

BOARD BRIEFING

June, 2008

Board Briefing is a summary of St. Tammany Parish School Board action taken at the June 12, 2008, Special Board Meeting and the June 12, 2008, School Board meeting and is not intended to be a complete accounting of Board action.

June 12, 2008, Special Board Meeting

Issuance of \$67 Million of General Obligation Bonds Accepted

Approval was given to open bids and accept the low bid for the purchase of \$67 million in General Obligation bonds. BB&T Capital Markets submitted the lowest interest rate of 4.405537%. Authorization was given to issue the first \$67 million of bonds from the \$167 million bond reauthorization approved by voters for capital improvements and technology and safety initiatives.

June 12, 2008, School Board Meeting

Mandeville High School Advanced Placement Recognized

Mandeville High School was recognized with the Siemens Award for Advanced Placement by the Siemens Foundation. The Foundation chooses only one school per state for the award that spotlights outstanding high school advanced placement programs that enhance science and mathematics education.

Upgrade in Bond Rating and Authorization for Bond Sale Reported

An announcement of Standard & Poor's upgrade of the School Board bond rating from AA- to AA was given. The upgrade gives the School Board the highest bond rating of any school board in the state and saves substantial dollars in interest when incurring debt. Also, a report was given about the Special Board meeting held earlier in the day to open General Obligation bond bids, accept the low bid, and authorize issuance of \$67 million in General Obligation bonds.

Abney Elementary School Assistant Principal Appointed

Diane Combs, a Parishwide Assistant Principal, was appointed Assistant Principal at Abney Elementary School. This position was added recently when school enrollment met requirements for an additional assistant principal.

Chahta-Ima Elementary School and Bayou Lacombe Middle School Assistant Principal Appointed

Daphne Lowe, an eighth grade reading teacher and remedial specialist at Biloxi Junior High School in Mississippi, was appointed Assistant Principal at Chahta-Ima Elementary School and Bayou Lacombe Middle School. The new position was added to provide additional administrative support to principals at schools that do not have assistant principals.

Folsom Elementary School Assistant Principal Appointed

Lelia Parker, a Parishwide Assistant Principal, was appointed Assistant Principal at Folsom Elementary School, following the appointment of Assistant Principal Lesa Bodnar to Principal at the school.

Folsom Junior High School Assistant Principal Appointed

Sarah Revere, a Parishwide Assistant Principal, was appointed Assistant Principal at Folsom Junior High School. The new position was added to provide administrative support to principals at schools that do not have assistant principals.

Parishwide Assistant Principals Appointed

Appointments were made to the Parishwide Assistant Principals pool, which provides administrative experience as well as administrative support at schools across the School System. Added to the pool were Robert DeRoche, Administrative Assistant at Fontainebleau High School; Linda Fussell, Professional Development Coordinator at Covington High School; Chantelle O'Meallie, a multi-age first and second grade teacher at Woodlake Elementary School; Edward Strohmeyer, Resource Helping Teacher at Abita Springs Middle School; and Kelley Welch, most recently an Early Intervention Facilitator with the School System.

Superintendent Authorized to Modify Expulsion Length for Students in Pilot Program

Approval was given for the Superintendent to modify the length of expulsion for students who successfully complete the 2008 pilot summer school session at Operation Jumpstart. The students would be permitted to return to a regular school program at the discretion of and with conditions set by the Superintendent.

2008-2009 Pupil Progression Plan Approved

Revisions to the Pupil Progression Plan for 2008-2009 were approved to include mandates from the State Department of Education and changes to ensure consistency in exam exemptions across the System. The Pupil Progression Plan establishes grading, promotion, and retention policy for the System and requires State approval following School Board acceptance.

Bid for Reconstruction of Salmen High School Accepted

The low bid meeting plans and specifications submitted by Roy Anderson Corporation was accepted to rebuild Salmen High School. The bid amount is \$47,570,000 plus Alternate Number 1 in the amount of \$2,020,000. The bid submitted by JRDKS, LLC, was rejected for failure to comply with State law. FEMA is the funding source.

Bleachers at Mandeville High School Accepted

End zone bleachers and ADA modifications to bleachers at Mandeville High School were accepted as substantially complete, subject to recommendations of the architect, submission of all regulatory requirements, and approval of Superintendent Sloan.

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Bleachers at Pearl River High School Accepted

Visitor bleachers at Pearl River High School were accepted as substantially complete, subject to recommendations of the architect, submission of all regulatory requirements, and approval of Superintendent Sloan.

Energy Management Report Given

A report was presented showing substantial Systemwide savings in energy costs since the in-house Energy Management Program was begun in December, 2005. Total cost avoidance from December, 2005 through April, 2008 has been more than \$2 million.