

BESE introduces appeals process for grad requirement

The state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) approved an appeals process for qualifying high school seniors who do not meet the state's LEAP test scoring requirement for graduation.

Of the eight states that still require minimum standardized test scores for graduation, only Louisiana has not offered students an appeals process for that requirement.

The new policy was designed to provide an appeal option for seniors who have demonstrated the knowledge and skills sufficient to graduate, but struggle with difficulties related to standardized assessments, such as

English language learners and students with other learning challenges.

"The value of state testing cannot be overstated," said BESE President Holly Boffy. "Louisiana's LEAP assessment has long been a key tool in measuring student achievement and strengthening our education system."

"In some circumstances, however, the standardized testing process itself serves a barrier to students, preventing them from validating the learning they have achieved."

Under the new Expanded Criteria for Every Learner in Louisiana (EXCELL) appeals

process, students meeting certain academic criteria would have the option to appeal if they have not met the assessment graduation requirement on both exams of any content pair. Students cannot file an appeal until their senior year.

To file an appeal, students must meet the following requirements: complete all Carnegie unit requirements for TOPS University or TOPS Tech Career Diploma, demonstrate content proficiency and demonstrate evidence of employability.

Students could demonstrate content proficiency by meeting standard assessments require-

ments in a pair or by creating a portfolio of work aligned to the standards for both subjects in the LEAP 2025 pair unfulfilled by the end-of-course score.

Students could demonstrate evidence of employability by earning a Silver or higher rating on ACT WorkKeys, a TOPS Tech award or a Louisiana JumpStart-approved Industry Based Credential.

Appeals would be administered at the local school level, and students would still be required to take the LEAP assessment.

BESE has directed the state Department of Education (LDOE) to develop implemen-

tation guidance prior to the start of the 2023-2024 school year.

Schools are required to report annually the number and percentage of diplomas issued via the appeals process per graduating cohort.

If a school's graduating cohort exceeds 3 percent through appeals, the LDOE would conduct an audit, which may result in additional monitoring and data requests to evidence appeals processes in practice.

A required triennial report of initial implementation findings by the LDOE would include the postsecondary outcomes of appeals process graduates. The

report would highlight the percentage of college enrollment compared with non-graduates, the percentage employed after graduation compared with non-graduates, and the types of Industry Based Credentials earned through the appeal process.

The report would be submitted to BESE at its January 2026 meetings, would continue on an annual basis, and would serve as a reference to the Board for determining future policy revisions.

The complete policy for the EXCELL appeals process can be viewed online at bese.louisiana.gov.

HEAT

illness, occurs when the body can no longer control its temperature. The body's temperature rises rapidly, the sweating mechanism fails, and the body is unable to cool down. When heat stroke occurs, the body temperature can rise to 106°F or higher within 10 to 15 minutes.

Heatstroke can cause permanent disability or death if the person does not receive emergency.

Heat exhaustion is the body's response to an excessive loss of water and salt, usually through excessive sweating. Heat exhaustion is most likely to affect the elderly and people with high blood pressure as well as those working in a hot environment.

Franklin Parish Coroner Dr. Joel Eldridge, who owns NELA, emphasized that heat stroke is preventable.

"Although some (heat

strokes) are fatal, most all are preventable by taking simple precautions," Eldridge said.

Eldridge noted there are specific signs and symptoms that indicate someone is at risk.

"Signs and symptoms that you are overheated include increased thirst, excessive sweating, headache, rapid pulse and fatigue," Eldridge said. "You may get 'goose-bumps' on your skin while pouring with sweat. If the

signs or symptoms occur, get indoors immediately. Rehydrate, remove excess clothing, and mist skin with cool water. Applying ice-packs to armpits and groin areas can help reduce body temperatures."

Eldridge emphasized that if heat exhaustion is left untreated, heatstroke will occur. People suffering from a heatstroke stop sweating and have dry skin, he said.

"This is a medical emergen-

cy. Get indoors and dial 911. Getting to an emergency room fast greatly increases your chances of surviving a heatstroke," Eldridge said.

Scott shared tips on preventing heat exhaustion and heatstroke.

"Before heading outdoors, especially in the afternoon hours, take preventative measures by wearing light, loose-fitting clothing and a hat," Scott advised. He also

said it is important to stay hydrated and take frequent breaks in the shade or preferably, in an air-conditioned room.

And if there is a possibility that someone might be suffering from heat-related illness, it's best to err on the side of caution.

