

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING JANUARY 26, 2021

The St. Bernard Parish School Board met in a Regular Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 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, Mrs. Diana B. Dysart, President; Mrs. Darleen P. Asevedo, Mr. Donald D. Campbell, Mr. William H. Egan, Ms. Carly C. Jackson, Mr. Clifford M. Englande, Mr. Joseph V. Long, Sr., Mr. Shelton P. Smith, Mr. Sean K. Warner and Mrs. Rosiland R. White. Mrs. Katherine K. Lemoine was absent.

Mrs. Dysart explained that it was time for the election of School Board Officers. Mrs. Dysart asked for a motion to open the floor to nominations for President. Mr. Long moved to open the floor for nominations. Mr. Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously by a voice vote of the members present. Mrs. Dysart next asked for the nominations for the President's office. Mr. Long moved to nominate Mrs. Dysart as President of the School Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith. With no other nominations, Mrs. Diana Dysart was elected President of the School Board for 2021. Mrs. Dysart thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as President.

At this point, Mrs. Dysart asked for a motion to open the floor for nominations for Vice-President of the Board. Mr. Smith moved to open the floor for Vice-President nominations. Ms. Carly Jackson seconded the motion which passed unanimously by a voice vote of the members present. Mr. Smith moved to nominate Mr. Clifford Englande for Vice-President. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Asevedo. With no other nominations, Mr. Englande was elected by a unanimous voice vote of the members present as Vice-President of the School Board for 2021. Mr. Englande thanked the Board Members and stated that he was proud to serve in the office of Vice-President with Mrs. Dysart as President and also thanked the employees of the school system for their hard work during this difficult year.

Mrs. Dysart next asked Ms. Voitier to acknowledge the receipt of the Chamber's new Pivot Award on behalf of the school system for their most effective reaction to the conditions present during the year 2020. Ms. Voitier stated that the Chamber held their annual meeting virtually tonight and awarded this new distinction to the school system for the incredible job all the employees and administrators have done during this challenging year of COVID. Mrs. Dysart and the Board thanked the Chamber for this award.

Mrs. Dysart addressed the next agenda item to allow the newly elected School Board President to sign on School Board checking accounts on behalf of the Board. With a motion from Mr. Warner and a second by Mrs. White, the Board voted without objection by a voice vote of the members present to allow Mrs. Dysart, as the new president, to sign on School Board checking accounts on behalf of the Board.

On motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Asevedo, the Board voted unanimously by a roll call vote of the members present to incorporate the Report of the January 2021 General Committee Meeting into the Minutes of the January 2021 Regular Monthly Meeting.

GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORT TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021

The St. Bernard Parish School Board met in a General Committee Meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 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, Mrs. Diana B. Dysart, President, Mrs. Darleen P. Asevedo, Mr. Donald D. Campbell. Mr. William H. Egan, Ms. Carly C. Jackson, Mrs. Katherine K. Lemoine, Mr. Clifford M. Englande, Mr. Shelton P. Smith, Mr. Sean K. Warner and Mrs. Rosiland R. White. Mr. Joseph V. Long, Sr. was absent.

Mrs. Dysart began by introducing the first agenda item which was a request to appear regarding concerns over a new port project in the Violet area near the Smith Elementary School. Mrs. Dysart reminded those who came to appear before the Committee that their comments are limited to three (3) minutes in length.

There were three individuals who appeared, Mr. Ken Jefferson, Mr. Thomas Johnson and Councilman Fred Everhardt. They all expressed concerns regarding a recent announcement about the development of a new port installation for containers along the Mississippi River in Violet near Smith Elementary School. Once they had expressed all their concerns, Ms. Voitier responded by stating at this time the School Board of St. Bernard has not been involved in any discussions or decision making regarding this possible project and assured everyone that no decision or action would take place without input or discussion with the community. Mrs. Dysart echoed Ms. Voitier's sentiment and pledged to the community full transparency.

Mrs. Dysart next welcomed Mr. Barry Lemoine to present Super News. The January Communications report included some of the press coverage that occurred during December and January along with some of the most popular Facebook posts and analytics associated with January posts.

