Caddo School Board employees arrested for Felony Theft

Thursday, March 21, 2024

Two Caddo Parish School Board employees were arrested in separate incidents for illegally receiving school funds, said Caddo Sheriff Jay Long.

An internal audit conducted by the School Board found Raquel Fuggins-Mock, the former principal at Werner Park Elementary, purchased sound equipment, gift cards, and other items that could not be accounted for. The total amount of items was $3,007.

A separate audit revealed that Marco French, the principal at Queensborough Elementary, illegally received over $2,600. Of that amount, $1,012 was Title I funding earmarked for Saturday morning tutoring. Other illegal reimbursements were for travel expenses and purchasing items from a company with which he was personally associated.

An internal investigation was conducted by the School Board and those results were turned over to the Caddo Sheriff's Office. Restitution was rendered in both cases to the district.

Dr. T. Lamar Goree, Superintendent of Caddo Schools, said, "Internal audits are conducted regularly to make sure schools are in compliance with Board policies and district accounting procedures. The district's rigorous internal controls led to the discovery of inconsistencies with financial reporting. The findings of internal and external audits were reported to the Louisiana Board of Ethics, the Legislative Auditor and local law enforcement and immediate action was taken at the district level."

"In addition, Caddo Parish Public Schools will continue collaborating with law enforcement throughout the duration of this investigation. The district remains dedicated to enhancing financial practices that will support the educational needs of our students."

Sheriff's Det. Roosevelt Tadlock obtained arrest warrants for both Fuggins-Mock, 45, and French, 43, for Felony Theft. Both turned themselves in at Caddo Correctional Center and have been released on bond.

Additional former district employees remain under investigation in connection with audit findings.