

PARISH OF DESOTO  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Mansfield, Louisiana

March 4, 2021

The DeSoto Parish School Board met in regular session at the DeSoto Parish School Board Instructional Materials Center, 523 Oxford Road, Mansfield, Louisiana, on Thursday, March 4, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Dudley M. Glenn, Dr. Neil Henderson, Jeffrey Dillard, Donald B. Dufour, Alice Thomas, Dale Morvan, Mark Ross, Bobby Boyd, Rosie Mayweather, and Clay Corley, Superintendent.

Absent: Thomas Craig, Jr. and Coday Johnston

Item 1: Call to order

President Morvan called the meeting to order. Mr. Corley and Board Members asked to please remember those with health issues, along with families who have lost loved ones. Dr. Henderson led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Item 2: Revisions to the agenda.

There were no revisions to the agenda.

Item 3: Approve minutes from the regular Board meeting of February 4, 2021.

Motion was made by Mr. Boyd, seconded by Ms. Thomas, to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2021, Board meeting as presented. The vote was taken and the President stated the motion carried with the following votes – Yes = 9, No = 0, Absent = 2, and Abstentions = 0.

Item 4: Great News

Students of the Year for 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students were honored. Mrs. Bridget Flanders introduced each one while Dr. Misty Davis and Mr. Corley presented each student with a certificate and plaque in recognition of their accomplishments. The complete list of DeSoto Parish 2021 Students of the Year follows:

**Elementary – 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Logansport High School        | Kollin Magee     |
| Mansfield Middle School       | Kamille Bumcon   |
| North DeSoto Upper Elementary | Hayden Heaberlin |
| Stanley High School           | Emma Houston     |

**Middle School – 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

|                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Logansport High School     | Madison Register |
| Mansfield Middle School    | Cedetric Canada  |
| North DeSoto Middle School | Madeline Dupree  |
| Stanley High School        | Jaxson Murphy    |

**High School – 12<sup>th</sup> grade**

|                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Logansport High School   | Katie Woods        |
| Mansfield High School    | Adrian Green       |
| North Desoto High School | Mackenzie Williams |
| Stanley High School      | Riley Young        |

**District Winners**

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup> grade  | Hayden Heaberlin, NDUE   |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> grade  | Cedetric Canada, MMS     |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> grade | Mackenzie Williams, NDHS |

Item 5: Report of the Finance & Operations Committee meeting held on February 25, 2021.

Motion was made by Mr. Dillard, seconded by Mr. Boyd, to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2021, Finance & Operations Committee meeting as presented. The vote was taken and the President stated the motion carried with the following votes – Yes = 9, No = 0, Absent = 2, and Abstentions = 0.

Motion was made by Mr. Dillard, seconded by Mr. Boyd, to approve the following action from the February 25, 2021, Finance & Operations Committee meeting:

- Approve budget revisions for Capital Projects Funds as presented.
- Approve lawn service proposal as presented

The vote was taken and the President stated the motion carried with the following votes – Yes = 9, No = 0, Absent = 2, and Abstentions = 0.

Motion was made by Dr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Boyd, to approve the addendum to the 2020-21 salary schedule as presented. This addendum related to the one time supplement for all school employees, for additional services rendered by staff due to the challenges of COVID. Dr. Henderson asked if this was a unanimous recommendation from the Finance & Operations Committee and Mr. Dufour responded affirmatively. The vote was taken and the President stated the motion carried with the following votes – Yes = 9, No = 0, Absent = 2, and Abstentions = 0.

Item 6: Consider and take action regarding Industrial Tax Exemption Application #20190178-ITE filed by International Paper. Motion was made by Dr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Glenn, to approve the item as presented.

Superintendent Corley introduced Ed Barr, International Paper Company (IP) Mansfield Mill Manager, Mary Guillory, IP Mansfield Mill Operations Manager, Angie White, Director of North Louisiana Economic Partnership and Jesse Broderick, Sumit Credits – consulting firm that processes Industrial Tax Exemption Program (ITEP) applications for IP in Louisiana.

Mr. Corley explained that IP applied for the ITEP exemption which is available to manufacturers in the state of Louisiana and provides for an 80% property tax abatement for an initial term of 5 years with an option to renew for an additional 5 years. IP has already been approved by the Board of Commerce & Industry and is now asking for the approval from the DeSoto Parish School Board, Sheriff’s Office, and Police Jury.

Mr. Corley explained that the option of taking no action was available, which amounts to approval for the IP application, but the decision was made to vote on it at a regular Board meeting. He and Board Members

wanted to take the action to affirm the decision in a public meeting as an additional show of support for the IP Mansfield Mill as a major part of our parish and community.

Mr. Barr spoke briefly on the past, present and future plans for the Mansfield Mill. He and Ms. Guillory, Ms. White and Mr. Broderick answered questions and provided other information regarding the application process and the mill's role in our community and its relationship with our schools.

The vote was taken and the President stated the motion carried with the following votes – Yes = 9, No = 0, Absent = 2, and Abstentions = 0.

Mr. Barr expressed appreciation for allowing the group to attend the Board meeting and Mr. Corley and Board Members thanked them for coming.

Item 7: Comments

Mr. Corley made Board Members and the public aware that COVID vaccinations were scheduled to be given to school employees at various schools throughout the upcoming week.

Item 8: Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Dufour, seconded by Mrs. Mayweather, the Board voted to adjourn at 6:39 p.m.

Dale Morvan, President  
DeSoto Parish School Board

Clay Corley, Secretary  
DeSoto Parish School Board