to LSBA: Zayne Swido 5th Grade - South Grant Elementary – Title: Louisiana, Bryson Young 6th Grade – Montgomery High School – Title Louisiana Cypress and Lola Wiley 9th Grade – Montgomery High School – Title: Masquerade, Artwork/Contest Exhibit at 2024 LSBA Convention – Artwork not chosen for LSBA Contest – Artwork will be displayed in the Board Room throughout the month on January 2024: Emma Goodger - Kindergarten at Pollock Elementary, Isabella Davidson – 7th Grade at Grant Jr. High, Alice Lacombe – 7th grade at Grant Jr. High, Jackie Washington – 6th Grade at Montgomery High and Kylee Niccum – 10th Grade at Grant High and LSBA Annual Convention – Crown Plaza, Baton Rouge – March 10 -12, 2024.

Motion by Mrs. Roberts, seconded by Mrs. Layton 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