

The Morehouse Parish School Board met in a regular monthly session on Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at Morehouse Student Services Center, with the following members present: Karen Diel, Louis Melton, Robert Johnson – President, Rick Hixon, Debbie Wilson, Veronica Loche-Tappin, Vice-President, and Adrin Williams. Also, present Dr. Jesse Winston, Jr., Superintendent, and Steve Katz, Attorney.

President Robert Johnson called the meeting to order.

The next item on the agenda was the invocation led by President Robert Johnson.

The next item on the agenda was a moment of silence for -

- Barbara Fuller- Retired Teacher
- Joyce Sims-Teacher

The next item on the agenda was the pledge of allegiance led by President Robert Johnson.

Next was a Roll call to Establish a Quorum: Present – Karen Diel, Louis Melton, Robert Johnson, Rick Hixon, Debbie Wilson, Veronica Loche-Tappin, and Adrin Williams.

The next item on the agenda was to approve the agenda. ***On a motion of Ms. Adrin Williams to approve the agenda, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin. None opposed; and the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was Employee of the month- MPSB community Supporter/Volunteer/Substitute. ***(There were no nominees this month)***

The next item on the agenda was superintendent announcements from Dr. Jesse Winston, Jr.

- Dr. Jesse Winston, Jr. announced the Bastrop-Morehouse Chamber of Commerce Annual Legislative Luncheon is Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at 11:30 am, located at the Bastrop Visitor Center.
- At your stations are calendars for 2026-2027 MES-Third Future School.
- The Capital Improvement Plan bond renewal failed. There has been numerous conversations regarding confusion on the ballot. We will place this back on the ballot in April of 2027. Our bond attorneys will work with us to make sure the wording on the ballot is clearer to voters. If this does not pass next time, it will negatively affect our parish. Our parish will lose funds if this fails.
- Professional Development Summary reports are at your stations.
- Our parish is on the Non- compliance list due to our audit not being completed on time. An extension was granted, and we are working with our auditors to get everything completed.
- Mr. Tim Justus spoke in honor of Mr. Charles Strickland a former music educator in Morehouse Parish. Mr. Justus spoke highly of Mr. Charles Strickland and expressed how he made a huge impact on his life and what he wanted to do upon completing school. The City of Bastrop declared July 3rd as Charles Strickland Day. Mr. Justus brought the

proclamation so everyone could view. Also, Mr. Justus presented a plaque in honor of Mr. Charles Strickland and would like for it to be displayed in the Bastrop High School band room.

The next item on the agenda was approval of minutes- the Regular School Board Meeting held on June 2, 2026, at 5:30 pm. ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve the minutes from the Regular School Board Meeting held on June 2, 2026, at 5:30 pm, seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams. None opposed and the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was the Approval of monthly Travel Requests – (Presented by Dr. Jesse Winston, Jr.) ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to approve the monthly travel requests, seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams. None opposed; and the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was the Approval of monthly Bus Requests - (Presented by Dr. Jesse Winston, Jr.) ***None for this meeting.***

The next item on the agenda was to consider adopting a resolution authorizing a Consent To Pledge And Assign Tax Revenues for the benefit of Beekman Alumni & Friends, Inc.; and providing for other matters in connection therewith from Consolidated School District No. 12 Ad Valorem Tax At 10 Mills (such rate being subject to adjustment from time to time due to reassessment). (Presented by Ms. Samantha Mann) ***On a motion of Ms. Karen Diel to adopt the resolution authorizing a Consent To Pledge And Assign Tax Revenues for the benefit of Beekman Alumni & Friends, Inc.; and providing for other matters in connection therewith from Consolidated School District No. 12 Ad Valorem Tax At 10 Mills (such rate being subject to adjustment from time to time due to reassessment), seconded by Mr. Rick Hixon.***

Roll Call Vote:

Karen Diel-Yes
Louis Melton- No
Robert Johnson- Yes
Rick Hixon-Yes
Debbie Wilson- Yes
Veronica Tappin-Yes
Adrin Williams-Yes

The motion passed.

The next item on the agenda was to consider adopting a resolution providing for the redemption of the outstanding Limited Tax Bonds, Series 2016, Of Consolidated School District No. 12 of the Parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. (Presented by Ms. Samantha Mann) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to adopt a resolution providing for the redemption of the outstanding Limited Tax Bonds, Series 2016, Of Consolidated School District No. 12 of the Parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana; and providing for other matters in connection therewith, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel.***

Roll Call Vote:

