

Regular VAL Charter Board Meeting  
Wednesday, June 12, 2024  
VAL Administration (639 Harrison Street, Thibodaux, LA)

Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm

**1) Opening of Meeting**

a. Roll Call

Members present:

Shelba Harlan, President; Shontell Terrebonne, Vice-President; Bernita Deville, Secretary; Curtis Bouvier, Treasurer; Monique Pitre; Travis Toups; Donald Andras

Members absent: Michael Rieth; Cheryl Thomas

Others present: Edmond Adams; Holly Naquin

b. Pledge of Allegiance by Travis Toups

c. Invocation by Shelba Harlan

d. Public Participation Policy (no one from the public was in the audience and reading was dispensed with)

e. Minutes of VAL Charter Board meeting held March 13, 2024 were unanimously approved on motion of Travis Toups and seconded by Curtis Bouvier.

**2) School Director's Report**

a. Student Enrollment Update

Mr. Adams reported VAL ended the school year with an enrollment of 473, and has had a very productive open enrollment session in March. He stated these numbers should put VAL in a good position to begin the next year, and reported on the projected numbers for each site.

St. Mary Elementary (K-6) – 125

St. Mary High (7-12) – 135

VAL Central (K-12) – 82

VAL South (K-12) – 143

b. Staff Changes

Mr. Adams announced that Mary Reynaud, VAL South Site Manager, has announced she will be retiring June 28<sup>th</sup>, and commended her for her dedication to VAL since its beginning. He further announced that overall, a total of ten instructional staff members will not be returning next year, and provided a breakdown of loses per site.

c. Report on Sites

Mr. Adams' report on sites included the announcement that St. Mary Middle has been emptied, and renovations to accommodate the merge of the two sites have been completed at St. Mary High. In an effort to accommodate more students at the Central site, Mr. Adams announced his intentions to find another location. He further stated he is currently considering the space previously known as the Royal Villa reception hall in Raceland, which would provide easy access for students from all surrounding areas. Regarding the Bayou Blue site, he announced this building has also been emptied of all VAL items.

d. Finances/Budget Update

Mr. Adams stated other than what was discussed and approved at the Finance Committee meeting, he had no additional information to report.

e. School Curriculum Changes

Mr. Adams informed board members that a new Social Studies curriculum for grades 3-8 has been adopted, which is an approved Tier 1 online program called Gallopade. He next distributed copies of VAL's Annual Assessment report, which includes VAL's curriculum and performance in ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies. The report was reviewed, and Mr. Adams drew attention to the performance in social studies, and the need for a new curriculum to address the deficiencies. Also included in the report was a snapshot of VAL's report card from the State, which is what Mr. Adams announced he will be including in his presentation to the School Board at its Academics Committee meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Although VAL obtained an overall letter grade of "B" on its report card, Mr. Adams noted the challenges at the high school level. In an effort to address these challenges with assessments and ACT scores, Mr. Adams announced he has been meeting with his high school team for possible resolutions.

3) **School Board Business**

a. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

b. New Business

i. 2024-2025 VAL Robotics

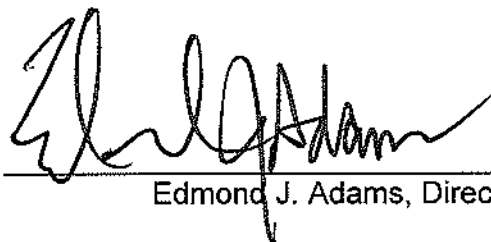
Along with other changes occurring in 2024-25, Mr. Adams announced there will be changes with VAL's Robotics program. He explained they will detach themselves from VAL, and will operate within the community as a community robotics team allowing for recruitment of participants from other schools. Mr. Adams then stated, according to the Robotics Bylaws, all equipment and funds become property of VAL should they cease to exist, but since the team has received approval from the State to operate as a non-profit organization, he requested that the Board, in turn, approves the donation of the program's equipment and fund balance to the new community program. Mr. Andras clarified that the program was self-funded and all equipment was purchased with these funds. On motion of Curtis Bouvier, seconded by Travis Touns, the Board unanimously approved the donation of VAL Robotics' equipment and funds to the community robotics program.

ii. Next Board Meeting Date, Time, Place

All board members agreed their next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at VAL's South site in Cut Off, beginning at 6:15 pm.

4) **Adjourn**

There being no further business, on motion of Curtis Bouvier, seconded by Bernita Deville, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 pm.



Edmond J. Adams, Director