Moving on to Super News, Mr. Lemoine and Mrs. Schneider began with a review of some holiday events that took place in December such as the video post card produced by Ms. Andrea Morningstar and her video production students highlighting students in an array of cultural arts activities, Lacoste Elementary and Arabi Elementary shared Christmas videos featuring students and staff, Michael O'Neil and Anna Lisa Pereira of Arabi Elementary presented activities going on at Arabi such as the 4th grade Chili Cook Off, the 2nd Grade ELA Greek games and togas, Robotics and Rocket launches on campus, Holiday dress up days and a big thank you went to the Old Arabi Neighborhood Association for a generous donation for families in need. Other holiday music performances were also shown from Chalmette High, AJ and Trist Middle School performers. More Super News topic included Ceiling tile art at Gauthier, a tribute was given for Ms. Plaiscia who is retiring from the Volleyball program at Chalmette High, Emma Nunez was highlighted for being chosen as a member of the LHSAA All-State volleyball team and high school Student of the Year for Chalmette High. On the next volume of Super News students of the year will be highlighted. Posse Scholarships were awarded to five (5) Chalmette High Seniors. Ariana Rojas, Kine Buie, Jedelle Lafuente, Angel Lee and Melanie Corral. Andrew Jackson representatives, Melissa Landry and Tyler Rushing, spotlighted activities at AJ such as; BETA Induction, Basketball, Soccer and Running Club tryouts,

Tyler Rushing was noted as Student of the Year, Mrs. Derbyshire was mentioned as Teacher of the Year and Ms. Belinda Ducote was celebrated as Support Person of the Year. Super News continued by heralding Ochsner St. Bernard Hospital for their donation of 600 windowed masks, Cami Boudreaux of C. F. Rowley was honored by Fox 8 with the Golden Apple Award, thanks were offered to all who have provided a safe and healthy environment in our schools and were encouraged to hold on to the Power of Hope.

Mrs. Dysart and the Committee thanked Mrs. Schneider, Mr. Lemoine and Mr. Jackson for the Super News.

Mrs. White, as Education Committee Chair, welcomed Assistant Superintendent, Mary Lumetta, to discuss virtual school enrollment. Ms. Lumetta handed out information regarding virtual enrollment in each level of learning, elementary, middle and high school. That handout is shown below.

St. Bernard Parish Schools

Vision...Effort...Success

St. Bernard Parish Virtual Program

- Elementary and middle grades - commitment for 9-week period
- High school grades - commitment for a semester - due of the issuance of Carnegie Unit credit

Number of Students Participating in Virtual Program			
	1st Nine Weeks August	2nd Nine Weeks October	3rd Nine Weeks January
Elementary	1122	550	392
Middle	625	319	213
High	689	757	353
Total	2436	1626	958

After some discussion where all concerns and questions were addressed, the Committee thanked Ms. Lumetta for this information.

Mr. Englande as Executive Committee Chair addressed the next item concerning the Resolution declaring the date, time and place of the General Committee and Regular Monthly Meetings for the year 2021.

Mr. Warner moved to recommend to the Board to approve the resolution. With a second from Mr. Smith, the Committee voted unanimously by a voice vote of the members present to recommend to the Board to approve the Resolution stating date, time and place of the General Committee and Regular Monthly Meetings for the year 2021.

Mrs. Dysart shared the personnel changes for the month of January 2021. Mrs. Dysart, the Committee and Ms. Voitier also congratulated Mrs. Kelli Plaiscia on her retirement and on her successful years as the Chalmette High Volleyball Coach.

Ms. Jackson as Finance Committee Chair welcomed Mr. Fernandez to present the Administration's request to advertise for an RFP for Advanced Placement

Preparation Series Workbooks for one year with the option to renew for two additional one year periods.

Mr. Smith moved to recommend to the Board to approve the Administration's request to advertise for an RFP for Advanced Placement Preparation Series Workbooks for one year with the option to renew for two additional one year periods. Seconded by Mrs. Lemoine, the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote of the members present.

