



Board Briefs

A report of the Beauregard Parish School Board meeting

The Beauregard Parish School Board met Thursday, September 14, 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, and Wesley Taylor, District 3E present.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Timothy Cooley thanked administrators and employees for their part in dealing with the disruptions to schools during the week of Hurricane Harvey. He announced that the Beauregard Parish fair is scheduled for October 3-7 with student day on Friday, October 6. He announced that three night classes will be conducted through ABC as part of the Jump Start program - two welding classes, one each at Singer High School and DeRidder High School, and an electrical class at East Beauregard High School. Administrators are working on getting another electrical class and a pipe fitting class for next semester. He announced that student count numbers were slightly up from the same week last year.

Beauregard Parish Teachers of the Year: Three district educators have been selected as the 2017-2018 Beauregard Parish Teachers of the Year. The Teacher of the Year program is sponsored annually by the State Department of Education to recognize outstanding teachers at the elementary, junior high, and high school levels. The teachers were introduced by their principals and presented a plaque in recognition of this honor. Scotti Vige was named the Beauregard Parish High School Teacher of the Year. Alayna Jones was named the Beauregard Parish Middle School Teacher of the Year. DeAnna McGregor was named the Beauregard Parish Elementary Teacher of the Year.

Beauregard Parish Principals of the Year: The Louisiana Department of Education sponsors the Principal of the Year program each year to recognize outstanding principals from across the state. The 2017-2018 Beauregard Parish Principals of the Year are: Larry Hollie, Beauregard Parish High School Principal of the Year, Theresa Harlow, Beauregard Parish Middle School Principal of the Year, and Barbara Newman, Beauregard Parish Elementary Principal of the Year. Each was presented a plaque by Superintendent Cooley and Board President Vidrine in recognition of the honor.

School Calendar Change: Due to the school days missed for Hurricane Harvey, the board approved Friday, January 12, 2018, to be a full school day for students. It was originally scheduled as a non-student/parent conference day.

Job Description Change: The board approved a change to the Clerk/Typist Job Description by adding 9 Month/ 5 Hour option in addition to the 10 Month/7 hour option to provide more flexibility in meeting the specific needs of the schools.

Sales Tax Settlement: The board voted to discuss in open session a demand from Boise Newsprint, LLC/Packaging Corporation of America to be reimbursed for overpayment of taxes through the audited period of April 30, 2015. The company estimates its taxes and submits what it deems it should owe, however; the company has up to three years to audit the payments and

request reimbursement of overpayment. The company claims it inadvertently paid double taxes during the time period in question. It is requesting that the school board repay \$644,881.10 over an 18 month period to be paid in credits on current taxes owed at the rate of \$35,826.73 per month. The company will waive the interest accrued if the board agrees to their plan. The board agreed to this plan at the recommendation of District Attorney Jimmy Lestage. This was a joint demand to both the school board and the police jury, both of which have accepted the plan. These findings do not include any payments after May 1, 2015, which will be reviewed by the company. With these payment credits, the board will have fewer funds over the next two years in sales tax revenue which will affect sales tax supplement checks for all employees. The board will meet with administrators in the near future to discuss budget revisions that will result as part of planning for and dealing with fewer and fluctuating sales tax revenues from Boise/PCA.