

Board *notes*

Lafayette Parish School Board Regular Meeting April 6, 2005

Board Discusses Federal Judge's Ruling

During a special board meeting, the Lafayette Parish School Board discussed the recent ruling by Federal Judge Richard Haik denying the board's request for Unitary Status. The school system seeks to attain unitary status in two remaining Green Factors - facilities and student assignment. The ruling to deny unitary status comes after a hearing on the matter in December, 2004. The Board voted to reaffirm the 5 year plan that was approved by the board and submitted to the court, also that the board reaffirm its commitment to implement the plan.

Board Recognizes Principals of the Year

The Lafayette Parish School Board recognized two Lafayette Parish principals who were honored by being named Principals of the Year and state finalists. Ken Douet, principal at Lafayette Charter High, was named Region IV High School Principal of the Year and Ron LeBlanc, principal of Scott Middle, was named Region IV Middle School Principal of the Year.

Board Recognizes Lafayette High Soccer Teams

The Board recognized the Lafayette High School Lions and Lady Lions soccer teams for finishing as the Nokia Sugar Bowl/Louisiana High School Athletic Association Division I-5A State Runners-Up. The Lions lost to Jesuit High School in the finals 3-2 in overtime. The Lady Lions lost to Mt. Carmel in the finals 2-1 in a shoot-out.

Board Recognizes Acadiana High Academy Students

The Board recognized Acadiana High School students, teachers and administrators who worked with IRS consultants to become certified as IRS tax preparers. Over the course of one semester, the students learned about customer service, confidentiality, tax law and how to prepare taxes

electronically as part of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program. As of this date, the students successfully completed approximately 28 tax returns. The following students were recognized: Rima Abu-Hijleh, Quinn Bertrand, Joshua Davis, Brandy Francis, Kristin Guidry, Amber Guillory, Jennifer Le, Taylor Pellerin, Casey Vega, and Derek Ward.

The following teachers and administrators were also recognized: Beverly Davis, Cynthia Dauphin, Stephanie Bennett, Maxia Hutchinson, Janet Hiatt, Leilani Baudoin, Louella Cook, and Bobby Green.

The Board also recognized 17 students from the Acadiana High School Business Department who earned the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certification; meaning they have passed one or more certification exams. The Office Specialist exams provide a valid and reliable measure of technical proficiency and expertise by evaluating the students overall comprehension of Office programs and their ability to use the advanced features of the software.

Earning Office Specialist certification acknowledges that our students have the expertise to work with Microsoft Office programs. The following students were recognized: Jennifer Averette, Rima Abu-Hijleh, Jasmine Anderson, Mallory Baudoin, Christophe Credeur, Jared Guidry, Kristin Guidry, Brian Hanks, Brady Hebert, Emily Laurich, Jennifer Le, Youmin Li, Diana Nguyen (Expert in Word), Erron Pujol, Branden Qualls, Lettie Quibodeaux, Scott Rials, and Angelique Saltzman.

Board Approves Resolutions

The Board approved two resolutions proclaiming the observance of two weeks in April. The Board approved a resolution proclaiming the week of April 10-16 as National Library Week; and proclaimed the week of April 24-30 as Administrative Professionals Week.

In other action, the Board:

- approved corrections on the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of 3/16/05;
- approved corrections on the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of 3/16/05;
- approved the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of 4/6/05;
- accepted the Sales Tax Collection Report for February, 2005;
- received information and a presentation regarding options available to the school system for possible future development of Section 16 property near Youngsville;
- received information about a new elective (Keystone: Foundation for Success) that is being strongly recommended for all freshmen students;
- received information about the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) summer school program as developed by the Office of Career and Technical Education;
- received information about the 2005 Extended Learning Program for Pre-K through sixth grade at Live Oak, J. Wallace James, Evangeline, and the site of the Broadmoor/Edgar Martin ESL Programs;
- received information about the 2005 LEAP 21 summer remediation school for grades 4 and 8;
- received information about the General Fund Budget Revision #1 for fiscal year 2004-2005;
- received information about an amendment to the lease of Section 16 Property at the corner of Ridge Road and Ambassador Caffery Parkway;
- received information about bids physical education supplies and equipment for grades K-5;
- received information about bids for limestone;
- approved personnel changes;
- approved the 2005 Special Education Extended School Year (ESY);
- approved the 2005 Summer School for Grades 5-12.

