

## GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORT

### TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018

The St. Bernard Parish School Board met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 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, Mr. Clifford M. Englande, President; Mrs. Darleen P. Asevedo, Mr. Donald D. Campbell, Dr. Hugh C. Craft, Mr. William H. Egan, Mr. Carl W. Gaines, Jr., Mrs. Diana B. Dysart, Mrs. Katherine K. Lemoine, Dr. Henderson Lewis, Jr., Mr. Joseph V. Long, Sr., and Mr. Sean K. Warner.

On a point of privilege, Mr. Englande presented a plaque to Dr. Henderson Lewis, Jr. upon his completion of his term as representative of District 9 on the St. Bernard Parish School Board. Mr. Englande thanked Dr. Lewis for his service and wished him well on his continued path in Public Education.

Dr. Lewis thanked all his supporters, religious higher power, the Board, his family, former teachers, former school and administrative leaders who all impacted his life as an educator and administrator. He reiterated his reason for leaving the Board which involves his job as the Superintendent of Orleans Parish Schools and the challenge of integrating state run charter schools into his district. Dr. Lewis congratulated Mr. Shelton Smith as his replacement and noted that St. Bernard will always be home.

Ms. Voitier voiced her high regard for Dr. Lewis and wished him much success while Mrs. Dysart simply stated that Dr. Lewis will be missed.

On another point of privilege, Dr. Craft, on behalf of the Louisiana School Boards Association, presented a check for \$9,500.00 for supplies for students in our school district.

On an additional point of privilege, Mr. Englande announced the appointment of Mr. Shelton P. Smith to take over as representative of District 9 School Board Member.

Mr. Englande welcomed Mrs. Alex Schneider to present the March edition of Super News. Topics covered included: March Communications Report which included headlines in local newspapers, press releases for the month and Facebook analytics summary and upcoming events including Glitter and Gloves, LMEA

Competition, Planetarium Public Show on Volcanoes and the Lions Club Golf Tournament, 80<sup>th</sup> Annual LSBA Conference in Baton Rouge with Dr. Craft serving as President of the Association, Tommy Hall of CHS admitted into the West Point Class of 2022, Meghan St. Angelo of CHS was named a National Merit Scholarship Finalist, Special Olympics of St. Bernard, Elementary School Fitness meet. Teacher Features included Sara Felt of Joseph Davies Elementary, Sunny Nagle as a volunteer at Chalmette Elementary School. Additional honors were claimed at State Beta Convention, CHS culinary students competed at the Louisiana Pro Start Student Invitational, Academic Games Nationals Team members announced and the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Rotary Spelling Bee. Mention was made of the upcoming Lions Club Golf Tournament.

Mr. Englande thanked Mrs. Schneider for her informative presentation and Mr. Barry Lemoine and Mr. Jack Jackson for their work on the video presentation.

Mr. Englande next asked Ms. Voitier to begin the presentation regarding School Security. Ms. Voitier began by acknowledging the recent violence in schools that has been shared through many media resources. She said she hoped that her presentation would reveal that this school system has worked diligently with local police to secure the safety of all students. In her presentation she revealed:

1. The school system has submitted to local police blueprints of every school building.
2. Police have trained in our buildings which improves their familiarity with the facilities.
3. Police have supplied Principals with official police radios for instant access to their resources.
4. Resource officers are stationed daily at Chalmette High School and Rowley Alternative School.
5. Those same resource officers are part of a new policy being instituted whereby the officers periodically visit the elementary and middle schools of the district.
6. Anytime there is a need, police have always responded and been there when we need them.

Each school has a crisis plan which is reviewed and updated each year. Ms. Voitier noted that these plans outline what to do in any situation and are specific to each school site. Schools have drills during the school year for a number of the crisis situations, fire drills, tornado drills, etc. She went on to mention that another safety system in place is the Badge Pass system that is now functioning in all the

schools for visitors and chaperones for school trips. Ms. Voitier also stated that our newer physical facilities are designed to better manage entry into the schools while some of the older facilities are more challenging but are being addressed. Another point made by the Superintendent is that she and the Assistant Superintendent recently met with all Principals to see if there are areas in the physical facilities that require updating or reinforcing for the sake of safety.

A contributing factor in many recent school disturbances are the social, emotional and mental health of students and families. Ms. Voitier states that school counselors at each school site help in that area and pupil appraisal staff are also trained social workers and psychologists who can assist in times of crisis. Social and Emotional education is also taking place among the staff.

