

Motion made by: Joyce Porter
Motion seconded by: Alton Travis

Voting results:
Vote Not Recorded: Linda Chaney M.Ed.
Vote Not Recorded: Joyce Porter
Vote Not Recorded: Lolita Porter
Vote Not Recorded: Alton Travis

C. Receive and Consider for Approval – Legal Services Contract – Meta Litigation

Mr. Alton Travis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Joyce Porter, to approve the Legal Services Contract – Meta Litigation with Fauchaux Law Firm, the recommended law firm. The motion was approved by General Consent.

Roll Call Vote:
Mrs. Joyce Porter-YEA
Mrs. Linda Chaney-YEA
Ms. Lolita Porter-YEA
Mr. Alton Travis-YEA

D. Public Comment

Mr. Thomas Wenn addressed the Board regarding his interest in purchasing the former Pine Grove School property. Dr. Kelli Joseph advised that district administration would schedule a meeting with Mr. Wenn to discuss the proposal and requested that he provide his contact information. No Board action was taken.

E. New Business

1. Receive the 2026–2027 Budget Introduction.
- Ms. Ashley Castle presented the introduction of the proposed 2026–2027 Budget to the Board, providing an overview of the budget development process, including anticipated revenues, projected expenditures, and the district's financial priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. She explained that the proposed budget was preliminary and would continue to be reviewed and refined prior to final adoption. Ms. Castle encouraged Board members to review the proposed budget and submit any questions or recommendations before the scheduled public hearing. She also requested authorization to publish the required public notice announcing the availability of the proposed 2026–2027 Budget and the date of the public hearing in accordance with Louisiana law.
2. Receive the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Audit Report.
- This item was tabled for further review and consideration at a later date. No action was taken.

F. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kelli Joseph presented the following to the Board regarding the preliminary results from the 2026 LEAP assessment and highlighted areas of growth and continued focus for the district:

The State of Louisiana has implemented a new accountability system, and the results presented were preliminary test results. Final school performance letter grades will be released in November.

The new accountability system focuses on learners scoring at the Mastery and Advanced levels. The previous measurement of "Basic and Above" is no longer used, and learners scoring below Mastery are included in the growth category.

English Language Arts (ELA):
The district ranked 56th out of 71 school systems in the state.
Third through eighth grade ELA results remained steady, with no decline or growth. When English I and English II results were included, the district experienced a decrease.

Dr. Joseph noted that the decrease was attributed in part to challenges with having certified English teachers in classrooms for the full school year. Continued focus and support will be provided to improve ELA instruction, particularly at the high school level.

Mathematics:
The district ranked 7th in the state for growth.
Third through eighth grade mathematics performance increased from 7% to 10%, representing a three percentage point increase.
When combined with Algebra I and Geometry, results increased from 6% to 10%, representing a four percentage point increase.

Science:
The district ranked tied for third in the state for growth.
Third through eighth grade science performance increased from 6% to 10%.
When combined with Biology results, performance increased from 6% to 9%.

Social Studies:
The district ranked number one in the state for growth.
Social Studies performance increased from 5% to 14%, representing a nine percentage point increase.
When combined with U.S. History and Civics, results increased from 8% to 14%.

Dr. Joseph shared that St. Helena Parish was recognized as one of the school systems in Louisiana demonstrating growth and expressed excitement regarding the progress made during the school year.

Dr. Joseph credited the success to the hard work and dedication of teachers, learners, parents, the Board, and district staff.

Dr. Joseph highlighted the following initiatives that contributed to improved results:
A three-week observation cycle that provided intensive professional development for teachers in ELA and Mathematics;
Partnership with the Kirkland Group to provide targeted tutoring for identified learners;
Support from the Louisiana Department of Education for teachers and learners;
Continued focus on providing high-quality instruction in the classroom; and
Use of data-driven instruction and differentiated support based on learner needs.

Dr. Joseph commended teachers and staff for their dedication and commitment, noting that despite challenges and limited resources, the district continues to overcome obstacles and remain focused on putting learners first.

Dr. Joseph thanked teachers, learners, parents, Board members, and district staff for their efforts and expressed optimism for continued growth during the upcoming school year.

G. Approve Committee Reports

1. Approve Committee Reports - June 25, 2026
- Mr. Alton Travis made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Joyce Porter to approve the following items Committee Reports.The motion was approved by General Consent.
- Approve the 2026–2027 Salary Schedule
- Approve the Service Agreement for the Louisiana Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Program between LSU AgCenter and St. Helena Parish School Board for the existing contract amount of \$8,800
- Approve Data Sharing, Information License, and Confidentiality Agreement between St. Helena Parish School Board and DATA TO INFORMATION, LLC
- Approve the 2026-2027 Learner Handbook
- Approve the issuance of a Request for Proposal for a High Dosage ACT Tutoring Program for SHCCA
- Approve the issuance of a Request for Proposal for a high dosage tutoring program and instructional support services for high-stakes tested grades and subjects.
- Approve an update to the 2019 Union Agreement regarding employee

deductions

Approved authorization for the Superintendent to open negotiations with the St. Helena Association of Educators to review the Collective Bargaining Agreement and make necessary changes, when applicable.

