

## **February 2003 Board Briefing**

*Board Briefing is a summary of St. Tammany Parish School Board action taken at the February 4 and 6, 2003, Special School Board meetings and the February 13, 2003, School Board meeting and is not intended to be a complete accounting of Board action.*

### **February 4, 2003, Special Board Meeting**

#### **Acting Superintendent Appointed**

Mrs. Gayle Sloan, who has served as St. Tammany Parish Public School System Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction for the past five years, was appointed Acting Superintendent for the School System.

#### **Job Description for Assistant Supervisor of Maintenance Revised**

Changes to the qualification requirements in the existing job description for Assistant Supervisor of Maintenance were approved.

#### **Land Purchase for Site of New Junior High School Approved**

The purchase of twenty-five acres of land off Highway 190 East for a new junior high school was approved. The purchase price is \$175,000. Funds for the project are provided through the November, 2001, bond authorization.

#### **Weighted Grades for High School Students Approved**

An administration-revised version of a plan by the School System Weighted Grades Committee for providing students weighted grades in selected high school courses was approved.

### **February 6, 2003, Special Board Meeting**

#### **Time Lines for Process to Select Superintendent Approved**

Approval was given to advertise for the position of School System Superintendent, following Louisiana Revised Statute 17:54 (B), beginning with posting the vacancy on February 7, 2002. Two advertisements of the vacancy are to appear February 12 and 19, 2003, and the deadline for applications is March 8, 2003. The Board is expected to appoint a Superintendent on March 27, 2003, following a screening and interview process. February 13, 2003 Board Meeting

#### **BESE Representative Issues Invitation to Recognition Event for Former Superintendent**

District 1 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) Representative Donna Contois invited the Board and members of the School System administration to a special recognition honoring former Superintendent Lenny Monteleone at the February 20, BESE meeting.

### **Memorial Committee to be Established**

Acting Superintendent Sloan was directed to form a committee to consider an appropriate memorial to former Superintendent Monteleone.

### **Teachers of the Year Formally Recognized**

Three teachers were recognized before the Board for being named 2002-2003 Teachers of the Year for the St. Tammany Parish School System. Recipients of the awards are:

Debi Schoen, Lee Road Junior High School  
Elementary Division  
St. Tammany Parish Teacher of the Year

Suzanne Buras  
Lake Harbor Middle School  
Middle/Junior High Division  
St. Tammany Parish Teacher of the Year  
Regional Teacher of the Year  
State Teacher of the Year

Ric Watkins, Covington High School  
High School Division  
St. Tammany Parish Teacher of the Year  
Regional Teacher of the Year

### **Tributes to Former Superintendent Presented**

A House Concurrent Resolution by State Representative "Pete" Schneider expressing the condolences of the Legislature to the family of former Superintendent Lenny Monteleone and extolling his devotion to excellence in St. Tammany Parish public schools was read. St. Tammany Federation of Teachers President Elsie Burkhalter remembered Mr. Monteleone for his commitment to and work on behalf of the students and employees of the School System.

### **Board Resolution for Former Superintendent Given**

A resolution was passed extending condolences to the family of former Superintendent Lenny Monteleone and paying tribute to his 35 years of outstanding service to the students of St. Tammany Parish as a teacher, coach, principal, administrative supervisor, and Superintendent of the School System. Mr. Monteleone was recognized in the resolution for, among other attributes, his leadership, dedication to service, and integrity.

### **Low Bid Accepted for Refinancing General Obligation Bonds and Sale of Bonds Authorized**

Sealed bids for refinancing \$9,185,000 in 1993 General Obligation Bonds were opened and the low bid of 3.10% submitted by Morgan Keegan was accepted. The issuance and sale of the bonds also was approved. The refinancing will result in net savings to the School System of more than \$983,000 in interest payments.

**Covington Elementary School Principal Appointed**

Current Assistant Principal for Covington Elementary School Martha Romo was appointed principal of the school. She replaces Mrs. Carmela Pulliam who is retiring.

**Revisions to the School Board Policy Manual Accepted**

Suggested revisions to the School Board Policy Manual based on an administration review of the Manual were accepted.

**Renovation at Sixth Ward Elementary School Accepted**

The renovation of the industrial arts building into a kindergarten center at Sixth Ward Elementary School was accepted as substantially complete subject to recommendations of the architect, completion of the punch list, and approval of Acting Superintendent Sloan.

**Mandeville High School Relocation of Tennis Courts Accepted**

The relocation of tennis courts at Mandeville High School was accepted as substantially complete subject to recommendations of the architects, completion of the punch list, and approval of Acting Superintendent Sloan.

**Covington High School Baseball Facility Approved**

The baseball field house at Covington High School was approved as substantially complete subject to recommendations of the architect, completion of the punch list, and approval of Acting Superintendent Sloan.

**Science Lab Work Accepted at Four High Schools**

Science lab additions at Mandeville and Slidell High Schools and science lab casework at Covington, Mandeville, Salmen, and Slidell High Schools were accepted as substantially complete subject to recommendations of the architect, completion of the punch lists, and approval of Acting Superintendent Sloan.

**Architect Approved for Abita Springs Middle School Addition and Renovation Project**

Oubre' Associates Architects, Inc., was approved for the Type I-A addition and renovation project at Abita Springs Middle School funded by the November, 2001, bond authorization program.