



# Board Briefs

A report of the Beauregard Parish School Board meeting

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The Beauregard Parish School Board met Thursday, November 9, 2017, with David Vidrine, president, District 3C, Darrin Manuel, vice president, District 4A, Martha Jackson, District 1, Timothy Hudson, District 2, L.D. Spears, District 3B, Cassie Henry, District 3D, Wesley Taylor, District 3E, Ray Bowman, District 4B, Don Gray District 5, and Tabitha Deer, student representative present.

**Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Timothy Cooley announced that schools across the parish would be celebrating American Education Week November 13-17 with the theme: Great Public Schools – A Basic Right and Our Responsibility. He stated that schools in the parish honored America's veterans with programs and that DJHS students presented their flag ceremony at several schools.

He announced that Colten Denning, a senior at DeRidder High School, has been selected as a 2018 member of the U.S. Army All-American Marching Band through an extensive audition process. He is among only 125 high school seniors from across the country to be selected for the band that will perform during the half-time of the U.S. Army All-American Bowl in San Antonio, TX, in January.

He told the board that fifteen sophomores, juniors, and seniors representing four parish high schools participated in the LSU Health Sciences Center Medical School "Day with the Docs" in October. Students who are interested in pursuing a career as a physician were selected through an application process and recommended by a science teacher. They were offered a glimpse into the lives of medical students, toured the campus, and participated in hands-on activities.

Student representative Tabitha Deer reported on activities in all parish schools during Red Ribbon Week in October. She announced that schools participated in dress up days like "Team Up Against Drugs" and wore team jerseys, door decorating contests, and other activities to promote awareness for drug, violence, and bullying prevention.

District Testing Coordinator Margie Hieronymus reported on the recent District Performance and School Performance Scores released by the DOE. She pointed out Beauregard Parish increased its DPS score from last year and was one of only two districts out of 71 to do so without receiving progress points. In addition, Beauregard was one of only 22 districts to increase its baseline score and one of only 33 to increase its overall score, even when progress points were counted. She pointed out that the district increased its ACT Index, which includes both ACT and WorkKeys scores, by 15.9 points. She stated that six schools showed growth over last year with DeRidder Junior High School increasing its score by 11.6 points and earning a "Top Gains" designation from the state. She reported that three schools – MHS, SHS, and SBHS – earned the maximum 150 points for the Drop Out Accumulation Index, and that MHS earned a perfect 150 points for the Cohort Graduation Rate Index. She stated that six of nine schools eligible earned progress points and reminded the board that three of our schools – CE, KRH, and SBE – cannot earn progress points because there are no state tested grades below third grade and, therefore, these three schools do not receive baseline scores from the state.

**Liquidation of Fixed Assets:** The board approved liquidation of a fixed asset – a Ford Econoline van.

**Budget Revision #2 FYE 17:** The board approved Budget Revision #2 FYE 17. The approval moved \$181,000 from the Budget Stabilization Fund into the Sales Tax Funds to make up for a shortfall of estimated June sales tax revenues dispersed for the June supplement. Board policy states that any funds utilized from the Budget Stabilization Fund must be paid back at one-third of the total amount each year over a three year period. Additionally, the board approved a separate motion to reserve \$300,000 of the Budget Stabilization Fund in FYE 18 to maintain the designated reserve required by board policy. Board policy requires a designated fund balance of five percent of actual revenues of each fund except the Federal Funds and School Activity Funds to be established for such factors as unforeseen contingencies, sufficient cash flow operations, and improved bond credit rating.

**Change Order for SBHS:** The board approved a change order relating to drainage on the South Beauregard band room project in the amount of \$23,300.00.