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2. Approve Committee Reports - July 16, 2026

Mr. Alton Travis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Joyce Porter to approve the following items collectively. The motion was approved by General Consent.

2026–2027 Exceptional Services Contract between St. Helena Parish School Board and eLuma Therapy

2026–2027 Exceptional Services Contract between St. Helena Parish School Board and Educational Diagnostic Services and Consulting of Louisiana (EDSCLA)

2026–2027 Exceptional Services Contract between St. Helena Parish School Board and Lincoln Educational Services, LLC

2026–2027 Exceptional Services Contract between St. Helena Parish School Board and Step by Step Therapeutic Services, LLC

2026–2027 Exceptional Services Contract between St. Helena Parish School Board and A-Z Services

2026–2027 Exceptional Services Contract between St. Helena Parish School Board and Ms. Inez Jackson

2026–2027 Exceptional Services Contract between St. Helena Parish School Board and Mrs. Jacqueline Bush

2026–2027 Exceptional Services Contract between St. Helena Parish School Board and Mrs. Audrey Gordon

Approve the Audit Engagement Letter with Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC, for the audit of the 2025–2026 fiscal year. The motion was approved by General Consent.

Approve the Employee Bond Coverage for personnel handling school funds. The motion was approved by General Consent.

Approve continuing with The Daily Star as the Official Journal of the St. Helena Parish School Board. The motion was approved by General Consent.

Approve the following policies collectively.The motion was approved by General Consent.

00. Policies Disclaimer, Definitions, and Protocol policies: Policy 01.00 – Policy Disclaimer; 02.00 – Policy Definitions; 03.00 – Policy Manual and Policy Protocol; 04.00 – Policy Adoption and Revision; 05.00 – Policy Suspension; 06.00 – Policy Dissemination; 07.00 – District Regulations; and 08.00 – School Procedures.

Policy 301.00 – Superintendent Selection; Policy 302.00 – Superintendent Evaluation; Policy 303.00 – Superintendent Authority; Policy 303.10 – Superintendent Hiring and Placement Authority; Policy 304.00 – Principal Authority; Policy 305.00 – School Census; Policy 306.00 – School Calendar; Policy 306.10 – School Day; Policy 306.20 – Emergency Closures; Policy 306.21 – Other Closures; Policy 307.00 – Public Concerns, Complaints, and General Investigations; and Policy 308.00 – Public Records.

Policy 101.00 – Members; 101.10 – Filling Vacancies; 101.20 – New Member Training and Orientation; 101.30 – Annual Member Training; 101.40 – Member Behavior; 102.00 – Member Compensation and Expenses; 103.00 – Selection and Duties of Officers; 104.00 – Board Committees; 104.10 – Advisory Groups; 105.00 – Board Attorney; and 106.00 – State Association Membership.

200. Board Meetings policies: Policy 201.00 – Regularly Scheduled Meetings; 201.10 – Special Meetings; 201.20 – Meeting by Electronic Means During a Declared Disaster or Emergency; 202.00 – Notification of Meetings; 203.00 – Meeting Agendas; 204.00 – Meeting Procedures; 204.10 – Public Participation and Public Comment; and 205.00 – Official Journal.

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H. Executive Session

1. Discuss the matter of Angela Strickland v. St. Helena Parish School Board, et al., 21st JDC No. 25,655.
- Mrs. Joyce Porter made the motion, seconded by Mr. Alton Travis, to enter into Executive Session to discuss the matter of Angela Strickland v. St. Helena Parish School Board, et al., 21st JDC No. 25,655. The motion was approved by General Consent.
- Mr. Alton Travis made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Joyce Porter to return from Executive Session. Ms. Linda Chaney stated that the matter was discussed during Executive Session and no action was taken.

I. Meeting Closing

Mr. Alton Travis made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Joyce Porter, to return from Executive Session. Ms. Linda Chaney stated that the matter was discussed during Executive Session and no action was taken.

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1. Announcement of Next Meeting Date: August 13, 2026

Mrs. Linda Chaney announced the next meeting dates — Committee Meetings on August 13, 2026 at 5:45 p.m. and the Regular Board Meeting on August 13, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. All meetings are held at the St. Helena Parish School Board Office, 354 Sitman Street, Greensburg, LA 70441 unless otherwise announced.

2. Closing Comments - Board Members

3. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned by General Consent of all members present.