At this time, Ms. Voitier introduced Mr. John Rahaim, from our local Emergency Preparedness Office and Captain Bobby Norton from the Sheriff's Office Special Operations and Training department. Ms. Voitier noted that a few years ago Mr. Rahaim worked with the School System through a grant to hire the Stephenson Disaster Management Institute to examine and develop crisis emergency plans for the schools in conjunction with local law enforcement.

Mr. Rahaim stated that the response plans from SDMI and the training with the schools and local law enforcement creates a safer school community. He also stated that our parish is among one of the only in the state to have completed their parish wide crisis plans. Captain Bobby Norton also spoke about the police training within the community for many local sites, especially the schools, which he feels exceeds the norm for community preparedness.

Questions and concerns were addressed by the speakers. Mr. Englande and the Board thanked Mr. Rahaim and Captain Norton for their attendance tonight.

Education Committee Chair, Katherine Lemoine next welcomed Assistant Superintendent, Mary Lumetta, to present the Spring 2018 Testing Schedule. Ms. Lumetta began by thanking the students, teachers, administrators, counselors, central office staff and the IT employees for their efforts in preparing for the state testing. The handouts below show the schedule she presented. Ms. Lumetta noted that color coding on the schedule denotes the following:

Color

Grade Level

Type of Test Taken

Green

5<sup>th</sup>

paper

Yellow

6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

computer

Pink

3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>

paper

Blue

9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

computer



## St. Bernard Parish Schools

#6

Board Meeting

March 2018

Vision...Effort...Success

Spring 2018 Assessments

### April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Easter Holiday	3 Easter Holiday	4 Easter Holiday	5 Easter Holiday	6 Easter Holiday	7
8	9	10 ELA – 1 session/day	11 ELA – 1 session/day ELA – 1 session	12 ELA – 1 session/day ELA – 1 session	13 ELA – 1 session	14
15	16	17 Math – 1 session/day Math – 1 session/day	18 Math – 1 session Math – 1 session	19 Math – 1 session Math – 1 session	20 SS – 1 session	21
22	23 English III – 1 session	24 SS – 1 session SS – 1 session English III – 1 session	25 SS – 1 session SS – 2 session English III – 1 session	26 Science Field Test – 2 sessions Science Field Test – 2 sessions Algebra/Geometry – 1 Session	27 Algebra/Geometry – 1 Session	28
29	30 ELA & Math – 1 session Algebra/Geometry – 1 Session	Academic Games Participants – Competing April 26 – May1 Students return to school on May 2				

Elementary – Grade 3 & 4

Elementary – Grade 5

Middle School Grades 6-8

High School Grades 9-12

Beyond the Expected

May 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 ELA & Math – 1 session	2 ELA & Math – 1 session English I & II – 1 session	3 SS – 2 sessions English I & II – 1 session	4 Science Field Test – 2 sessions English I & II – 1 session	5
6	7 Biology – 1 session Psychology AP	8 Biology – 1 session	9 Biology – 1 session English Literature AP	10 Biology – 1 session	11 US History AP	12
13	14 US History/Geometry – 1 Session Biology II AP	15 US History/Geometry – 1 Session Calculus AP	16 US History/Geometry – 1 Session English Language AP	17	18 Human Geography AP	19

Elementary – Grade 3 & 4    Elementary – Grade 5  
 Middle School Grades 6-8  
 High School Grades 9-12

ACT Initial Test Date: March 20  
 Accommodated Testing Window: March 20 – April 3  
 Makeup Test Date: April 24

*Beyond the Expected*

Ms. Lumetta was happy to announce that due to the recent purchase of additional chromebooks that were purchased by the School Board, students can take tests in one session per day in the morning when they are fresh with regular instruction in the afternoon instead of being rotated throughout the day into and out of available computer labs. She also stated that this schedule will be displayed on the School Board website and Facebook page with flyers posted at the entrances of the middle and elementary schools to keep the parents informed. Special Population testing

(English Language Learners and Significant Disability Students) have also been taking place February 5<sup>th</sup> through March 16<sup>th</sup>.

After all questions and concerns were addressed, Mrs. Lemoine thanked Ms. Lumetta for her presentation.

Mrs. Lemoine next welcomed Dr. Charles Raviotta, Curriculum Supervisor, to speak to the Board regarding the Head Start Continuation Application.

