



St. Tammany Parish School Board, January, 2012

# BOARD BRIEFING

*Board Briefing is a summary of St. Tammany Parish School Board action taken at the Board meeting on January 12, 2012, and is not intended to be a complete accounting of Board action.*

## **Board Presented With Certificates of Excellence in Financial Reporting**

Two professional accounting organizations presented the School Board with their highest recognitions for excellence in accounting and financial reporting for Fiscal Year 2010, particularly in the publication of the annual Comprehensive Financial Report. For the 23rd year in a row, the St. Tammany Parish School Board was awarded the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award and a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

## **Schools and Support Sites Given Recognition for United Way Fund-raising**

Assistant Superintendent of Administration William Brady presented plaques to several schools and support sites for outstanding participation in the United Way Campaign last year. He thanked those who took the lead in the effort, noting that 13 sites and schools reached 100 percent participation levels. Woodlake Elementary raised the most donations from students, Covington High School raised the most in employee contributions, and the Central Office was the site with the most employee dollars collected. The \$168,500 raised was the highest amount ever contributed by the School System to the United Way.

## **Caps for Kids Drive A Success**

Administrative Supervisor Amiee Woessner reported on the success of last year's Caps for Kids fund-raising event. The amount collected will provide for 267 caps to be sent out to young patients across the country, autographed by a celebrity of their choice. The caps provide them with a source of support and encouragement during their battle against life-threatening illnesses. Kathleen McCulla, Executive Director of Caps for Kids, thanked the Board for its support of the program. A cap was presented to a student from Madisonville Junior High School, Amelia Bennett, by her Principal Dwayne Kern. The cap had been signed by her favorite actress, Pauley Perrette.

## **Board Congratulates Fontainebleau High School Girls Volleyball Team**

The state champion Girls Volleyball team from Fontainebleau High School was congratulated by the Board. Parish Athletic Director Larry Favre gave a summary of the team's accomplishments over the past year, and a Channel 13 video was shown of the game that won them the Louisiana Division One state championship November 12 after a 44 to 1 season. Coach Tullis has been awarded the District Coach of the Year and the Louisiana Volleyball Coaches Association, Division I, Coach of the Year honor. One of his senior players, Haley Bonneval, has been named the Gatorade Player of the Year. Also introduced were members of the coaching staff, Assistant Coaches Amy Este, Lauren Rhodus, and Jimmy Gutierrez.

### **Junior Livestock Show Visitors Thank School Board**

Sheila Dawsey, president of the St. Tammany Parish Junior Livestock Show Youth Fund, thanked the School Board for its support of the event over the years. Several young people who will be participants in the January 26 Junior Livestock Show joined her at the podium. This year 147 exhibitors from numerous schools across the parish will be showing 326 market animals and 131 breeding animals.

### **Minutes Approved**

The minutes for the regular meeting held on December 8, 2011, were approved.

### **Personnel Changes Approved**

The Board approved personnel changes effective subsequent to December 8, 2011.

### **Resolutions Adopted for Personnel Who Have Retired**

Appropriate retirement resolutions were adopted for 19 employees who had retired subsequent to December 8, 2011. The certificated personnel who had retired were Shannon O. Roberts of Abney Elementary (39.21 years, 9.51 years in St. Tammany); Mara S. Peffley of Bayou Woods Elementary (22.27 years, 20.27 years in St. Tammany); Charlotte C. Campbell of Creekside Junior High (32.92 years, 28.59 years in St. Tammany); Adrienne L. Landry, Fifth Ward Junior High (25.00 years, 12.50 years in St. Tammany); Kathleen Robicheaux of Lake Harbor Middle (29.50 years, 24.50 years in St. Tammany); Frances Shea of Madisonville Junior High (32.51 years); Diana D. Morgan of Salmen High (19.50 years, 14.50 years in St. Tammany); and Susan P. Slater of Slidell High (25.00 years).

Non-certificated personnel who were also honored with resolutions were Patricia Yates of Clearwood Junior High (38.44 years); Jacki Joiner of Covington Elementary (30.15 years); Ronald C. Glass of Covington Maintenance (33.58 years); Delia Garcia of Creekside Junior High (15.78 years); Adine Charlot of Florida Avenue Elementary (20.42 years); Nancy Gaines of Florida Avenue Elementary (10.80 years); Judy C. Comeaux of Little Oak Middle (28.50 years); Randell Bergeron of Slidell Maintenance (28.11 years); Aurelius Diaz of Slidell Maintenance (21.62 years, 20.20 years in St. Tammany); Garry Cooper of the Transportation Center (15.50 years); and Mary Polk of Whispering Forest Elementary (26.96 years).

### **Base Bid For Brock Elementary Additions Accepted**

The Board accepted the Base Bid submitted by Ragusa Construction, LLC in the amount of \$2,179,000 for the additions to Brock Elementary School, STPSB Project No. 1014.

### **Board Accepts Fifth Ward Junior High Project as “Substantially Complete”**

Additions and renovations to Fifth Ward Junior High School were accepted as “substantially complete,” subject to Architect’s recommendations, submission of all regulatory requirements and approval of Superintendent Folse.

### **Board Calls For Redemption of Certain General Obligation Bonds**

A resolution was adopted by the Board calling for the redemption, on April 2, 2012, of certain outstanding General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2002, of Parish Wide School District No. 12 of the Parish of St. Tammany, State of Louisiana. Bonding Attorney Grant Schleuter told the Committee as a Whole earlier in the month that paying a portion of them off would save the School System approximately \$2.5 million in interest.

### **Board Adopts Resolution To Approve Issuance of Up To \$9.4 Million in Refunding Bonds**

A resolution was adopted giving preliminary approval for the issuance of up to \$9,450,000 General Obligation School Refunding Bonds, of St. Tammany Parish Wide School District No. 12 of the Parish of St. Tammany. In an effort to save additional money, the issuance would be via a short term bond issue

conducted by an RFP sent to banks. The resolution also called for making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

**Revised General Fund Budget Accepted**

The School Board accepted the Revised Budgets for the General Fund and Other Funds for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 following a midyear fiscal report by Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Cheryl Arabie. She updated Board members on revised revenue projections, with some amounts above what were expected. Mrs. Arabie also detailed savings resulting from the new substitute teacher procedures.