

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OCTOBER 27, 2015

The St. Bernard Parish School Board met in a Regular Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, October 27, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the St. Bernard Parish School Board Office. Following the Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, the Secretary called the roll. 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. Ronald J. Nicosia and Mr. Sean K. Warner. Mr. Joseph V. Long, Sr. was absent.

No one wished to address the Board under Community Concerns.

Dr. Craft acknowledged some guests in the audience who were in attendance regarding the donation of land for a new elementary school. They were; Mr. Floyd Gue, Mrs. Rita Gue, Mr. William Haines, Mr. Chris Haines and attorney Sidney Torres, Jr.. Dr. Craft moved to the next agenda item, a resolution to authorize the Board President to sign an act of donation for the Land for the Arlene Meraux Elementary School. Dr. Craft read the resolution into the minutes. Before Dr. Craft could read the resolution, Mrs. Dysart moved that the resolution be accepted into the minutes by a Joint Acclamation of the Board. With that, Dr. Craft read the resolution into the minutes.

Resolution

Whereas the St. Bernard Parish School Board has an interest in securing a specific property currently owned by *J and A Meraux, Inc.* for educational purposes at that site; and

Whereas *J and A Meraux, Inc.* has notified the Board of its desire to donate to the St. Bernard Parish School Board its interest in said property described in detail in the Act of Donation to be filed with the Court so that said property can be used for educational purposes; and

Whereas the St. Bernard Parish School Board has designated said property as the site for construction of the new Arlene Meraux Elementary School, with construction to begin upon proper filing and legal completion of the Act of Donation for that property; now be it therefore,

Resolved that the St. Bernard Parish School Board authorize its President, Dr. Hugh C. Craft, as its one representative with the authority to sign any contracts necessary for accepting the transfer of said property from the *J. and A Meraux, Inc.* to the Board; and be it further

Resolved that this resolution represents an official act of the St. Bernard Parish School Board meeting in full Session on October 27, 2015.

Mrs. Dysart thanked the Meraux Foundation for their generous donation that will assist in the building of a new school so that the overcrowding of current schools can be lessened and educational growth in the parish can continue. Ms. Doris Voitier then took the following roll call vote to approve the resolution that would allow Dr. Craft to sign for the Act of Donation of the property to build the new Arlene Meraux Elementary School.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS: Mrs. Darlene Asevedo, Mr. Donald Campbell, Mr. William Egan, Mr. Clifford Englande, Mrs. Katherine Lemoine, Mrs. Diana Dysart, Dr. Hugh Craft, Dr. Henderson, Lewis, Jr., Mr. Ronald Nicosia and Mr. Sean Warner.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Joseph Long, Sr.

At this time Dr. Craft opened the meeting up to comments from the Superintendent, Board members and audience guests.

Ms. Voitier shared some of her personal experiences with Ms. Arlene Meraux, especially Ms. Arlene's personal involvement and generosity toward the schools. Mr. Nicosia remembered seeing Ms. Arlene in front of Millaudon Elementary School very happily working in the garden. Mrs. Lemoine echoed some of those same sentiments and especially the personal attention to detail in making the causes they are involved in a success. Mrs. Rita Gue thanked everyone for the kind words about her Aunt. She also stated how close to Ms. Arlene's vision this donation truly is. Mr. Sidney Torres, one of the Meraux Foundation Board members, shared his own reflections on Ms. Arlene, how she enjoyed reading to the students in the schools. Mr. Torres also lauded the Gue Family and their hard work in making Ms. Arlene Meraux's wishes come true.

Dr. Craft introduced the next agenda item which was the actual donation of property to the school system. Ms. Voitier asked Board Members to review the documents which would be signed for the property donation. By joint acclamation, the Board voted to approve the acceptance of the act of donation by the Meraux Foundation of the property on Paris Road which will become the new Arlene Meraux Elementary School.

After a brief recess to conduct business associated with the aforementioned property, Dr. Craft welcomed Mr. Fernandez, Finance Manager, to address the Board regarding the 2014-2015 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. He introduced Ms. Dawn Laborie and Mr. Mickey Simon who are representatives of the independent auditors from the firm of Laporte CPA's and Business Advisors. Ms. Laborie first introduced Mr. Mickey Simon who was also at the meeting and who worked as the Senior Manager on this audit. She then thanked the Board, Ms. Voitier, Mr. Fernandez and the Business Office Staff for their cooperation and hard work during the audit. She stated the result of this audit was an unmodified opinion which is the highest level of assurance that can be offered on an audit. Ms. Laborie then reviewed some of the pertinent information involved in the Financial Statements.