Under Superintendent's Recommendations, Ms. Voitier informed the Committee that the following items would be on the agenda of the January Regular Monthly meeting.

- Election of Officers
- Signature Resolutions

Ms. Voitier also mentioned that in the plan for vaccinations for COVID, our local St. Bernard Parish Ochsner, has done an excellent job in administering those vaccinations. She also mentioned that in the coming weeks or months when school employees are targeted for vaccination, she will also harness the abilities of the Methodist Foundation and their services in the hopes that vaccinations will be delivered in a very timely manner.

Another note from the Superintendent included an announcement regarding the reorganization of instructional time so that by February the schools can return to their regular time schedules and forego the extended instructional time that began in January with the new school semester.

Mr. Warner asked Ms. Voitier about the newest installment of funds that have been allocated by the federal government for COVID expenses. He specifically asked for a review of those funds when they are received. Ms. Voitier assured him that will be done as soon as funds are allocated.

Mrs. Lemoine announced that the new semester at Nunez Community College begins this Wednesday on January 20, 2021. Ms. Voitier encouraged our high school students to take advantage of as many of the dual enrollment courses offered to them through Nunez Community College.

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

The next agenda item presented concerned a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 8, 2020 as published on January 22, 2021. Mr. Warner moved to approve the minutes of December 8, 2020 as published on January 22, 2021. Seconded by Ms. Jackson, the motion was passed unanimously by a voice vote of the members present.

The next agenda item presented concerned a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of December 15, 2020 as published on January 22, 2021. Mr. Long moved to approve the minutes of December 15, 2020 Regular Monthly Meeting as published on January 22, 2021. Seconded by Ms. Jackson, the motion was passed unanimously by a voice vote of the

members present.

As recommended by the Committee, the Board addressed a resolution designating the date, time and place of General Committee and Regular Monthly meetings of the Board for 2021. Mr. Englande moved to approve the aforementioned resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith, the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote of the members present.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Title 17 requires local school boards to hold at least one regular monthly meeting and that public written notice of meetings be given; and

WHEREAS Act 707 of the 1977 Louisiana Legislature exempts local school boards from having to give written notice of each regular meeting by adopting a resolution establishing the date, time and place of regular meetings; and

WHEREAS the Louisiana School Boards Association has recommended that all school boards in the State of Louisiana adopt a resolution to this effect and that the resolution be given appropriate written public notice; Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the St. Bernard Parish School Board hereby establishes 6:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month for the calendar year 2021 to meet as a Committee of the Whole for a general committee meeting and 6:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month for the calendar year 2021 to meet for its regular monthly Board Meeting, with the following exceptions:

March 16, 2021 for its General Committee Meeting

November 16, 2021 for its Regular Monthly Meeting

December 7, 2021 for its General Committee Meeting

December 14, 2021 for its Regular Monthly Meeting

and be it

RESOLVED, That said meetings will be conducted in the St. Bernard Parish School Board Office, 200 East St. Bernard Highway, Chalmette, Louisiana, and that an agenda will be posted 24 hours prior to a meeting at the St. Bernard Parish School Board Office and on the St. Bernard Parish School Board website; and be it further

RESOLVED, That written public notice will be given at least 24 hours in advance of any change in a day, time and place of regular meetings; and be it

RESOLVED further, That this resolution will be posted in the St. Bernard Parish School Board Office and that copies will be forwarded to the local newspapers.

Mrs. Dysart next presented a resolution declaring January 2021 as School Board Member Recognition Month. She stated there was no recommendation from the Committee. With a motion from Mr. Englande and a second from Mr. Long, the Board unanimously approved the resolution declaring January 2021 as School Board Member Recognition Month. The resolution is shown below.