Karen Diel-Yes
Louis Melton- Yes
Robert Johnson- Abstained
Rick Hixon-Yes

Debbie Wilson- Yes
Veronica Tappin-Yes
Adrin Williams-Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to receive and consider for approval a proposal from Risk Services of Louisiana Inc. for the 2026-2027 school year. (Presented by Ms. Lauren Young) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to approve a proposal from Risk Services of Louisiana Inc. for (LUBA) the 2026-2027 school year, seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams. None opposed; the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive and consider for approval a proposal regarding property insurance coverage for the 2026-2027 school year from Alliant Insurance Company. (Requested by Ms. Ersula Downs, presented by Mr. Rob Cowan) ***On a motion of Mrs. Veronica Tappin to approve the proposal regarding property insurance coverage for the 2026-2027 school year from Alliant Insurance Company PE360 Program, seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams. None opposed; the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive the Sales Tax Funds report for May 2026. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Ms. Adrin Williams to approve the Sales Tax Funds report for May 2026, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin. None opposed; the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive the General Fund report for May 2026. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Ms. Adrin Williams to approve the General Fund report for May 2026, seconded by Mr. Louis Melton. None opposed; the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive the School Lunch Fund report for May 2026. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Ms. Adrin Williams to approve the School Lunch Fund report for May 2026, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin. None opposed; the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive the East Morehouse Tax Fund report for May 2026. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Ms. Adrin Williams to approve the East Morehouse Tax Fund report for May 2026, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin. None opposed; the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to approve the statewide agreed upon procedures audit engagement for the 2025-2026 fiscal year with Carr, Riggs, and Ingram, LLC. (Requested by Ms. Ersula Downs, presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Ms. Adrin Williams to table this item until a later time, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel. None opposed; the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to receive the Discipline report for June 2026. ***None for this meeting.***

The next item on the agenda was to adopt a resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in School District No. A (Parishwide) of the parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, June 27, to authorize the issuance of general obligation bond therein. (Presented by Dr. Jesse Winston, Jr.) ***On a motion of Mr. Rick Hixon to adopt the resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in School District No. A,***

(Parishwide) of the parish of Morehouse, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, June 27, to authorize the issuance of general obligation bond therein, seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams.

Roll Call Vote:

Karen Diel-Yes

Louis Melton- Yes

Robert Johnson- Yes

Rick Hixon-Yes

Debbie Wilson- Yes

Veronica Tappin-Yes

Adrin Williams-Yes

None opposed; the motion passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to appoint Ms. Ersula Downs and Ms. Shatterria King, for the 2026-2027 Morehouse Sales Tax Commission Board for Morehouse Parish School Board. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Ms. Adrin Williams to appoint Ms. Ersula Downs and Ms. Shatterria King, for the 2026-2027 Morehouse Sales Tax Commission Board for Morehouse Parish School Board, seconded by Mr. Veronica Tappin. None opposed; the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to review and approve the 2026-2027 MPSD Salary Schedules and Pay Rates. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Ms. Adrin Williams to approve the 2026-2027 MPSD Salary Schedules and Pay Rates, seconded by Mrs. Veronica Tappin. None opposed; the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to rescind all action from the June 2, 2026 meeting of the Morehouse Parish School Board and to rescind the advertisements for bid in regard to Section 16, Township 23 North, Range 10 East, approximately 540 acres total for five years and to re-advertise for lease for five years all of the Morehouse Parish School Board's interest in Section 16, Township 23 North, Range 10 East, beginning January 1, 2027 for five years with a minimum bid of \$57,000.00 per year. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Ms. Adrin Williams to rescind all action from the June 2, 2026 meeting of the Morehouse Parish School Board and to rescind the advertisements for bid in regard to Section 16, Township 23 North, Range 10 East, approximately 540 acres total for five years and to re-advertise for lease for five years all of the Morehouse Parish School Board's interest in Section 16, Township 23 North, Range 10 East, beginning January 1, 2027 for five years with a minimum bid of \$57,000.00 per year, seconded by Ms. Karen Diel. None opposed; the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to rescind all action from the June 2, 2026 meeting of the Morehouse Parish School Board and to rescind the advertisements for bid in regard to Section 16, Township 22 North, Range 9 East, approximately 638.46 acres total for five years and to re-advertise for lease for five years all of the Morehouse Parish School Board's interest in Section 16, Township 22 North, Range 9 East, beginning January 1, 2027 for five years with a minimum bid of \$82,000.00 per year. (Presented by Ms. Ersula Downs) ***On a motion of Ms. Adrin Williams to rescind all action from the June 2, 2026 meeting of the Morehouse Parish School Board and to rescind the advertisements for bid in regard to Section 16, Township 22 North, Range 9 East, approximately 638.46 acres total for five years and to re-advertise for lease for five years all of the Morehouse Parish School Board's interest in Section 16, Township 22 North, Range 9 East, beginning January 1, 2027 for five years with a minimum bid of \$82,000.00 per year, seconded by Mr. Veronica Tappin. None opposed; the motion passed unanimously.***

The next item on the agenda was to consider and take action on amending the Superintendent's Employment contract to fix the dollar amount of the Superintendent's salary in Section III, line two of the subparagraph labeled 1. at \$_____ per year commencing with the August, 2026 payroll. (Presented by Mrs.

Veronica Tappin) ***On a motion of Mrs. Veronica Tappin to table this item until a further date, seconded by Ms. Adrin Williams. One opposed- Mr. Louis Melton. The motion passed.***

The next item on the agenda was to discuss and take the necessary action to change Morehouse Magnet School's grade level from K-12 back to K-8. (Presented by Mr. Louis Melton). ***On a motion of Mr. Louis Melton to discuss and take the necessary action to change Morehouse Magnet School's grade level from K-12 back to K-8, no second was made, and the motion failed.***

The next item on the agenda was public Comment –None for this meeting.

The next item on the agenda was the Personnel Report. ***The information was presented in board packets.***

The meeting was adjourned.

Mr. Robert Johnson, School Board President

Dr. Jesse Winston, Jr., Superintendent