



State Police Commission

Post Office Box 66555
Baton Rouge, LA. 70896-6555
Phone (225) 925-7057
Fax (225) 925-7058
www.laspc.com

John Bel Edwards
Governor

Jason Hannaman
Executive Director

Mr. Jerry R. Hicks, President
Ouachita Parish School Board
100 Bry Street
Monroe, LA 71201

August 24, 2018

Dear Mr. Hicks:

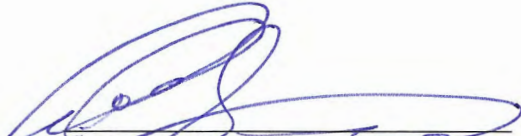
The Louisiana State Police Commission sends this letter as an expression of its concern over the School Board's hiring of Jack Goode to teach at West Monroe High School. The Commission was shocked to learn that the Ouachita Parish School Board continues to employ Jack Goode as a teacher, and that Mr. Goode continues to have power and authority over minors after abusing the trust that the citizens of this state have placed in their teachers.

On Thursday, August 9, 2018, the Louisiana State Police Commission held its monthly meeting in Monroe and heard the disciplinary appeal of Trooper Joseph Jones. Trooper Jones was disciplined for intervening in an investigation by the Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Department of Sterlington High School coach and teacher, Jack Goode. As you are aware Mr. Goode had served alcohol to or condoned the consumption of alcohol in his home by minors on the night of this incident, including to Trooper Jones' sixteen-year-old son. Further, Mr. Goode had threatened and struck Trooper Jones' son. Despite these extenuating circumstances and the fact that we thought Trooper Jones acted with greater restraint than many parents would have under the circumstances, we still thought discipline of the Trooper was in order for a violation of State Police policies. As such, we fulfilled our duty in imposing discipline. Yet, despite the horrendous conduct of Mr. Goode, we understand that he is still employed by the School Board and still has access to and authority over other minors in your school system.

Testimony at the hearing revealed that in April, 2017, Mr. Goode supplied teenagers with alcohol at his home, forced Trooper Jones' son to drink vodka, causing him to throw up, called Trooper Jones' son an expletive for initially refusing the vodka and for not being able to hold his liquor, struck Trooper Jones' son about the face, neck, chest and back on at least two different occasions, and threatened to kill him. Mr. Goode's wife, Emily Goode, a teacher at Sterlington High School, was at their home at this time. After the children escaped Mr. Goode's home and returned to a party with a number of other teenagers, Mr. Goode went to the party and threatened all of the teenagers there until his wife was able to convince him to leave and she drove him back home. Further testimony also revealed that on other occasions Mr. Goode made some of the teenagers run errands for him during the school day and was apparently a known source of alcohol

for the teenagers on his football team. Shockingly, we understand that Mr. Goode was allowed to plead guilty to simple battery of Trooper Jones' son and the additional charge related to providing alcohol to the minors was dropped. Despite the facts in this case and the agreement that Mr. Goode would not return to Sterlington, he was hired to teach (and is currently teaching) at West Monroe High School.


This Commission is appalled that this School Board continues to employ Jack Goode in such a capacity after the events that occurred in April, 2017, and it continues to allow Mr. Goode to work as a teacher of minor children at West Monroe High School.



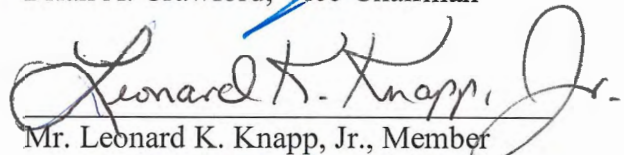
Eulis Simien, Jr., Chairman



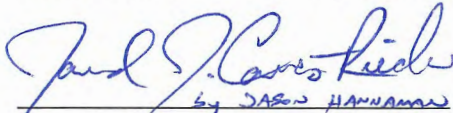
Brian A. Crawford, Vice-Chairman



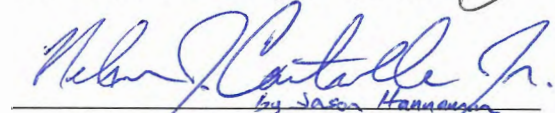
Chief Harold Pierite, Sr., Member



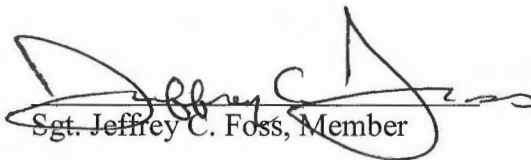
Mr. Leonard K. Knapp, Jr., Member



Jared J. Caruso-Riecke, Member
by JASON HANNAHAN



Mr. Nelson J. Cantrelle, Jr., Member
by Jason Hannahan



Sgt. Jeffrey C. Foss, Member

- cc: Gov. John Bel Edwards
John White, State Superintendent of Education
Tommy Comeaux, Member of Ouachita Parish School Board
Scott Robinson, Member of Ouachita Parish School Board
A.R. "Red" Sims, Member of Ouachita Parish School Board
Rev. John Russell, Member of Ouachita Parish School Board
Carey Walker, Member of Ouachita Parish School Board
Greg Manley, Vice President and Member of Ouachita Parish School Board