

GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORT TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2019

The St. Bernard Parish School Board met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 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, Mr. William H. Egan, Mr. Shelton P. Smith, Mr. Sean K. Warner and Mrs. Rosiland R. White. Ms. Carly C. Jackson, Mrs. Katherine K. Lemoine, Mrs. Diana B. Dysart and Mr. Joseph V. Long, Sr. were absent.

On a point of privilege, Mr. Englande asked for a moment of silence for the wife of Board Member Mr. Joe Long who passed away in the early morning hours of December 10, 2019. After a moment of silence was observed condolences were extended from the Board to Mr. Long and his family.

Mr. Englande welcomed Ms. Alex Schneider to present Super News for the month of December. Ms. Schneider began by reviewing the December Communications Report of Press and Social Media coverage during the previous month. The Super News video presented Teachers of the Year, they are Sarah Stevens of Arabi Elementary, Sarah Turnbull of Chalmette Elementary, Lauren Frazier of Davies Elementary, Tiffany Romano of Gauthier Elementary, Kaitlyn Lotz of Lacoste Elementary, Maggie Roussell of Meraux Elementary, Anna Inmon of Smith Elementary, Nicholas Piazza of Rowley Alternative, Megan Lancaster of Andrew Jackson Middle, Courtney Oenes of St. Bernard Middle, Chelsea Easterline of Trist Middle School and Cody Jackson of Chalmette High. District wide winners named were Sarah Turnbull of Chalmette, Chelsea Easterling of Trist Middle and Cody Jackson of Chalmette High School.

Mr. Englande thanked Mrs. Schneider for her presentation.

Mr. Englande, acting as Education Committee Chair in Mrs. Lemoines absence, presented the next agenda item regarding an update on Head Start. Dr. Raviotta appeared before the Education Committee to provide the Head Start update and 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 Annual Report consists of the following information; Funding of the program, budgetary expenditure projections for those funds, total number of children and families served

results of the most recent program audit, percentage of students who received medical and dental exams, parent involvement information and the final component is how they transition 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 and Head Start correspondence regarding waivers for bus child restraint systems and monitors.

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. Mr. Englande thanked him for the presentation and his hard work within the Head Start Program.

St. Bernard Parish School Board Head Start Program Annual Report 2018-2019

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	\$875,468.00
In-Kind Contribution	\$218,867.00
Private Funds	-0-

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

Federal Contribution	\$875,468.00
Four Year Old Children Funded Enrollment	112

Personnel – Salaries	\$530,707.74
Benefits	\$274,265.29
Other Categories	
Training & Technical Assistance (T&TA)	\$1,638.49
Supplies	\$5,525.96
Travel	\$2,323.82
Field Trips	\$2,418.45

Indirect Costs	\$58,588.25
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(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	127
The total number of families served	127
The average monthly enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment)	100%
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

92.91% (118 of 127) 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	3
Asthma	10
Hearing Difficulties	1
Vision Problems	0
High Lead Levels	0
Diabetes	0

Dental

124 children received an oral exam by a dentist. 124 children

received preventive care and 14 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 Around the World 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. Parents were also able to participate in our First Annual Health Fair. 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 120 eligible children four years of age by September 30, 2018. Fifteen children with IEPs received services. At the conclusion of the year in Head Start, students were transitioned into the school system's Kindergarten program.

Ms. Voitier presented the Personnel changes for the month of December. Mr. Englande thanked Ms. Voitier for this presentation.

Next on the agenda were two policies that need to be added or revised for the policy manual. Mr. Englande welcomed Mrs. Alex Schneider to lead the

business of policies that need attention. Mrs. Schneider welcomed Mrs. Cheramie Kerth to present the first policy, IDDFA – Special Education Advisory Council.

Mrs. Kerth stated that this new policy addresses provisions of Act 274, enacting La. Rev. Stat. Ann. 17:1944.1. The Act mandates that not later than January 1, 2020, the Superintendent shall create a special education advisory council to “provide advice and feedback” regarding special education policies, procedures, and resources and engage in outreach activities to the community. Mrs. Kerth shared with the Committee the forms created to apply for a position on the Advisory Committee and stated that these forms will be available on the district and school websites, school newsletters and in the School Board Central Office. The opportunity to apply will also be advertise in our standard avenues of district facebook page, local newspapers, etc. She also stated that this panel will consist of 4 members, 2 will be parents of exceptional children, 1 shall be a school district employee and 1 shall be a community stakeholder. Mrs. Kerth also discussed the purpose, focus, meetings and annual report required as part of the advisory council.

With a motion from Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Committee voted unanimously by the members present to recommend to the Board to approve this new policy of IDDFA concerning the Special Education Advisory Committee.

The next policy concerns the revision of policy JGCF. Mrs. Schneider explained that this revision is mainly definition changes and some clarity regarding the policy. Mrs. Kerth further explained the necessity of making these changes as mandated by Act 117 of the 2019 Louisiana Legislature which makes changes to the definitions found in La. Rev. Stat. Ann 17:173. She stated that the changes are basically defining the Behavioral Analysis provider and what the analysis behaviors include.

With a motion from Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. White, the Committee voted unanimously by the members present to recommend to the Board to approve the revisions to the policy JGCF.

Mr. Englande moved on with Executive Committee business by welcoming Ms. Lumetta, Assistant Superintendent to discuss the adoption of the 2020 through 2021 School Calendar. Ms. Lumetta first congratulated the calendar committee that was formed by Ms. Maggie Roussell. She then explained the differences between the three choices being voted on by the school district

full-time employees this week. Ms. Lumetta stated that option #3 is the same calendar we have in place now. For next year, all options start school on August 7th, have a week off for Thanksgiving and a week off for Mardi Gras. the major differences shown on each of the options occur with the Easter, fall break and Christmas number of days off. Ms. Lumetta stated that the results of the employee vote will be presented at the December 17th Regular Monthly Meeting.

Mr. Englande welcomed Mr. Fernandez to address the next agenda item regarding the Administration's request to declare a list of inventory as surplus and to authorize an auction of the listed surplus vehicles and equipment.

With a motion from Mr. Smith and a second from Mr. Campbell, the Committee voted unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present to recommend to the Board to declare the listed inventory as surplus and to allow for an auction to dispose of the items.

Mr. Englande acting as Finance Committee Chair welcomed Mrs. Joni Blum 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, 2020 to June 30, 2020.

Mr. Smith moved to recommend to the full Board the approval of the lowest bidder on each item on the aforementioned bid tabulation. Seconded by Mrs. Asevedo, the motion passed with no objections by a roll call vote of the members present.

Under Superintendent's recommendations Ms. Voitier stated that the school system is busy with holiday happenings so please check with your school for upcoming celebrations and performances.

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