Ms. Voitier thanked Ms. Laborie for her report and congratulated Mr. Fernandez and all of the business office staff who contributed to this unmodified opinion on the Financial Report. The Board members echoed this sentiment in congratulating Mr. Fernandez and his staff for their fine work, especially in the preparation of the Financial Report.

Mr. Englande moved to accept the Financial Audit as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Lemoine, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present.

Mrs. Asevedo moved to incorporate the report of the October General Committee meeting into the minutes of the October Regular Monthly Meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Dysart, the motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the members present.

GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORT TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015

The St. Bernard Parish School Board met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, October 13, 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. William H. Egan, Mr. Clifford M. Englande, Mrs. Diana B. Dysart, Dr. Henderson Lewis, Jr., Mr. Joseph V. Long, Sr., Mr. Ronald J. Nicosia and Mr. Sean K. Warner. Mr. Donald D. Campbell and Mrs. Katherine K. Lemoine were absent.

On a point of privilege, Dr. Craft wished Mrs. Dysart a Happy Birthday on behalf of the Board. Mrs. Dysart thanked everyone for their birthday wishes.

Also on a point of personal privilege, Mr. Cliff Englande mentioned to the Board that a Disney movie titled "The Invisible Sister" that was shot on our own Chalmette High School grounds is now playing on the Disney Channel. Having already watched the film, Mr. Englande noted that the school looked wonderful. Mr. Long agreed as he also had already watched the film. Both Committee Members encouraged people to watch it when it plays next Saturday night at 7 p.m.

Dr. Craft next welcomed Mr. Charles Cassar to present information concerning the upcoming Red Ribbon Week. Mr. Cassar noted that the national and local effort to reduce drug activity will take place from October 23 – 31, 2015. The theme this year is "Respect Yourself. Be Drug Free." Mr. Cassar noted that rally activities and speakers will be presented throughout the school system during this week. A proclamation of support for Red Ribbon Week will be signed at the Regular Monthly Meeting.

Mr. Englande as Executive Committee Chair welcomed Mr. Ronald Alonzo, Supervisor of Building and Grounds and 5 members of an Entergy Project Lead Team to explore a request from Entergy to purchase a small portion of land in Arabi from the School System for a new Arabi substation. Present for Entergy were, Mr. Craig Canepa, Mr. Aaron Kinchen, Mr. Curtis Navis, Mr. Brenden Oldendorf and Ms. Toni Brown.

Mr. Canepa spoke for the team and stated that this project is expected to

create better reliability and restoration of electricity during storm events. The current substation is 50 years old and located in a hard to reach marsh location in Arabi. Entergy is hoping to place this new state-of-the-art substation inside the levee system in Arabi on property that belongs to the school system where the old Drivers Education driving range is located. Mr. Canepa stated that moving that substation out of the marsh, inside the levee where accessibility would be much easier, with newer equipment would benefit the St. Bernard Community and Entergy. Mr. Canepa also stated that Entergy would be prepared to replace the existing driving range to another location that the School System chooses. An entrance road is being planned to reach that substation and attractive sound buffering fencing is also expected to be part of the substation installation.

After all questions and concerns were addressed by the Committee, Mr. Englande stated that the possibility of this project will be taken under advisement.

Mrs. Dysart as Education Committee Chair welcomed Mr. Tommie Powell to present information on the “Ruler” approach.” Mr. Powell explained that in the summer of 2014 a group of St. Bernard educators travelled to Yale University to learn about emotional intelligence. “Ruler”, Mr. Powell stated, stands for:

R	Recognizing emotions in yourself and others
U	Understanding the causes and consequences of emotions
L	Labeling emotions accurately
E	Expressing emotions appropriately
R	Regulating emotions effectively

Mr. Powell further explained that there are four components to the RULER program.

Charter - a collaborative document that helps schools establish supportive and productive learning environments. It is created by members of the school community, outlining how they aspire to treat each other.

Mood Meter - Using the Mood Meter, students and educators become more mindful of how their emotions change throughout the day and how their emotions in turn affect their actions.

Meta Moment - The Meta-Moment helps students and educators handle strong emotions so that they make better decisions for themselves and their community. The Meta-Moment is a brief step back from the situation when we pause and think before acting.

Blueprint - The Blueprint helps students and educators manage conflict effectively. Using the Blueprint, children and adults consider a disagreement from the other person’s perspective, as well as their own. They develop empathy by considering each other’s feelings and working collaboratively to identify healthy solutions to conflicts.