"If unsure you or someone else is suffering from heat exhaustion or heatstroke, do not wait and dial 911 immediately," Eldridge reiterated.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

The proposed budget is available for the public At the Village of Baskin, Town Hall
Terry Arnold
Town Clerk
Village of Baskin
PO Box 359
Baskin, LA 71219
Phone: 318/248-3700
Email: mayorsoffice@baskinvillage.com
7/5

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF FRANKLIN
5TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THE SUCCESSION OF CHARLES ELLERBE AND BETTY LYDIA FORD ELLERBE
PROBATE NO. P-48,119

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that attorney Rossanna Rahim Mellwain has been appointed as Curator ad hoc for the surviving heirs of Charles Richard Ellerbe, son of Charles Ellerbe and Betty Lydia Ford Ellerbe, who passed away on or about June 16, 2016. The known heirs of Charles Richard Ellerbe are Betty Joy Ellerbe Youmans, Charles David Ellerbe, Ashley Nichole Ellerbe Thompson, Karlie Ellerbe and Tanner Ellerbe, Jr. (son of Tanner Ellerbe who passed away on or about 2015 and was a child of Charles Richard Ellerbe). A "Petition for Authority to Pay Debts and Filing of First Tableaus on Distribution" has been filed by Administrator of the Succession, Kenneth Wayne Ellerbe (represented by attorney Samuel T. Singer), requesting the Court allow him to pay all Estate debts and disburse the money between the heirs.

Any of the heirs listed above, other non-listed heirs of Charles Richard Ellerbe and/or anyone who has knowledge on any of the heirs or potential unknown/not listed heirs contact attorney Rossanna Rahim Mellwain's office at (318) 502-7600 at your earliest convenience.
7/5

NOTICE

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Nikki Nicole Johns Grother, Jenny Lynn Johns Carroll, Jimmy Edward Johns, Charlie E. Johns, Jr. or Clayton Winters, please contact the office of Michael R. Ellington, Attorney at Law , 6658 Kinloch Street, Winnsboro, LA 71295, (318)-367-0799, or via email mrellingtonlaw@gmail.com
6/28,7/5

NOTICE

Parcel No. 8210010100
Current Owner/ Resident
Kenton Lee Bishop
Mindy L. Bishop aka Mindy L. Emery
THIS NOTICE BY PUBLICATION IS NOTIFICATION THAT YOUR RIGHTS OR INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY LOCATED IN FRANKLIN PARISH, LOUISIANA MAY BE TERMINATED BY OPERATION OF LAW IF YOU DO NOT TAKE FURTHER ACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW:
Parcel# 8210010100 / Municipal Address: 5206 Gill St. Gilbert, LA 71336
Brief Legal: LOTS 14, 15, & 16 OF BLOCK 29 OF GILBERT
Tax sale title to the above described property has been sold for failure to pay taxes. You have been identified as a person who may have an interest in this property. Your interest in the property will be terminated if you do not redeem the property by making all required payments to the tax collector listed below or file a lawsuit in accordance with law within six (6) months of the date of the first publication of this notice, or the recording of an act transferring ownership, if later.
Franklin Parish Tax Collector
6556 Main Street
Winnsboro, LA 71295
318-435-4505
7/5

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids for the following will be received by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Procurement Section, 1201 Capitol Access Road, 4th Floor, East Wing Room S-447, Headquarters Administration Building, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, Telephone number (225)379-1444 on date(s) shown below, until 10:00 A.M. No bids will be accepted after this hour. At 10:00 A.M. of the same day and date, they will be publicly opened and read in Headquarters Administration Building, 4th Floor, East Wing S-447. Evidence of authority to submit the bid shall be required in accordance with R.S. 38:2212 (A)(1)(c) and/or R.S. 39:1594 (C)(2) (D).

BIDS TO BE OPENED July 21, 2023
DOTD Aggregate, Crushed Stone and Gravel
RFx 3000021511
Full information may be obtained upon request from the above address.

The Department reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities.

ERIC KALIVODA,
SECRETARY, LADOTD
JULIE KENNISON, CPPB
DOTD PROCUREMENT DIRECTOR
7/5

Regular Meeting/Public Hearing Of The
Franklin Parish Police Jury
June 8, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m.
Franklin Parish Police Jury Room
6558 Main Street, Winnsboro, LA 71295

The Franklin Parish Police Jury met in Regular Session on Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 5:00 P.M. in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Courthouse Building, located at 6558 Main Street, Winnsboro, LA 71295 with the following present: President

James Harris, Vice President Leodis Norman, Chaplain Gary Peters, Juror Keiona Wesby (5:10 p.m.), Juror Howie Robinson, Juror Ricky Campbell, and Juror David DeBlieux.

President Harris called the meeting to order, followed by roll call. Chaplain Peters led the assembly in prayer and the pledge of allegiance. The motion to approve the agenda and supplemental agenda was offered by Peters, seconded by DeBlieux, and passed.

President Harris opened the public hearing for the consideration of adopting an ordinance to properly transfer the ownership of Phillips, Oscar Smith, and McCain bridges to the property owner of which the bridges are used to solely access their property.

