



# ST. LANDRY PARISH SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

January 2005

## FROM THE TOP

### Superintendent's Message

Teacher workshops were held on January 14 and reports received were very favorable. Thanks to all who worked to make it a success. **Congratulations** to Mrs. Stella Thomas who was selected Regional Elementary Principal of the Year and to Marcy Boudreaux, Ranolvian Landry, Charlotte Bihm and Spencer Arnold for having earned National Board Certification. Great job!

Lanny Moreau, Superintendent

## SCHOOL ZONE

### “Happenings in Our Schools”

**Tech Prep:** Career Futures Expo & Reality Store will be held on Thursday, March 24 at Northwest High for all 10<sup>th</sup> graders and 1<sup>st</sup> year SLATS students sponsored by the Arnaudville, Eunice and Opelousas-St. Landry Chambers of Commerce and St. Landry Parish School Board & Tech Prep. Students will be informed of the careers needed in St. Landry Parish and the region plus learn the cost of living based on their chosen lifestyle. The expo will consist of 64 trade show booths and 5 reality stores. Approximately 200 adult community volunteers are needed to help with this project. For more information or to volunteer contact Yvonne L. Normand at 337-948-3657, ext. 242.

**Palmetto Elementary:** Palmetto Elementary's Accelerated Reader program wishes to thank the many volunteers that come out and read to our elementary student - Ms. Hazel Lamb, Mr. Sonny Budden, and the most recent, Mr. Joel Stelly. The students truly enjoy when someone from the community comes to read to them.

The United Methodist Church of Waxia and Melville donated much needed school supplies. Mrs. Maude Nevills, seventh grade teacher, as well as a member of the church was presented with the supplies. Accepting the supplies were Mrs. Cheryl Myers, principal, and Mrs. Maude Nevills.

**Leonville Elementary:** With the holiday behind us, the students here at Leonville Elementary are focusing on their school work and study skills in preparation for the Leap and Iowa Test in March. The students are looking forward to a long weekend this month. The January in-service for our teachers will involve a technology workshop, school improvement activities, and Parent Teacher conferences. We will also hold an Open House for our parents this month which will give parents who did not attend the Parent Teacher Conference an opportunity to meet with the teachers.

We would like to welcome our new Title 1 aid, Ms. Monique Rivette, to our school. We also have two teacher interns from ULL this semester. Ms. Lori Miller and Ms. Robin Speyrer will be working with Mrs. Lora Auzenne and Mrs. Barbara Jesclard. We hope they enjoy and learn a great deal while working at our school.

Finally, we would like to recognize one of our fourth grade students here at Leonville Elementary, Alyssa Stelly. She has been chosen to sing in the ULL Children's Choir. She will be traveling to New York City to sing at Carnegie Hall this summer. Congratulations Alyssa, we are proud of your accomplishments.

**Port Barre Elementary:** Mrs. Jill Guillory's fourth grade class is hard at work preparing for the LEAP testing in March. Most of the skills needed for LEAP are taught and used daily. The students are writing a two-paragraph composition on a given topic. This includes brainstorming, rough and final drafts. This composition will be delivered to the Louisiana Department of Education. Scorers will grade and evaluate the students' paragraphs just as is done on the LEAP. It will then be sent back to the school so that the students can analyze how well they have done. This is an awesome practice for the students.

Thursday, January 13th, in the Port Barre Elementary cafeteria, fourth grade teachers will meet with their students' parents to discuss how they, as parents, can help their child prepare for the LEAP test. Parents will be able to move to different stations to receive various examples of testing materials and how the students are being taught. Parents may even be asked to take mini tests as well! Refreshments will be served and door prizes given out. Registration begins at 5:45 PM. We hope to see many parents there!