Mr. Powell introduced Mrs. Andrea Licciardi, Assistant Principal of Andrew Jackson Middle School and Mr. Paul Tran, Counselor at St. Bernard Middle School, to explain how the use of this program has affected students in their schools. Mrs. Licciardi and Mr. Tran both had positive things to say about the use of this program with both students and staff. Both found the tools of

this program easy to share with their middle school students who need to learn positive ways to express the feelings that are ruling their actions.

Mrs. Dysart thanked Mr. Powell, Ms. Licciardi and Mr. Tran for appearing before the Committee and was impressed with their commitment to a program like this to help regulate the emotions of their students.

Ms. Voitier presented the Personnel changes for October 2015. Mrs. Voitier acknowledged retirees Ms. Barbara Everhardt, Cafeteria Manager at Trist Middle who has been with the system for 31 year and Mrs. Deborah Lord a teacher for 34 years know for her work in Special Education. Ms. Voitier also noted that there was a request for Leave without pay from Ms. Karen Westcott which requires a Committee vote for recommendation.

Dr. Lewis moved to recommend to the Board to approve the leave without pay for Ms. Karen Westcott. Seconded by Mrs. Dysart, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present.

Mrs. Dysart also added her congratulations to the retirees stating that Ms. Lord has been an incredible teacher and Ms. Everhardt has been a dedicated employee. She wished them both a successful retirement.

Mr. Englande as Executive Committee chair invited Ms. Voitier to present the next agenda item regarding a resolution to authorize the Board President to sign an Act of Donation for the Meraux Elementary School property.

Ms. Voitier explained that the School System Administration is nearing the end of the legal process for the Meraux Foundation to donate the property on Paris Road for the new Meraux Elementary School. Ms. Voitier hopes to bring Mr. and Mrs. Gue of the Meraux Foundation to the October Regular Monthly Meeting to make that donation. A resolution has been developed to allow Board President, Dr. Hugh Craft, to accept the donation.

Mr. Warner moved to recommend to the full Board to approve the resolution allowing Dr. Hugh Craft, Board President, to sign and accept the donation of land from the Meraux Foundation to build the Meraux Elementary School on Paris Road. Seconded by Mrs. Dysart, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present.

Mr. Nicosia welcomed Mrs. Joni Blum to present a request for permission to advertise for bids for Paper, Cleaning and Custodial Supplies for a six month period.

Mr. Long moved to recommend to the full Board the approval of the request for permission to bid for Paper, Cleaning and Custodial Supplies for a six month period. Seconded by Mr. Warner, the motion passed with no objections by a roll call vote of the members present.

Mr. Nicosia next welcomed Mr. David Fernandez, Finance Manager, to present the revised 2015 – 2016 General Fund and Special Revenue Fund budgets. Mr. Fernandez noted that the changes in the General fund reflect year end encumbrances and fund balances; the only other change is pay raises that were granted to all staff. He also noted that some adjustments were also made in regard to grant amounts. In reference to the Lunch Fund, Mr. Fernandez noted that the only change was in the aforementioned pay raises.

Mr. Fernandez pointed out that the changes to the Special Revenue Funds reflected the final amounts awarded for these programs.

Dr. Craft moved to recommend to the Board to approve the revisions to the 2015 – 2016 General Fund and Special Revenue Fund Budgets. Seconded by Mr. Egan, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present.

Under Superintendent's Recommendations, Ms. Voitier hopes to have the donation of the Meraux Elementary land ready to appear on the Regular Monthly Meeting agenda and also the Audit Report for the 2014-2015 fiscal year will be presented. She also reminded everyone that October 22, 2015 will be a professional development day for teachers in the morning and report card conferences will be held in the afternoon into the evening.

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion of Mr. Warner, seconded by Mrs. Asevedo and passed by a unanimous voice vote of the members present, the meeting was adjourned.

Dr. Lewis moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of September 22, 2015 as published on October 2, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Nicosia, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present.

As recommended by the Committee, the Board unanimously approved by Joint Acclamation the Resolution proclaiming October 23, through October 31, 2015 as Red Ribbon Week in the St. Bernard Parish Public Schools.

Resolution

WHEREAS alcohol and other drug abuse in this nation has reached epidemic stages, and the 15-24 year old age group is dying at a faster rate than any other age group; and

WHEREAS it is imperative that visible, unified prevention education efforts by community members be launched to reduce the demand for drugs; and

WHEREAS the St. Bernard Parish School Board supports the National Red Ribbon Campaign offering students and employees the opportunity to demonstrate the commitment to drug free lifestyles; and

WHEREAS the National Red Ribbon Campaign will be celebrated in every community in America during "**Red Ribbon Week**", **October 23-31, 2015**; and

WHEREAS the theme this year during "**Red Ribbon Week**" will be "**Respect Yourself. Be Drug Free.**" and

WHEREAS business, government, law enforcement, schools, religious institutions, service organizations, youth, physicians, senior citizens, military, sports teams, and individuals will demonstrate their commitment to drug free, healthy lifestyles by displaying red ribbons during this week-long campaign;

THEREFORE, the St. Bernard Parish School Board does ***PROCLAIM October 23-31, 2015***, as ***Red Ribbon Week***, and encourages its students and employees to participate in drug prevention education activities, making a visible statement that we are strongly committed to

WORKING TOWARD A DRUG FREE COMMUNITY...