Harris called for any public comments. A letter was received by the jury office from Jan Phillips asking that the bridges not be turned over to the property owners due to the cost to maintain and repair when needed. Mr. Phillips was also in attendance and reiterated his concerns and request to leave the bridges in the parish road system. Mr. Phillips was advised of an attorney general opinion issued to Franklin Parish stating that bridges that do not serve a public purpose should be abandoned by the parish.

Harris asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Campbell offered the motion, Norman seconded, the public hearing was closed. Peters offered the motion to adopt Ordinance 3492, formally transferring the ownership of the bridges from parish to the individual property owners. Norman seconded. Ordinance was adopted. Norman, Peters, Wesby, Robinson in favor. Campbell and DeBlieux against.

Peters offered the motion to open the public hearing for the consideration of adopting an ordinance requiring all residents located in an area in which a community sewer system is available to apply and complete a permitting process for connecting to the community sewer system. Norman seconded with all voting in agreement.

President Harris called for any public comments. No comments were received written or via voice.

Peters offered the motion to close the public hearing. Campbell seconded with all voting in agreement.

Norman offered the motion to adopt the ordinance requiring a permit for connecting to a community sewer system in the unincorporated areas of Franklin Parish. Peters seconded. All voted to approve.

DeBlieux offered the motion to open the public hearing for the consideration of adding an additional 747 ft. to Newt Winters Road. Campbell seconded with all voting in agreement.

Harris asked for any public comments. Property owners Adam Faulk, Bubba Smith and Judy Warlow submitted letters to the jury office opposing the addition of the 747 ft.

Peters offered the motion to close the public hearing. Campbell seconded the motion. The public hearing was closed by unanimous vote.

Peters offered the motion to not add an additional 747 ft. of road to Newt Winters Road. Norman seconded with all voting in agreement. The road footage of New Winters Rd. will remain the same.

The motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2023, regular meeting and May 31, 2023, special meeting was offered by Peters, seconded by Campbell, and passed.

Ms. Tabitha Hines was in attendance to speak to the jury about the dust and drainage issues she and her family are experiencing Jericho Rd. Ms. Hines was informed that only residents who have applied for and been approved receive dust control. Currently only one resident on Jericho Rd. is approved. Ms. Hines was provided with an application. Wesby made a motion to have the road crew go out and add the necessary amount of gravel needed for the low spots and to apply oil for dust control. Robinson seconded with all voting in agreement. The ditches on the south side of the road need to be dug out. The water cannot drain, and it is causing flooding of the road. There are several trees located within the ditch that need to be removed and ditch dug out.

Mr. Stefan Eckmann and Julia Parr introduced themselves to the jury and provided information about a solar farm that is slated to be constructed off Hwy 4. Eckmann and Parr work for Silicon Ranch which has partnered with Entergy for the construction of the solar farm. This solar farm is to be located off Hwy 4 near the Horace White Learning Center.

Mr. Mark Packard, 4-H Administrator, provided the jury with the monthly LSU Ag Center update.

Mr. Willie Credit spoke to the jury on behalf of the Horace White Community. Asks the jury for help concerning nuisance properties, mowing of roadsides, clearing of weeds around road signs, and the cleaning out of ditches. Wesby explained to Mr. Credit the process for nuisance abatement by the parish if property owner does not comply with the parish ordinance and asked that Mr. Credit meet with her to discuss these issues.

Mrs. Lynette Graves expressed her dissatisfaction with the work that has yet to be done to keep her road from flooding and property from washing away. Currently the ditch in front of her home has grass grown in it and she is unable to get to it to mow it. She also spoke about a drainage ditch that has yet to be dug out. The Superintendent explained to Mrs. Graves that the ditch is located within a wetland and that a permit from the Corps. Engineers must be obtained, giving permission to the police jury to dig out the ditch. Campbell and Harris suggested taking the side mount down to cut the trees out of the ditch and to build up the road from the culvert to the driveway also.

The motion to approve the 3rd Annual Wisner Bash to be held at Nolan Norman Park on Saturday, June 17, 2023, pending submission of liability insurance, was offered by Peters, seconded by Norman, and passed.

DeBlieux offered the motion to approve penning a letter to FP&C requesting funds to be changed to planning and construction. Robinson seconded with all voting in agreement.

The motion to approve the Franklin Sun as the official journal of the Franklin Parish Police Jury was offered by Peters, seconded by Campbell, and was unanimously passed.

The motion to award the July – December 2023 material bids as presented was offered by Campbell, seconded by Peters, and was passed.

Campbell offered the motion to rent a sheep foot roller from Scott Equipment in the amount of \$3,800.00 a month, which was the lowest quote received. Robinson seconded with all voting in agreement.