**Park Vista Elementary:** Park Vista Elementary is proud to announce the Terrific Kids for the third six weeks period. Those students selected as Terrific Kids include: Devin Richard and Hayes Roach from Mrs. Hollier's class; Jean-Paul Joubert, from Mrs. Simpson's class; Kindergarteners Brittany Johnson, Cain Piazza, Darian Guidry, Anyssa Ventress, Ajah Pitre, Dylan Houser, Allie Carriere, Derek Metoyer; First graders Victoria Burns, Sienna Lanclos, Amber Alford, Tyler Guidroz, Alyssa Galloway, Jonah Galloway, Madelyn Carriere, Jordan Dupre; Second graders Jeremy Jason, Jordan Jason, Drake Carrier, Lauren Lanclos, Derrick Savoie, Brandon Andrus, Cami Cortez, Hoshlyn Lanclos; Third graders Laine Marks, Cameron Wyble, Sarah Kidder, La'Sabra Ventress, Delvin Nguyen, Victoria Tran, Kenny Baker, Mariah Nero, Kelli Speyrer, Ari Dunn; Fourth graders Chloe Smith, Angelica Lavine, Carlos Papillion, Stephanie Sandifer, Mary Bui, Karyn West, Silas Dejean, Jalen Williams; Fifth graders Andrew Lavergne, Jeffery Jenkins, Elizabeth McNabb, John Beverly, Kyler Guilbeau, Alyssa Mouton, Celeste Lanclos, Heather Rideaux; Sixth graders Darian Quebedeaux, Brandon Kennerson, Ben Richard, Carla Rosero, Abbey Robbins, Matthew Marks, Jamaal Thompson, Nicholas Artall.

**Grand Prairie Elementary:** Ms. Rosette and Mrs. LeBlanc's 1st grade classes at Grand Prairie Elementary just completed a Social Studies project on Christmas traditions. The objective was to help students learn more about Christmas traditions around the world and to have students learn more about their own family values and traditions. Each student wrote a paragraph about their own family traditions. The paragraphs were displayed in the hall.

**Lawtell Elementary:** Both the Fourth Grade Students and Teachers are Busy at Work!!!! The fourth grade students will be given the LEAP practice test during the week of January 18-21. Students will complete the writing part of the test, which will be scored so that students and teachers can have an idea of what types of improvements are necessary before the LEAP test in March. The fourth grade teachers also put together "homework survival kits" in order to help parents guide their children with their homework and study skills. These packets will be handed out at the monthly PTO meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, January 19, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. The fourth grade teachers will also be delivering a short presentation at this time. Parents of all fourth grade students are strongly encouraged to attend.

**Washington Career and Technical Education Center:** The Electronics program has received and installed some very advanced equipment and software. The software and equipment is made by the NIDA Corporation and is used by all branches of the United States Armed Forces to teach Electronics. Several departments played a part in setting up the equipment and the classroom. The electricity department, lead by instructor Dwayne Lemon, helped to rewire the room to support the new technology. The carpentry department, led by instructor, Eddie Harris, built all of the specially designed desks for the NIDA equipment. Electronics instructor, Steven Zerangue, is truly excited about the potential of his program using this new equipment. Mr. Zerangue will be in Florida for one week training with NIDA.

Students in the Nursing Department will begin their clinical training in the month of February. February 4th, the students will attend an all-day orientation at Opelousas General Hospital. The Nursing students will also spend half of their 10 week clinical training at Prompt Succor Nursing Home.

The ProStart Department is hard at work preparing for a trip to competition in New Orleans for the 4th Annual ProStart Leadership Competition. The instructor, Mrs. Hazel Fontenot, plans on sending a team of four students to participate in a gourmet meal competition and a hospitality knowledge bowl. The competition is set for February 17, 2005.

**Opelousas High:** The OHS Band has marched in several parades honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Additionally, they are practicing for the various Mardi Gras parades in which they will be participating.

The School Analysis Model Team (SAM) is at OHS this week assessing our school's strengths and weaknesses and making suggestions for continued academic improvement.

Congratulations to the following winners of the Opelousas High Social Studies Fair: In the History category; 1st place, Sharine Ware and Chelsea Celestine; 2nd place, Quentin Charles; and 3rd place, Adrienne Prescher. Honorable mention in the History category went to Tifani Ortego. First place in Anthropology went to William Batiste. Sociology winners were Stephanie Quirk, 1st; Tiffany Deville, 2nd; and Crystal Garlow, 3rd. Placing first in Political Science was Krystyn Batiste.