Mr. Granberry presented the Board with the personnel changes for the Month of October. Mr. Granberry reminded the Board of the necessity of a vote to approve the Leave without pay for Ms. Karen Westcott. Mrs. Dysart made special note of the two retirees that were presented, Mrs. Deborah Lord and Ms. Barbara Everhardt and thanked them for their years of service.

Mrs. Dysart moved to approve the Leave without Pay for Ms. Karen Westcott. Seconded by Mrs. Lemoine, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present.

**ST. BERNARD PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2015**

**CHANGES FOR BOARD MEMBERS INFORMATIONAL PURPOSE ONLY:
PERSONNEL CHANGES - TEACHERS**

APPOINTMENT

Felicia Butler Arabi Elementary-Special Education Teacher
(Temporary Assignment)

MEDICALS

Christie Frey Chalmette High School-Trainer
Robin Vieregge Davies Elementary-Special Education Teacher
Tiffany Eckerle Lacoste Elementary-Elementary Teacher
(Joy Tregle replaced Tiffany Eckerle)
Derek Meyers Andrew Jackson Middle-Elementary Teacher

RETIREE

Deborah Lord Administration Office-IEP/SP Program Strategist 1/15/16

RESIGNATIONS

Vondria Palode Arabi Elementary-Special Education Teacher 9/25/15
Monica Cazeaux Chalmette Elementary-Elementary Teacher 10/29/15
Brad Field St. Bernard Middle-Elementary Teacher 11/06/15

SUPPORT PERSONNEL

APPOINTMENTS

Magdalen Rodrigues Transportation-Bus Driver
Sheila Morales Transportation-Bus Driver
Denise Lips Chalmette High School-Custodian
Leslie Green Chalmette Elementary-Part-Time Cafeteria Tech

TRANSFER

Lacori Major From Chalmette Elementary-Part-Time Cafeteria Tech to
Chalmette Elementary-Cafeteria Tech

LWOP

Karen Westcott Lacoste Elementary-Paraeducator

RETIREE

Barbara Everhardt Trist Middle-Cafeteria Manager 12/19/15

RESIGNATIONS

Jeanette Kinler Smith Elementary-Paraeducator 10/4/15
 Tiffany George Transportation-Bus Driver 10/9/15

As recommended by the Committee and with a motion from Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Nicosia, the Board voted unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present to approve the Administration’s request to advertise for bid for Paper, Cleaning and Custodial Supplies.

As recommended by the committee, Mr. Englande moved to approve the revised 2015-2016 General Fund and Special Revenue Funds budgets. Seconded by Mr. Nicosia, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present. The fund statements as presented are shown below.

ST. BERNARD PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
 GENERAL FUND
 REVISED STATEMENT OF PROJECTED REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
 AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
 FOR THE PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30, 2015	\$17,652,814
PROJECTED REVENUES	67,210,146
PROJECTED EXPENDITURES	(70,119,175)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES:	
Transfers of Indirect Costs	600,000
Operating Transfer Out	(500,000)
Transfers to Other Educational Agencies	(140,150)
	(40,150)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):	(40,150)
	14,703,635
PROJECTED FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30, 2016	
Reserved/Designated:	
Media Services	699,336
Contribution	1,307,752
Self Insurance Retention	400,000
Insurance Retention - Property	2,000,000
Telecommunications Services	956,165
Undesignated	9,340,382
	\$14,703,635

ST. BERNARD PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS BUDGETS
2015-2016

	TITLE I	TITLE II	TITLE III	SPECIAL EDUCATIO N/ PRESCHOO L/ ESYP	HEADSTA RT	LA 4 TANF	ADULT EDUCATI ON	SRCL	VOCATION AL EDUCATIO N
<u>REVENUES</u>									
Federal	\$3,136,740	\$500,217	\$31,193	\$1,434,937	\$830,689	\$1,203,181	\$ 108,426	\$1,599,582	\$92,323
State	-	-	-	24,653	-	-	84,301	-	-
Total Revenues	3,136,740	500,217	31,193	1,459,590	830,689	1,203,181	192,727	1,599,582	92,323
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>									
Instruction	2,489,876	360,810	28,932	928,174	587,464	1,115,962	186,940	1,514,261	92,323
Pupil Support Services	-	-	0	217,828	82,400	-	-	-	-
Instructional Staff Support	409,729	103,146	0	205,358	87,519	-	-	-	-
General Administrative Services	900	-	0	500	1,000	-	-	-	-
Plant Services	8,851	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation Services	-	-	0	3,711	5,000	-	-	-	-

