

# May, 2006

*Board Briefing is a summary of St. Tammany Parish School Board action taken at the May 11, 2006, School Board meeting and is not intended to be a complete accounting of Board action.*

## **Students of the Year Presented**

St. Tammany Parish Students of the Year for 2005-2006, chosen at the fifth, eighth, and twelfth grade levels, were presented to the Board. Students of the Year are chosen every year at schools across the parish, and one from each of the three grade levels is chosen at the parish level by a committee representing a cross section of the community. Winners are chosen for outstanding academic performance, leadership, service to others, and communication skills. Recognized were:

Abigail Gardner  
Tchefuncte Middle School  
Elementary Division

Alex Piazza  
Fontainebleau Junior High School  
Middle/Junior High Division

Zachary Wells  
Pearl River High School  
High School Division

Zachary Wells also was selected a Regional winner and finalist for State Student of the Year.

## **Outstanding School Support Employees Recognized**

Outstanding School Support Employees for 2005-2006 were honored. Receiving recognition for their valuable contributions to the education process were:

Tracey Doescher  
Title 1 Para-educator  
Covington Elementary School  
Elementary Division

Samuel Searcy  
Head Custodian  
Monteleone Junior High School  
Middle/Junior High Division

Anna Wise

Custodian  
Northshore High School  
High School Division

Debbie Perrin  
Secretary  
Assigned to School Nurses and Curriculum Specialists  
Non-School Division

### **Leonard P. Monteleone Technology Award Presented**

The annual Leonard P. Monteleone Technology Award was presented to Lake Harbor Middle School teacher Maryanne Smith for effective integration of technology into the school curriculum.

### **Ordinance Providing for Renewed Sales Tax Approved**

An ordinance was approved permitting the School Board to levy an existing one percent (1%) sales tax as approved by voters in April, 2004, when the sales tax was permanently renewed.

### **Bayou Woods Elementary School Assistant Principal Appointed**

Kathryn McDowell, a School System Curriculum specialist, was appointed Assistant Principal at Bayou Woods Elementary School. She replaces Mary Jane Smith, who has been appointed Principal at Honey Island Elementary School.

### **Magnolia Trace Elementary School Assistant Principal Appointed**

Marcella Caesar was appointed Assistant Principal at Magnolia Trace Elementary School, where she was serving as a Parishwide Assistant Principal assigned to the school and as Resource Helping Teacher there.

### **Abita Springs Middle School Principal Appointed**

Donna Forrest, Resource Helping Teacher at Abita Springs Middle School, was appointed Principal at the school. She will replace Principal Julie Matte, who has been appointed a Curriculum and Instruction Supervisor.

### **LEAP Remediation Changes Approved**

The requirement was eliminated that called for fourth and eighth grade students needing remediation for LEAP testing to attend 20 hours of remediation during the school year to be considered for promotion. In addition, school bus transportation for the LEAP Summer Program was restored. Financial concerns shortly after Hurricane Katrina made dropping transportation for the program a consideration in early budget revisions.

### **Job Descriptions Approved**

Job descriptions for Energy Conservation Specialist, Director of Broadcasting, and Web Designer were approved.

### **Employee Wellness Program Accepted**

A newly proposed Employee Wellness Program for School System employees was approved.

### **2006-2007 Personnel Performance Review Plan Guidelines for Evaluation Accepted**

The guidelines for personnel evaluation to be included in the 2006-2007 Personnel Performance Review Plan were accepted.

### **Revised Budgets Approved**

The Superintendent's proposed revised budgets for the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Capital Projects Funds, and Debt Service Funds for the 2005-2006 fiscal year were approved.

### **Changes to Student/Parent Handbook Approved**

Changes and additions to the *St. Tammany Parish Public School System Handbook for Students and Parents* were approved.

### **Architect Selected for Brock Elementary School Project**

Holly & Smith Architects was appointed for the restoration, renovation, and additions at Brock Elementary School. The school was severely damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

### **Bid for Salmen High School Demolition Work Accepted**

The low bid meeting plans and specifications submitted by Durr Heavy Construction was accepted for demolition of Salmen High School. The bid amount is \$382,000. The current facilities at the school are being demolished because of extensive, irreparable damage from Hurricane Katrina. A temporary facility is being constructed for use until the school can be rebuilt.

### **Bid for Agriscience Building at Lee Road Junior High School Rejected**

Bids for an agriscience building at Lee Road Junior High School were rejected for being over the budget for the project.