



Board Briefs

A report of the Beauregard Parish School Board meeting

The Beauregard Parish School Board met Thursday, October 11, 2018, with David Vidrine, president, District 3C, Darrin Manuel, vice-president, District 4A, Martha Jackson, District 1, Timothy Hudson, 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 student representative Maili Bartz present.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Timothy J. Cooley announced that the school system will be recognizing three weeks in October: National School Lunch Week October 15-19, National School Bus Safety Week October 22-26, and Red Ribbon Week October 23-31.

He informed the board that state scores for Early Childhood Performance (which includes area day care centers and all pre-school classes) along with School Performance Scores and District Performance Scores will be made available by the Department of Education in late October and early November. The DOE has released information to let districts and the public know that accountability scores will be assigned four different grades this year – one for student progress, one for the 2016-2017 year, one for the 2017-2018 year based on the prior scoring criteria, and one for the 2017-2018 year based on the new scoring criteria. The DOE has also stated that the number of “F” schools will increase by 57% under the new scoring system while the number of “A” schools will decrease by 38 percent.

He announced that Jennifer Stark has been appointed the Acting Assistant Principal at Merryville High School.

Student Representative to the Board Maili Bartz announced that the parish Student Council group packed and delivered 2,000 weekend food bags for Beauregard Parish students as their community service project for the semester. The bags consisted of water, juice, and eight non-perishable food items donated by the United Way of SW Louisiana.

Superintendent Cooley introduced Col. Jarrett A. Thomas, II, Garrison Commander at Fort Polk who shared that the Installation Regional Director will visit Fort Polk in late October and that information about the schools systems in the area will be shared at the meeting. He stated that the base will have a Retiree Appreciation Day on October 20 and will be hosting Louisiana Hayride at the end of the month. On November 8, the base will host a Veterans of Vietnam Appreciation and “Welcome Home” Event at 10 a.m. at the Aviation Hanger at Polk Army Airfield to give these veterans the welcome home they deserve.

Taxing Authority Guidelines and Resolution: The board approved the guidelines for the Beauregard Parish Taxing Authorities and adopted a resolution appointing the Board President, the Finance Committee Chairperson, and the Superintendent to represent the board at Industrial Tax Exemption Program (ITEP) meetings.

ITEP Template: The board approved the sample resolution to use as a template for future ITEP requests.

SBHS Chiller: The board approved a recommendation from the Building and Grounds committee to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) regarding the SBHS chiller software and controls.

Policy Changes:

The board approved final adoption of the following policy:

File: JGCF, Behavioral Health Services for Students, a new policy that provides for behavioral health services to be permitted during school hours at school facilities under specified conditions including with a written request from the parent or guardian, an evaluation by a certified professional stating services are needed during the school day to assist students with behavioral health impairments that the evaluator deems are interfering with the student's ability to thrive in the educational setting, and that are paid for by the parent or guardian of the student.

Executive Session: The board approved a motion to go into Executive Session under LA R.S. 42:17 to receive a compilation of the Superintendent's evaluation results. The board announced a favorable evaluation at the end of the session.