

GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORT TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2016

The St. Bernard Parish School Board met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 6:40 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; Mrs. Diana B. Dysart, President, Mrs. Darleen P. Asevedo, Mr. Donald D. Campbell, Dr. Hugh C. Craft, Mr. William H. Egan, Mr. Carl W. Gaines, Jr., Mr. Clifford M. Englande, Mrs. Katherine K. Lemoine, Mr. Joseph V. Long, Sr. and Mr. Sean K. Warner. Dr. Henderson Lewis, Jr. was absent.

Mrs. Dysart welcomed newly elected member of District 10 on the School Board Mr. Carl W. Gaines, Jr. Mr. Gaines, thanked the Board President for her welcome and stated he was looking forward to working with the Board.

Dr. Craft, on a point of privilege, stated that Mr. James Stewart, former educator in Rapides Parish who also served as President of Retired Teachers of Louisiana, passed away after a short battle with cancer.

Mrs. Dysart also wanted to congratulate all of the students who are performing and the community who are taking part in the many performances that have been taking place all over the parish in celebration of the holiday season.

Mrs. Dysart next welcomed Ms. Alex Schneider to present Super News for the month of December. The Super News video presented topics regarding Academic Games, Jr. Beta Convention, Posse Scholarship Finalists, Teachers of the Year, Kelsey Klein, Lindsay Bastoe and Alexis Duque, Topping off celebration for the Arlene Meraux Elementary School construction, Students of the Year, Kylie Bordelon, Jamiya Addison, Lindsey Gifford, Dakota Sievers, Emma Nunez and Haleigh Bergeron, Teacher Features with Joellen Clark at Smith Elementary School, Natasha Waibel at St. Bernard Middle, Ronnie Hebert at Andrew Jackson Middle and Alexis Duque at the Chalmette High School 9th grade academy. Respect was also paid to Sandra Dempsey, Assistant Principal at Chalmette Elementary and Olean Bodden of the Chalmette High staff.

Mrs. Dysart thanked Mrs. Schneider for her presentation.

Dr. Raviotta appeared next before the Education Committee to provide the Head Start Annual Report. Dr. Raviotta presented items that are mandated to

be presented to the Head Start governing board, which is the School Board. In the series of handouts to be presented Dr. Raviotta began with the Head Start Program Annual Report. This first section of this report discloses information from the previous year. The second portion pertains to the breakdown of funding sources. The third section covers the number of families and children that were served. The fourth section covers the program compliance report. The fifth section covers the medical and dental report of the students. The sixth section talks about the various parental involvement that takes place. The final section is on how they approach the readiness of students for kindergarten.

Other handouts offered were; Head Start Program Information Report that gives enrollment, staff qualifications, etc.; The Summary Narrative of Spring Data which refers to the assessment of improvements made by students during the school year; Health Report for each school Head Start classrooms; Head Start Governing Body Roles and Responsibilities; Head Start Program Goals.

Dr. Raviotta thanked all of the Head Start administrators, teachers and staff for their hard work and professionalism on a daily basis. He addressed all questions from the Committee. Mrs. Dysart thanked him for the presentation and his hard work within the Head Start Program.

St. Bernard Parish School Board

Head Start Program

Annual Report

2015-2016

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	\$207,672.00
Private Funds	-0-

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

Federal Contribution	\$830,689.00
Four Year Old Children Funded Enrollment	112
Personnel – Salaries	\$504,274.20
Benefits	\$251,804.53
Other Categories	
Training & Technical Assistance (T&TA)	\$1,069.00
Supplies	\$8,461.31
Travel	\$1,265.95
Licensing Fees	\$420.49
Field Trips	\$1,770.75
Repair & Upkeep	\$878.92
Adult Medical Services	\$243.00
Indirect Costs	\$60,500.85

(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	123
The total number of families served	122
The average monthly enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment)	100.89%
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

99.19% (122 of 123) 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	9
Hearing Difficulties	0
Vision Problems	9
High Lead Levels	0
Diabetes	0

Dental

120 children received an oral exam by a dentist. 120 children received preventive care and 18 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, Stages of Child Development, 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 123 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.

Mrs. Dysart welcomed Mr. Granberry to present the Personnel changes for the month of December. Ms. Voitier noted that on the personnel changes was the appointment of Ms. Angela Seibert to Principal of St. Bernard Middle School. Ms. Voitier commended Ms. Seibert on her performance during the time Ms. Deffes was absent with her illness and congratulated her on being appointed to the Principal position. Mrs. Dysart thanked Mr. Granberry for his presentation.

Dr. Craft moved on with Executive Committee business by welcoming Mrs. Lawrason, Assistant Superintendent to discuss the adoption of the 2017 through 2018 School Calendar. Mrs. Lawrason explained that the four choices being shown to the Committee at this time have already been reviewed by all full time employees. School will begin on August 2nd or 1st in the coming year. Classes will conclude the school year before Memorial Day so that families can be off for that holiday. A fall break is also included in the offerings and this year the fall professional development date will occur following Halloween. The vote by the employees shows their desire to adopt Option 3 or Option 4 which means either a one day fall break with 10 days at Christmas or a two day fall break with 9 days at Christmas. Mrs. Lawrason request that the Committee send this to the full Board without a recommendation.

Under Superintendent's recommendations Ms. Voitier stated that there is a lot of activities in the schools including statewide assessments in high school along with upcoming School Christmas Programs.

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