Dr. Raviotta said he would be seeking the approval of the Head Start Continuation Application for the 2018-2019 school year. He provided the Board with handouts that contain key components of the grant. He further stated that all available funds from Head Start and other funding sources were to be used in the universal 4-year old pre-school program. Dr. Raviotta then pointed out some particulars noted in the Head Start Application such as the fact that we are funded to serve 112 students, with a federal contribution of \$853,668.00 which is an increase over last year. Dr. Raviotta also noted to the Committee that updates on the budget, enrollment, health reports and meals for the pre-school are sent to the Board members on a monthly basis with their Board News. He also passed out updated developmental assessment data for the students in the pre-k classrooms and the Press Release regarding the pre-school application dates and process. Once all questions and concerns from the Committee were answered by Dr. Raviotta he asked that the Committee recommend to the Board to approve the Head Start Continuation Application.

Dr. Craft made a motion to recommend to the Board to approve the Head Start continuation application. Seconded by Mr. Warner, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present.

Mr. Granberry next presented personnel changes for the month of March. Ms. Voitier offered congratulations to three retirees who appeared on the Personnel changes, Pat Pourciau, Carla DiStefano and Jeanette Roussell. The Committee thanked Mr. Granberry for his informational presentation.

Mr. Egan as Insurance Committee Chair introduced the next agenda item which was the Property Insurance Renewal. Mr. Fernandez and Mr. Richard Clements of Clements Insurance Services, Inc., approached the podium to explain our most recent property insurance package. The total cost of property insurance for the period of April 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019 would be \$1,255,076.00. Mr. Fernandez

explained that this represents an increase from last year due to adding a new school and poor experience worldwide with reinsurers and multiple catastrophes in 2017.

Mr. Fernandez answered all the Board's questions. Dr. Craft motioned to recommend to the Board to approve the Renewal of Property Insurance for the period of April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lemoine and passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present.

Mrs. Dysart, acting as Finance Committee chair welcomed Mr. Fernandez back with a request for permission to advertise for Bids for the Official Journal for the publication of all minutes and public notices for the fiscal year July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

Mr. Long moved to recommend to the Board to authorize the Administration to advertise for bids for the Official Journal. Seconded by Mr. Gaines, the motion passed without objection by a roll call vote of the members present.

Mr. Fernandez then requested permission to advertise for bids for painting and repairs for school board vehicles for the fiscal year July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

Dr. Lewis moved to recommend to the Board to authorize the Administration to advertise for bids for painting and repairs for school board vehicles. Seconded by Mrs. Asevedo, the motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the members present.

Mr. Fernandez next requested permission to advertise for bids for gasoline, diesel, lubricating oil, anti-freeze and transmission fluid for the fiscal year July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. He addressed all comments and questions of the committee.

On motion of Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Gaines the Committee voted by a roll call vote of the members present with no objections to recommend to the Board to authorize the Administration to advertise for bids for gasoline, diesel, lubricating oil, anti-freeze and transmission fluid.

Next Mrs. Dysart addressed a request for permission to advertise for bids for paper, cleaning and custodial supplies for the period of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

Dr. Craft moved to recommend to the Board to approve the Administration's request to advertise for bid paper, cleaning and custodial supplies. Seconded by

Dr. Lewis, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present.

Mrs. Blum appeared for the next agenda item to ask for permission to advertise for quotes for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Dr. Lewis moved to approve the Administration's request to advertise for quotes for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. Seconded by Mrs. Lemoine, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present.

Mrs. Dysart continued with Finance Committee business with Mrs. Blum to present the Administration's request to bid for Milk and Milk products for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

With a motion by Mr. Englande and a second from Mrs. Lemoine, the Committee voted unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present to recommend to the Board to approve the Administration's request to bid for Milk and Milk products for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Next, Mrs. Joni Blum presented the Administration's request to bid for Bread and Bread Products for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

With a motion from Dr. Lewis and a second from Mr. Gaines the Committee voted unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present to recommend to the Board to approve the Administration's request to bid for Bread and Bread products for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

At this time Mrs. Blum invited the Board Members to visit cafeterias during the week of March 19 – 23, 2018 for National Nutrition Month. It is a yearly opportunity to see the inner workings of our school cafeterias.

Under Superintendent's Recommendations Ms. Voitier mentioned that at the Regular Monthly Meeting the new Academic Games National Team will be presented to the Board.

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion of Dr. Lewis, seconded by Mrs. Lemoine, and passed unanimously by voice vote, the meeting was adjourned.



