



Board Briefs

A report of the Beauregard Parish School Board meeting

The Beauregard Parish School Board met Thursday, October 12, 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, Don Gray District 5, and Tabitha Deer, student representative present.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Timothy Cooley asked Student Representative Tabitha Deer to give a report to the board. Deer reported that the Parishwide Student Officers and Advisors of the high school Student Councils met in September at DeRidder High School where students worked on leadership skills and advisors discussed plans for the March 2018 Color Run.

Cooley announced that October 9-13 is National School Lunch Week, October 16-20 is National School Bus Safety Week, and October 23-31 is Red Ribbon Week. He thanked the employees who work in the cafeterias, the bus facility, and those who work daily to promote positive character and promote safety in our schools.

He stated that the Early Childhood Performance Profiles are expected to be reported by the Department of Education in late October and that District and School Performance Scores are due out in early November. He also said that the October 1 MFP count is up approximately 40 students from last year.

He asked Supervisor Kim Hayes to give a report on the School Finder website that the Department of Education will be hosting. The site will go live in November with the release of District and School Performance Scores and is a new tool that the DOE is using to provide information to the public about schools across the state. The site will provide School Performance Scores as well as data on school personnel, school hours, academic offerings, extra-curricular activities, sports programs, student population breakdowns by subgroups, and other information that can be filtered and searched. Currently, school principals and the data coordinator are checking information for accuracy and making adjustments before the sites go live.

Sales Tax Settlement: On Tuesday, October 10, 2017, two executive with Packaging Corporation of America (PCA) met with Superintendent Cooley, Board President David Vidrine, Board Vice President Darrin Manuel, Assistant Superintendent Marlin Ramsey, and Finance Director Lesia Casanovas to discuss the situation with the continued overpayment from Boise/PCA of taxes that PCA is asking to be reimbursed. The meeting opened lines of communication between the school board and PCA in an effort to clarify the tax situation, its impact on the school board, and what to expect moving forward. One important fact that school board officials related to PCA was that once the school board collects the taxes, it is required to disburse them.

Executive Session: The board voted to go into Executive Session to receive a compilation of the Superintendent's evaluation results. This was the first year of a new process developed by the Policy Committee. Upon the vote to return to regular session, Board President Vidrine commended Superintendent Cooley on the job he is doing, and Superintendent Cooley expressed his appreciation for the board's feedback.