**Louisiana School Board Member Recognition Month
January 2021**

Whereas, the education of Louisiana's school-aged children is the foundation upon which the economic, social and intellectual capital of our state is built; and

Whereas, locally elected school boards play an important and vital role in a representative democracy and an ever-changing world, and decisions made by local boards of education directly influence instruction in Louisiana's public schools; and

Whereas, these decisions affect the present and future lives of children, and, also set direction to prepare all students to be competitive in a local, state, national, and global 21st century economy; and

Whereas, local school board members work with parents, businesses, education professionals, all elected officials and other community members to create the educational visions we want for our students; and

Whereas, this year's theme **SCHOOL BOARDS MATTER! Navigating to Success** - reflects the relevance of local school board members as they advocate for public education with local, state, and federal leaders; and

Whereas, the true commitment of local school board members was evident in their work to implement and maintain a safe environment for all students, faculty, staff, and administrators amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Whereas, School Board Recognition Month provides an opportunity to build stronger relationships between the thousands of people in Louisiana who champion the mission of public education and school board members; now, therefore be it

Resolved, the St. Bernard Parish School Board recognizes the contributions of the state's local school boards to the academic success of its public school students and expresses its sincerest recognition to the local school board members for their focus on the well-being and achievement of children throughout the state; and be it finally

Resolved, the St. Bernard Parish School Board declares January 2021 as School Board Member Recognition Month and encourages local school districts and community leaders to appropriately recognize our state's dedicated school board members.

Mrs. Dysart next presented, for informational purposes, Personnel changes for the Month of January 2021. Those personnel changes are shown below. Mrs. Dysart again recognized Ms. Plaiscia on her retirement and also recognized Ms. Vanessa Jiles of St. Bernard Middle and Ms. Carolyn Silva of Davies Elementary on their retirements.

**ST. BERNARD PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2021**

CHANGES FOR BOARD MEMBERS INFORMATIONAL PURPOSE ONLY:

PERSONNEL CHANGES – TEACHERS

APPOINTMENTS

Ronald Hebert	Chalmette High School-High School Teacher (Temporary Assignment 2020-2021 School Year)
Jason Tucker, Jr.	Chalmette High School-High School Teacher (Temporary Assignment 2020-2021 School Year)

MEDICALS

Cheryl Damond	Trist Middle-Elementary Teacher
Lauren Blackwell	Trist Middle-Elementary Teacher

RETIREMENT

Kelli Plaiscia	Chalmette High School-High School Teacher/Coach 1/4/2021
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SUPPORT PERSONNEL

APPOINTMENTS

Pam Barbay	A.J. Middle-Custodian
Rachel Gonzales	Chalmette Elementary-Custodian
Tina Crafts	Chalmette High School-Paraeducator
Brittany Fayard	A.J. Middle-Part-Time Cafeteria Tech

TRANSFER

Ciarika Winding	From Lacoste Elementary-Part-Time Cafeteria Tech to Trist Middle-Cafeteria Tech
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RETIREMENTS

Vanessa Jiles	St. Bernard Middle-Custodian 6/1/2021
Carolyn Silva	Davies Pre-School-Paraeducator 5/26/2021

With a recommendation from the Committee Mr. Smith moved to approve the Administration's request for permission to advertise for RFP's for advanced placement preparation workbook series for ELA and Math – Grades 6-12. Seconded by Mrs. White, the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote of the members present.

Regarding items to be placed on the agenda of the next General Committee Meeting, no items were requested.

On a point of privilege, Mr. Sean Warner congratulated Ms. Emma Nunez of Chalmette High School on being chosen for the LBCA Volleyball All-State Team, the All-Metro Volleyball Team and the LHSAA All Composite All American Team as well. Mrs. Dysart added congratulation on the numerous college scholarships Ms. Nunez has also earned. Ms. Voitier also congratulated Emma on her scholarship as well as her sports activities along with being chosen as Student of the Year for Chalmette High.

Ms. Voitier also noted that at the next General Committee Meeting Mr. David Bellard will appear to announce the Posse Scholarships awarded for the 2021 Graduating class. Ms. Voitier further noted that in a future meeting she would like to highlight a new initiative from the state called Fast Forward through our partnership with the Nunez Community College.

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

Diana Dysart/s
DIANA DYSART
PRESIDENT

Doris Voitier/s
DORIS VOITIER
SECRETARY