

The Morehouse Parish School Board met in regular monthly session on Tuesday, December 5, 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 and Adrin Williams. Also, present David Gray, Superintendent and Steve Katz, Attorney.

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 –

- Annie Marie Fudge- Retired Teacher
- Melba Parker- Retired Teacher
- Ethel Norris- Retired Bus Driver
- John Hattaway- Retired Bus Driver
- Loester Johnson – 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, Veronica Loche-Tappin. and Adrin Williams

The next item on the agenda was the approval of the agenda. *On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon. None opposed the motion passed.*

The next item on the agenda was recognitions:

- **Employee of the Month** – Delta Elementary School – Heather Duncan was recognized and presented with a plaque and gift card.
- **Teachers of the year-**
 - ◆ **Elementary School**, Delta Elementary- Lakesha Reynolds, Morehouse Elementary-Sonja Robson, Morehouse Magnet-JeriAnn Carrol, Beekman Charter- Donna Nations.
Morehouse Parish Schools Elementary School Teacher of the year- Lakesha Reynolds
 - ◆ **Middle School**, Morehouse Magnet- Trina Andrews, Bastrop High-Sherry Sims, Beekman Charter—Kerri Odom.
Morehouse Parish Schools Middle School Teacher of the year- Sherry Sims
 - ◆ **High School**, Morehouse Magnet- Danny McMillian, Bastrop High- Veronica Webb, Beekman Charter- Tristan Shanks.

Morehouse Parish Schools High School Teacher of the year- Veronica Webb.

- **School Support Employee Nominees-**
 - ◆ Morehouse Elementary- Dora Brown (Secretary), Calvin Green (Custodian), Fanny Atkins (Paraprofessional), Trilisa Brown (Paraprofessional), and Cathy Hodges (Paraprofessional).
 - ◆ Morehouse Elementary- Angela Morris (Bookkeeper/Secretary)
 - ◆ Delta Elementary- Beverly Johnson (Secretary) and Gwen Davenport (Paraprofessional)
 - ◆ Bastrop High- Winifred McClendon (Long Term Substitute)

Morehouse Parish Outstanding Support Personnel- Beverly Johnson and Angela Morris.

The next item on the agenda was Superintendent's Announcements –

- Mr. Lyn Kenley- Gave updates on the ESSER projects for the district. Restroom renovations remain behind schedule. However, the contractor has made progress by adding more manpower. Phase I of the restrooms are scheduled to be completed on 12-15-23. Phase II is scheduled to be much faster. The modular classrooms are in place. The running track and Bastrop High take-off boards are scheduled to be installed as soon as possible.

The next item on the agenda was the approval of minutes from The Regular School Board Meeting held on November 7, 2023 at 5:30 pm. *On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve the minutes from The Regular School Board Meeting held on November 7, 2023 at 5:30 pm, seconded by Mr. Robert Johnson. 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. Veronica Tappin. 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. Veronica Tappin. None opposed the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to request permission from the Morehouse Parish School Board to advertise for bids the second round of ESSER III construction projects. (Presented by Mr. Lyn Kenly, Volkert, Inc.) *On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve advertisement for bids for the second round of ESSER III construction projects, seconded By Mr. Robert Johnson. None opposed the motion passed unanimously.*

The next item on the agenda was to receive the report from the Finance and Advisory Committee meeting held on November 28, 2023. (Presented by Mr. Rick Hixon)

The Finance and Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at 5:30 pm. **Rick Hixon-Chairperson** called the meeting to order. In attendance were the following: **Louis Melton, and Adrin Williams. Also present were Mrs. Veronica Loche-Tappin, Mrs. Debbie Wilson, David Gray, Superintendent, and Stephen Katz, Attorney.**

Absent- Karen Diel and Robert Johnson

The following agenda items were presented to the Finance and Advisory Committee:

1. To receive the Sales Tax Funds report for October 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) *On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to approve the Sales Tax Funds report for October 2023, seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.*
Madam President, I so move, seconded by Mr. Louis Melton. None opposed the motion passed.

2. To receive the General Fund report for October 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to approve the General Fund report for October 2023, seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.***

Madam President, I so move, seconded by Mr. Louis Melton. None opposed the motion passed.

3. To receive the School Lunch Fund report for October 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to approve the School Lunch Fund report for October 2023, seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.***

Madam President, I so move, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin. None opposed the motion passed.

4. To receive the East Morehouse Tax Fund report for October 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to approve the East Morehouse Tax Fund report for October 2023, seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.***

Madam President, I so move, seconded by Mr. Louis Melton. None opposed the motion passed.

5. To receive the ESSER Funds report for October 2023. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion by Mr. Louis Melton to approve the ESSER Funds report for October 2023, seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.***

Madam President, I so move, seconded by Mr. Louis Melton. None opposed the motion passed.

6. To present and consider taking the necessary action to accept bids from companies under state contract for a Towmotor forklift. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to grant authority to obtain a forklift under state contract, or obtain bids/quotes depending on the price, seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.***

Madam President, I so move, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin. None opposed the motion passed.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

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

The next item on the agenda was review and adopt the new pay schedule for long Term Substitutes, including guidelines and eligibility requirements for pay during school holidays and breaks. (Information was provided in your board packet). (Presented by Mrs. Teresa Merritt). ***On a motion of Mrs. Debbie Wilson to adopt the new pay schedule for long Term Substitutes, including guidelines and eligibility requirements for pay during school holidays and breaks, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin. None opposed the motion passed unanimously***

The next item on the agenda was to receive the School Performance Score report for school year 2022-2023, and the previous school years (2018-2022). (Presented by Mrs. Teresa Emfinger) *Mr. David Gray presented the information in Mrs. Teresa Emfinger's absence. This was presentation 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