

March, 2007

Board Briefing is a summary of St. Tammany Parish School Board action taken at the March 15, 2007, School Board meeting and is not intended to be a complete accounting of Board action.

Chevron Energy for Learning Grant Spotlited

The Energy for Learning Director from Chevron commended the School System on its academic standing and accepted the appreciation of the School Board for the \$502,500 Chevron Energy for Learning Grant given to the School System for curriculum support.

Board Support of Employees in U. S. Guard and Reserve Commended

The Public Affairs Officer for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve thanked the School Board for its ongoing support of School Board employees who fulfill the requirements of active duty in the U. S. Guard and Reserves during the course of their employment in the School System.

National Board Certified School Counselors Recognized

School counselors who received national certification by the National Board for Certified Counselors this year were recognized. National certification of school counselors requires proficiency on the national counselor examination for licensure and certification, national certified counselor status, employment as a school counselor, a recommendation following counseling internship, and required hours of accredited counseling classes.

School System counselors earning the certification this year are Andree Bonnaffons, Mandeville High School; Connie Lazaro, Tchefoncté Middle School; Judy Meyers, Mandeville Middle School; Thomas Minarik, Covington High School; and Jay Varnado, Covington High School.

New National Board Certified Teachers Recognized

Twenty-four teachers were congratulated on having achieved certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The purpose of the certification process is to establish high and rigorous standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do and to reward excellence in teaching. Recognized were new nationally certified teachers:

Nicole Bivona, Covington Elementary
Rachel Buhler, Fontainebleau High School
Theresa Curtis, Abita Springs Elementary School
Joanna Devereux, Slidell High School
Danita Fauntleroy, Fifth Ward Junior High School
Linda Girten, Honey Island Elementary School
Robbi Hammett, Fifth Ward Junior High School
Donna Johnson, Northshore High School
Nancy Lilly, Pine View Middle School
Mary Martin, Covington High School

Margaret O'Connell, Covington High School
Barbara Poche, Little Oak Middle School
Carrie Randolph, Fontainebleau High School
Nicole Rios, Pontchartrain Elementary School
Deborah Schellinger, Little Oak Middle School
Jane Simon, Slidell High School
Eugenie Simpson, Bayou LaCombe Middle School
Noreen Siragus, Abita Springs Elementary School
Bridget Smolcich, Pontchartrain Elementary School
Laura Tallo, Creekside Junior High School
Cindy Thiel, Madisonville Elementary School
Theresa Veazey, Northshore High School
Marta Yanes, Fontainebleau High School
Nancy Yeager, Covington Elementary School

Grade Configuration for New Elementary School in Mandeville Accepted

The grade configuration for the new elementary school to be built near Magnolia Trace Elementary School in Mandeville was accepted. The school will consist of grades K and 1 when built and will serve the same attendance area as Magnolia Trace Elementary School. Magnolia Trace Elementary School will serve students in grades 2 and 3, upon completion of the new school.

Bid for Classroom Wings at Slidell High School Accepted

The low base bid meeting plans and specifications in the amount of \$2,027,000, submitted by Ragusa Construction, LLC, was accepted for the renovation of two classroom wings at Slidell High School. The funding source is the 2001 Bond Authorization.

Architectural Firm for Repairs and Renovations to Brooks Curriculum Center and Slidell Pathways Accepted

The architectural firm of Gasaway-Gasaway-Bankston was accepted for design services associated with repairs and renovations to the Brooks Curriculum Center and Slidell Pathways School.

Bid for Portable Replacement Accepted

The low bid of \$780,267, submitted by Comark Building Systems, was accepted for the replacement of 16 portable classrooms.