



Board Briefs

A report of the Beauregard Parish School Board meeting

The Beauregard Parish School Board met Thursday, April 13, 2017, with David Vidrine, president, District 3C, Darrin Manuel, vice president, District 4A, Martha Jackson, District 1, Timothy Hudson, interim District 2, Kathy Bruner, District 3A, L.D. Spears, District 3B, Cassie Henry, District 3D, Wesley Taylor, District 3E, Ray Bowman, District 4B, and Don Gray, District 5 present.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Timothy Cooley highlighted South Beauregard Upper Elementary's "National Title I Distinguished School" award. SBUE Principal Wesley Henry along with school personnel, informed the board about receiving the Title I award for the current school year. The program recognizes qualifying schools for outstanding academic achievements of their students. SBUE is being recognized for closing the achievement gap between student groups. Henry attributed their success to a school culture that seeks the best for staff and students, sets high expectations, and provides opportunities as well as reducing obstacles to success. He said that SBUE believes in the worth and ability of all students which helps prepare the way for success.

Testing Coordinator Margie Hieronymus presented information to the board concerning accountability testing. She stated that there have been 300 computer-based testing sessions for grades 5-8 in this first year of mandatory computer-based testing. She explained that schools and the technology department have worked diligently to prepare for and implement testing in this format, stating that it has not been without some unexpected issues. One school took a direct lightning hit that knocked out an electric panel, flooding that closed two schools, and an upgrade to the DRC program days before testing all have been challenges that were faced and overcome. She thanked the board for their support in providing infrastructure and technology upgrades that have prepared schools to be able to successfully accomplish computer-based testing, acknowledging that every lab in parish schools has been needed to implement the testing. She stated that paper-based testing for all science tests plus grades 3-4 in all other subjects would continue beyond spring break. She stated that initial ACT testing, alternate testing, WorkKeys, and other testing have been completed and that EOCs for high school students were scheduled after the break. Superintendent Cooley thanked Hieronymus, Supervisor Eddie Joslin, Technology Coordinator Dean Hieronymus, and Acting Assistant Superintendent Marlin Ramsey for their work in overseeing the process and to all supervisors, administrators, teachers, and staff for all that they have done to help make this a successful endeavor.

Support Employees of the Year: The State Department of Education sponsors the Outstanding Support Employee of the Year program each year to recognize outstanding support personnel for elementary, middle, and high school levels in each parish. The three Outstanding Support Employees of the Year for Beauregard Parish are Suzanne McDaniel of East Beauregard Elementary for the elementary level, Holly Barrow of South Beauregard High School for the junior high level, and Mike Streams of Singer High School for the high school level. Each was presented a plaque by Superintendent Timothy Cooley and the School Board in recognition of this honor.

Budget Revision #1: The board removed from the table a motion to approve Budget Revision #1 and approved the motion with no changes. Finance Director Lesia Casanovas stated that there had been a further reduction in the projected deficiency from the original budget and said that the administration was continuing to focus on reducing costs for the remainder of FYE 17 fiscal year.

Policy Revisions: The board approved a new policy File: CEI, Evaluation of the Superintendent, for final adoption after the 30 day waiting period.

Advertising for Assistant Superintendent: The board approved a motion to advertise to fill the position of Assistant Superintendent beginning April 24 for two weeks.