Mr. Glenn Stephens' math students recently completed an online project. The students were assigned to find their individual learning styles. The students learned that preferred styles guide the way they learn and change the way they internally represent experiences, recall information and choose words. Each learning style uses a different part of the brain. If a student recognizes his preferred learning style, perhaps his study skills will improve and his grades will also improve.

St. Landry Parish received a large grant to help improve literacy in the high schools, specifically in grades 8.5, 9 and 10. These grades were targeted because of high-stakes testing such as the IOWA9 and the GEE. Opelousas High School's share of the grant was in excess of \$27,000. With this grant the English department has purchased the books and software needed to implement the Accelerated Reading program. The program will be up and running in the fall of 2005. Books in this program range from modern, high interest, contemporary classics to British and American masterpieces. Teachers in other areas of the curriculum will be encouraged to participate in the Accelerated Reader program as well. Books have been purchased that deal with subjects in health, science, and social studies. OHS's Accelerated Reading program will not only promote literacy in the English department, but will also encourage reading across the curriculum.


Ms. Nieraeth's Junior and Senior physics students researched roller coasters and how the laws of physics affect their construction and workings. Each student built his own model of a roller coaster based on his research and presented it to the class.

**Arnaudville Elementary:** In the month of December, Arnaudville Elementary was a very busy place. On Friday, December 10, 2004, the annual Arnaudville Christmas Parade was held. This parade is put on by the school and all teachers and students prepare floats and costumes. This year our Grand Marshal was Mrs. Pat

Dartez, the former principal. On December 14, 2004 the annual school Social Studies Fair was held. All fifth and eighth grade students participated and they did an outstanding job. All first place winners will represent Arnaudville Elementary at the Parish Fair to be held on February 19, 2005 at LSUE. On December 16, 2004 students of Arnaudville Elementary were treated to a band concert put on by the Arnaudville Elementary band, directed by the new band teacher, Mr. Jerry Dahl. Also participating with the Arnaudville band were members of the Leonville Elementary band. The band played a popular selection of Christmas favorites to get students in the festive mood for the holidays.

**North Elementary:** North Elementary students joined together to participate in **Read for 2005**, a Scholastic sponsored event that invites children from all over the world to read together for 2005 seconds. The event not only encouraged students to read, it also demonstrated the importance of reading daily.

During the Christmas season, fourth, fifth and sixth grade students remembered those serving over seas. The students wrote letters to the soldiers serving in Iraq. In their letters, the students expressed their gratefulness and appreciation for the soldiers and their dedication to our country. Students decorated their letters with pictures of American flags and holiday artwork.

  
SALUTE TO THE STARS  
CONGRATULATIONS TO..... STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

**Northwest High School Students of the Month:** Chris Vidrine – 12<sup>th</sup> grade – Chris is President of the Student Council, and he has really motivated the other members. Chris returned to Northwest High this year after attending LSMSA as a junior. He has been accepted into LSU's Honors College for the fall of 2005. Hattie Olivier – 11<sup>th</sup> grade – Hattie is a hard-working, conscientious student. She recently participated in an essay contest on stem cell research, and she placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the American Legion Oratorical Competition. Hattie plans to attend LSU to study law. Johnathan Eaglin – 12<sup>th</sup> grade – While enrolled in the Web Mastery course last semester, Johnathan helped to maintain the school website. He was also one of the students who prepared and delivered a Power Point presentation to the "High Schools that Work" TAV team.

**Girl Scouts Troop 776:** Girl Scout Troop 776 of Bayou Council Girls Scouts held a Court of Awards Ceremony on Saturday, January 8, 2005. Scout Erin Douget of Port Barre High and daughter of James Douget and the late Susan Douget, and Scouts Adrienne Prescher and Katherine Prescher of Opelousas High School and the daughters of Bernadette and Bruce Robinson received recognition for their accomplishments of the past year. Scout Douget earned her Silver Award with the multiple cultural events around the state and nation exhibiting the history of Acadian dances.

**Principal of the Year: Stella Thomas of North Elementary is the Regional Teacher of the Year.**