

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

JOYCE MARIE MOORE, ET AL.,
Plaintiffs,

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 65-15556

VERSUS

SECTION "B" (1)

TANGIPAHOA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD,
Defendant.

JUDGE: IVAN L. R. LEMELLE

**MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF
MOTION FOR COURT APPROVAL OF CERTAIN REPAIRS TO SCHOOLS**

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Defendant Tangipahoa Parish School Board has previously filed a motion to address needed repairs at three of its schools and a motion for expedited consideration. Westside Middle School and Hammond Eastside Elementary School are racially identifiable black schools. The repairs at these schools – replacement of doors, frames and hardware, and replacement of flooring in certain areas at Westside Middle School and replacement of the cooling tower at Hammond Eastside Elementary School – are needed to address security and safety issues at Westside Middle School and to assure continuing operation of Hammond Eastside Elementary School's HVAC system. It is unclear to defendant as to why plaintiffs have elected to interpose objections to these necessary repair projects.

It is equally unclear as to why plaintiffs have elected to oppose resurfacing of the field track at Ponchatoula High School. The track was inspected by plaintiffs' attorney James Gray on a visit to the school. Mr. Gray saw first hand that in certain areas the track surface was non-existent and in others of insufficient depth to permit safe usage of the track.

Sufficient cost estimates for each of the above projects were provided to plaintiffs' attorneys prior to the filing of the motion. The cost estimates are provided by an architect and an

engineer with detailed listings of specific materials and cost projections as to all aspects of the requested repairs. In refusing to agree, the defendants have not even questioned the need for the repairs or the estimated costs.

In short, defendant's position on these projects appears to be without a reasonable basis and interposed for the sole sake of being uncooperative.

WHEREFORE, after due proceedings are had, Defendant Tangipahoa Parish School board prays that an order be entered herein approving the projects at Westside Middle, Hammond Eastside Elementary and Ponchatoula High schools.

s/ Charles L. Patin, Jr.

Charles L. Patin, Jr. (La. Bar # 10338)
KEAN, MILLER, HAWTHORNE, D'ARMOND,
McCOWAN & JARMAN, L.L.P.
One American Place, 18th Floor
Post Office Box 3513 (70821)
Baton Rouge, LA 70825
Telephone: 225-387-0999

s/ Alton B. Lewis, Jr.

Alton B. Lewis, Jr. (La. Bar # 8772)
CASHE, LEWIS, COUDRAIN & SANDAGE
106 South Magnolia Street
Post Office Drawer 1509
Hammond, LA 70404-1509
Telephone: 985-542-6848

Attorneys for Tangipahoa Parish School Board

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on September 15, 2009, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of Court by using CM/ECF system which will send a notice of electronic filing to all counsel of record.

s/ Charles L. Patin, Jr.
Charles L. Patin, Jr.