ST. BERNARD PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
LUNCH FUND
COMPARISON OF 2015-2016 ORIGINAL BUDGETED
TO 2015-2016 REVISED BUDGETED AMOUNTS

	2015-2016 ORIGINAL BUDGET	2015-2016 REVISED BUDGET
PROJECTED REVENUES:		
Local	\$314,000	\$314,000
State	615,650	615,650
Federal	2,966,370	3,011,370
USDA Commodities	187,000	187,000
TOTAL REVENUES	4,083,020	4,128,020
PROJECTED EXPENDITURES:		
Salaries	1,168,692	1,202,603
Employee Benefits	988,570	998,181
Food Costs	1,652,358	1,652,358
Material & Supplies - Cafeteria	100,000	100,000
Staff Development	6,000	6,000
Contracted Services	55,000	55,000
Equipment Repairs	60,000	60,000
Utilities, Telephone	34,400	34,400
Advertising, Postage, Audit	14,000	14,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	4,079,020	4,122,542
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	4,000	5,478
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	460,050	460,050
ENDING FUND BALANCE	464,050	465,528

Dr. Craft next welcomed Ms. Mary Lumetta, Curriculum Supervisor, to present the Spring Test Results. Talking points of Ms. Lumetta's presentation and a table showing the percentage of students scoring basic and above are shown on the following pages.

Spring 2015 Test Results

- ❖ 11th in the state in percentage of students who scored Mastery and above with 39% (increased from 34% last year)
- ❖ 11th in the state in percentile rank for students who scored Mastery and above (85th percentile-same as last year)
- ❖ Earned rankings in the top 10 in the state in percentage of students scoring Basic or above
 - Grade 6 Science ranked 9th
 - Grade 5 Math ranked 8th
 - Grade 8 Math ranked 7th
 - Grade 8 Science ranked 3rd
- ❖ Earned rankings in the top 10 in the state in percentage of students scoring Mastery or above
 - Grade 8 English/Language Arts ranked 10th
 - Grade 6 Social Studies ranked 10th
 - Grade 8 Social Studies ranked 8th
 - Grade 5 Science ranked 6th
 - Grade 8 Math ranked 6th
 - Grade 5 Math ranked 5th

St. Bernard Parish School Board Meeting
 October 2015
 Vision...Effort...Success

#14

District Spring 2015 PARCC/iLEAP/LEAP Percentage of Students Scoring Basic or Above												
	ELA	State	Difference	Math	State	Difference	Science	State	Difference	SS	State	Difference
3rd	68	64	4	72	67	5	75	67	8	76	69	7
4th	73	73	0	68	64	4	71	67	4	69	67	2
5th	72	67	5	70	59	11	71	62	9	75	66	9
6th	78	74	4	64	59	5	73	65	8	80	67	13
7th	76	67	9	62	58	4	73	65	8	78	68	10
8th	79	70	9	69	55	14	68	57	11	78	59	19

Upon completion of her presentation, Ms. Lumetta answered all questions and concerns of the Board. Dr. Craft thanked Ms. Lumetta for her presentation.

Additional conversation turned to the announcement by Ms. Voitier that Chalmette High had been named an “A” school with a school performance score of 101.8. Ms. Voitier noted that this school performance score could be calculated because all the necessary student and school information has been compiled. Ms. Voitier noted that this is in contrast to the elementary and middle schools who, due to the new PARCC testing and the evaluation of the individual scores for students, have not been able to assign elementary and middle school scores yet.

Under items to be placed on the next month’s agenda Mrs. Dysart and Dr. Craft asked for a resolution regarding timely test result returns for state PARCC testing.

Under Superintendent’s Recommendations Ms. Voitier noted that Report Card Conference day went very well. Ms. Voitier also announced that on November 4th the U.S. Attorney, Ken Pollite, would be at Chalmette High School to talk to students about signing a pledge against gun violence. This cooperative effort is taking place with law enforcement across the district to teach about gun violence and gun safety.

There being no further business to discuss, on motion of Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Asevedo and passed by a unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned.

Dr. Hugh C. Craft
President

Doris Voitier
Secretary