

GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORT TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015

The St. Bernard Parish School Board met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the St. Bernard Parish School Board Office. Following the Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, the Secretary called the roll. Members present were, Dr. Hugh C. Craft, President, Mrs. Darleen P. Asevedo, Mr. Donald D. Campbell, Mr. William H. Egan, Mr. Clifford M. Englande, Mrs. Katherine K. Lemoine, Mrs. Diana B. Dysart, Dr. Henderson Lewis, Jr., Mr. Joseph V. Long, Sr., Mr. Ronald J. Nicosia and Mr. Sean K. Warner.

Dr. Craft began the meeting by recognizing Mr. Ron Nicosia on having had a birthday on November 8th. Mr. Nicosia thanked everyone for the birthday wishes. Mrs. Dysart also extended congratulations to the boys and girls cross country team and its Coach, Jennifer Gioia, for winning the district title for the third year in a row. Mrs. Dysart also congratulated the Chalmette High Football team for being named district co-champs.

Ms. Voitier took this opportunity to praise everyone involved in the recent production of “Thirteen Past Midnight” at Chalmette High. She commended Mr. Dugger and Ms. Babin and the students from Chalmette High on this successful production.

At this time, Dr. Craft opened the public hearing on the new Meraux Elementary School. Dr. Craft asked if anyone in the audience had appeared to discuss the construction of this new elementary school. No one asked to speak on this topic. Ms. Voitier offered some explanation regarding the necessity for the public hearing because of FEMA regulations. With no one appearing to speak regarding this project, Dr. Craft proceeded by closing the public hearing.

Dr. Lewis, as chair of the Education Committee, introduced Dr. Charles Raviotta to share the Head Start Program Annual Report. Informational hand-outs were provided and reviewed for the Committee concerning Head Start such as the Annual Report, the 2014-2015 Head Start Program Information Report, a Summary of Year –End Data for the 2014 – 2015 school year, the Health Report, an explanation of the St. Bernard Parish Head Start Governing Body Roles and Responsibilities and a recent piece of correspondence from the Director of Head Start regarding the celebration of Head Start’s 50th year. Dr. Raviotta reviewed

and answered all questions from the Committee regarding the Head Start Annual report.

The Official Head Start Program Annual Report is shown below:

St. Bernard Parish School Board

Head Start Program

Annual Report

2014-2015

Each Head Start agency shall make available to the public a report published at least once in each fiscal year that discloses the following information from the most recently concluded fiscal year, except that reporting such information shall not reveal personally identifiable information about an individual child or parent.

(A) The total amount of public and private funds received and the amount from each source.

Public Funding	
Continuation Application Grant	\$830,689.00
In-Kind Contribution	\$207,682.00
Private Funds	-0-

(B) An explanation of budgetary expenditures and proposed budget for the fiscal year.

Federal Contribution	\$830,688.95
Four Year Old Children Funded Enrollment	112
Personnel – Salaries	\$504,692.01
Benefits	\$251,136.29
Other Categories	
Supplies	\$936.56
Travel	\$1,133.84
Licensing Fees	\$400.50
Field Trips	\$1,054.25
Repair & Upkeep	\$2,436.55
Adult Medical Services	\$1,593.00
Indirect Costs	\$67,305.95

(C) The total number of children and families served, the average monthly enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment), and the percentage of eligible children served.

The total number of children served	119
The total number of families served	118
The average monthly enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment)	99.28%
The percentage of eligible children served	100%

(D) The results of the most recent review by the Secretary and the financial audit.
In full compliance, no corrective action required.

(E) The percentage of enrolled children that received medical and dental exams.
Medical

100% (119 of 119) of all children were up-to-date on a schedule of age-appropriate preventive and primary health care according to the LA EPSDT schedule for well child care. The number of children receiving medical treatment for the following chronic health conditions is as follows:

Anemia	0
Asthma	6
Hearing Difficulties	0
Vision Problems	1
High Lead Levels	0
Diabetes	0

Dental

119 children received an oral exam by a dentist. 119 children received preventive care and 33 received additional treatment.

(F) Information about parent involvement activities.

