



# Board Briefs

A report of the Beauregard Parish School Board meeting

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The Beauregard Parish School Board met Thursday, December 12, 2019, with David Vidrine, president, District 3C, Darrin Manuel, vice president, District 4A, Martha Jackson, District 1, Casey Jones, District 2, Kathy Bruner, District 3A, Cassie Henry, District 3D, Wesley Taylor, District 3E, Ray Bowman, District 4B, Nikki Weldon, District 5, and Student Representative Courtney Smith present.

**Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Timothy Cooley introduced Student Representative Courtney Smith to present a report of the board. She announced that Student of the Year selections at schools were being finalized and reminded the board of the numerous holiday activities that students across the parish were involved in like visiting nursing homes, purchasing gifts for Angel Tree projects, and preparing for holiday programs.

Tiffany Koch, School Liaison Officer at Fort Polk, spoke about deployment as it might affect students in the parish schools and about the two month break in February and March in the training cycle at JROTC for renovations.

Title I Director Margie Hieronymus gave an update on the E-Rate funding stating that funds that had been issued for a five year period had been extended for a sixth year. Beauregard Parish will be receiving some funds for this sixth year extension. In addition, the federal government has renewed the E-Rate for Category 2 funding for internal connections and infrastructure for another five year period beginning in 2021. RFPs for this funding are in process and will be allocated for each district instead of being site-specific. This will allow the district to use the funds where most needed. RFPs for all new construction under Phase I of the bond issue are being prepared to include switches, wiring, and other infrastructure that meets E-Rate specifications.

Superintendent Cooley announced the December 2019 sales tax supplements would be disbursed on Friday, December 13, with those on the professional schedule receiving \$2,100, those on the support scheduled receiving \$1,400 and retirees receiving \$140.

He announced that the Superintendent's Holiday Greeting Card Design Contest has been successful with almost 100 entries this year. Three winners were chosen to have their designs printed on the cards sent out across the state. They include Suim Park of Singer High School, Dominique Santos of East Beauregard High School, and Shailyn Cooley of Merryville High School. He thanked Fine Arts Supervisor Eddie Joslin for his coordination of the project and the many people at the Central Office who print, label, and mail the cards.

He reported that the Beauregard Parish Head Start program would be transitioning from Beau Care to the Calcasieu Parish School Board for the remainder of the school year. He stated that the Beauregard Parish school system would be looking at overseeing that program in the future.

**Resolution:** The board approved a resolution to re-finance the Series 2020 General Obligation School Refunding Bonds at a lower rate of 1.92% providing an estimated savings to the taxpayers of the parish of \$66,000 annually and \$726,462.90 over the remainder of the bond.