The motion to approve Ms. Mellissa Washington as successfully completing her probationary period and increasing her rate of pay \$1, was offered by DeBlieux, seconded by Campbell, and was unanimously passed.

The motion to approve the superintendent's request to amend the paycheck policy as follows was offered by Robinson, seconded by Wesby, and passed. General employees are paid bi-weekly on every other Monday at the end of the scheduled workday. No early pick-up of paychecks will be allowed. Supervisory employees are paid monthly with the second payroll of the month. Each paycheck will include earnings for all work performed through the end of the previous payroll period. If a regularly scheduled payday falls on a day off such as a holiday, employees will receive pay the Friday before, if possible. If a regular payday falls during an employee's vacation, the employee's paycheck will be available upon his/her return from vacation.

The motion to approve the Annual Nolan Norman Day to be held at the Nolan Norman Park on Saturday, July 1, 2023, was offered by Peters, seconded by Campbell, and was passed.

The motion to approve the dust control request of Aubrey Bennett at 102 Hwy 865, was offered by Peters, seconded by Campbell, and was passed.

The motion to approve the hardship drive from Hwy 128 for Bob Temple at 3501 Hwy 128 was offered by Campbell, seconded by Peters, and passed.

The motion to deny the hardship drive and dust control request of Samuel Gardner at 850 Frazier Rd., due to it not meeting the criteria of the hardship ordinance, was offered by Peters, seconded by Campbell, and passed.

The motion to approve the children at play sign request for 198 Tom King Road was offered by Campbell, seconded by Wesby, and passed unanimously.

Approval of the following culvert policy for silted in road ditches being cleaned out with side mount ditcher was offered by Peters, seconded by Campbell, and passed. When the side mount is utilized for clearing out a silted in road ditch and a property owner has been using the silted in ditch as a low water crossing, but still has access to the property another way, the requester will need to contact the drainage foreman and follow the culvert permitting process. Consider placing an ad in the paper to the effect of: The parish is diligently working to reduce the flooding of parish roads and is utilizing the side mount ditcher, if a crossing is needed, contact public works for a culvert installation permit.

The motion to approve the purchase and installation of a rail car in the amount of \$24,900.00 in Goose Creek was offered by Peters, seconded by Wesby, and was unanimously passed.

The motion to table a decision for acquiring another dozer was offered by Peters, seconded by Campbell, and passed. The committee needs more time to explore options.

The motion to table a decision for acquiring another pothole patcher and a cab, and chassis was offered by Norman, seconded by DeBlieux, and passed. The jury office and committee need more time to look at finances, and purchase options. The treasurer asks that the jurors discuss what they would like to do prior to the July committee meeting.

The motion to approve the repairs to Unit 199 – tractor in the amount of \$12,600.00, was offered by Campbell, seconded by Robinson, and passed.

Campbell offered the motion to approve the surplus of the garden disc. Robinson seconded the motion with all voting in agreement.

The motion to split the funds received this year from the Opioid Lawsuit between the FPPJ and FP Substance Abuse Office was offered by Norman, seconded by Robinson, and unanimously passed.

Superintendent's Report was provided by Stephen Smith. Peters offered the motion to approve the Superintendent's Report as presented. Campbell seconded with all voting in agreement.

Campbell offered the motion to approve the Capital Improvement 3-year Plan. Peters seconded with all voting in agreement except for Robinson who voted against.

The Treasurer's Report including proposed budget amendments and the Profit and Loss vs Actual for all accounts was provided by Sam Wiggins.

President Harris moved to the supplemental agenda. Peters offered the motion to approve holding a public hearing to amend Ordinance 3477, removing Precinct 6A. Campbell seconded with all voting in agreement.

Letters of Interest provided for the jury included a letter of thanks from District Judge, Division C, Stephen Dean, and information about the upcoming OPAO Convention.

With there being no further business to discuss, Robinson offered the motion to adjourn. DeBlieux seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Karah Lochbrunner – Asst. Secretary/Treasurer
James H. Harris – President
7/5

STATE OF LOUISIANA PARISH OF FRANKLIN FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN RE: SUCCESSION OF FRANCIS OWEN BASHER
PROBATE NO. P-48,364
FILED: June 1, 2023
BY: *Alene Mayo*
DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY TO SELL IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Notice is given that the Administrator of this Succession has petitioned this court for Authority to Sell Immovable Property belonging to the Succession of the deceased at private sale in accordance with the provisions of Louisiana Code of Civil Procedures Article 3281, all on the terms and conditions set forth in the Buy Sell Agreement attached to the petition.

Any heir or creditor who opposes the propose sale must file and opposition within seven (7) days from the date of the second publication on the *1st* day of *June*, 2023.

By Order of the Court

BY: *Amite Wood*
DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT

6/28,7/5