The St. Bernard Parish School System’s Head Start program provided a number of opportunities for parents to become involved in their children’s preschool experience. Parents were first introduced to the Head Start Program at Orientation followed by Home Visits. During the school year, parents were able to conference with teachers and paraprofessionals regarding their child’s progress at Parent-Teacher Conference Day. An open door policy gave parents access to the child’s classroom in the course of the school day. Parent information workshops on topics such as Disciplining your Child, Adult Education Programs, Mental Wellness for Children and Families, Health Issues, Make-N-Take sessions, School Readiness Training, and Transitioning to Kindergarten were held throughout the year. Informational flyers were sent home regularly. Parents were encouraged to participate with their children during Reading Is Fun days and were also able to accompany their children on all field trips. Parents were able to participate in parent involvement activities held on their elementary school sites such as Family Math & Literacy Nights, Book Fairs, and Fall Festivals. Grandparents were invited to participate in Grandparent’s Day at each school. The year’s activities ended in May with the closing program and family picnic.

(G) The agency's efforts to prepare children for kindergarten.

The St. Bernard Parish School System's Head Start program served 119 eligible children four years of age by September 30. 16 children with IEPs received services. At the conclusion of the year in Head Start, students were transitioned into the school system's Kindergarten program.

Mr. Long addressed the next agenda item as chair of the Executive Committee. He welcomed Mr. Granberry to present the personnel changes for the month of November. Two leaves without pay were presented, Ms. Nicole Smith of Chalmette Elementary and Mr. Guy McInnis of Chalmette High. These leaves require approval from the Board so Dr. Craft moved to recommend to the Board that these leaves without pay be approved. Seconded by Mrs. Dysart, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present. Mr. Long thanked Mr. Granberry for the personnel review.

Mrs. Lemoine as chair of the Finance Committee welcomed Mr. Hugh Harlton and Mr. Conrad Browne, to present the results of a Request for Proposals for Telecommunication Services. Mr. Harlton explained that the current 36 month contract will expire on June 30, 2016. He further stated that the E-RATE grant procedures require a new signed contract must be in place by December 31, 2015 in order to qualify for funding. Mr. Harlton then explained that the new three (3) year contract will commence on July 1, 2016 with two (2) optional twelve (12) month extensions. After reviewing and scoring the two (2) proposals that were received, the Administration recommended that the School District select Cox Business for the new Telecommunication Services contract.

Dr. Lewis moved to recommend to the Board to approve the Administration's recommendation of Cox Business for the School Districts new Telecommunications contract. Seconded by Dr. Craft, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present.

Mrs. Lemoine next welcomed Mrs. Joni Blum, School Food Services Manager, to present the bid tabulation for Spices and Seasonings (Class 2), Cereal, Dried Beans and Crackers (Class 3), Frozen Foods (Class 5), Meat and Meat Products (Class 6), Poultry and Eggs (Class 7), Seafood Products (Class 8) and Canned Goods (Class 9) for the period of January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016. Mrs. Dysart moved to recommend to the full Board the approval of the lowest bidder on each item on the

aforementioned bid tabulation. Seconded by Mr. Long, the motion passed with no objections by a roll call vote of the members present.

Mrs. Lemoine welcomed Mr. Albert Carey to present the bid tabulation for Site Demolition for the Meraux Elementary School. Mr. Carey stated that there were three (3) bids received, the lowest bid was withdrawn due to a miscalculation by the vendor. Mr. Carey noted that the next lowest bidder was Cycle Construction Co., LLC at a cost of \$1, 000,527.00. Mr. Carey agreed that this price was acceptable and announced that Cycle Construction is the Administration's recommendation for this job.

After all questions and concerns were addressed by Mr. Cary, Mrs. Dysart moved to recommend to the Board to approve the Administration's recommendation of Cycle Construction Co., LLC to proceed with the demolition of the Meraux Elementary site for a price of \$1,000,527.00. Seconded by Mr. Englande, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present.

Under Superintendent's Recommendations Ms. Voitier reminded everyone that on December 2nd and 3rd there will be the annual Christmas Show at the Chalmette High Cultural Center. Other holiday programs will also take place in the individual schools including Fall Festivals and Thanksgiving activities during the next school week, please check your child's school calendars for these events. Mrs. Lemoine announced that literacy activities will be taking place tomorrow at Davies Elementary.

On motion of Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Asevedo, and passed by a unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned.