

Apr 30, 2008

UNOFFICIAL SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES  
CAMP LEJEUNE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING APRIL 23, 2008

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

(Name Removed), Chair for the CLDS School Board, called to order the meeting of April 23, 2008. The meeting began at 1000 hours in the CSO Board Room. School Board members in attendance were: (Names Removed)

Others in attendance included: (Names Removed)

Ms. Thomas welcomed Col Richard P. Flatau, Jr., Commanding Officer for Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, and thanked him for taking the time to attend today's School Board meeting. Col Flatau conveyed words of appreciation to the school staff as you continually provide support to our families and their children in so many ways. He gave confirmation that the Camp Lejeune Dependents Schools have lived up to their terrific reputation as his family has experienced a wonderful beginning since their children's enrollment in our schools. The Colonel explained that the purpose of his visit today was to learn how the School Board operates and how the Command can provide assistance.

Introductions of the School Board members were made and each member identified the school in which they represent. Commendations were given to (Name Removed) as he remained active on the School Board during his overseas deployment. Ms. Thomas echoed the words of Col Flatau in recognizing CLDS personnel for their outstanding commitment in taking care of families as well as providing a superb educational environment.

(Name Removed), 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher of Brewster Middle School, was recently selected as the School Liaison Officer for Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune. (Name Removed) will greatly be missed as she has made exceptional contributions in our school system. Ms. Thomas bestowed best wishes and looks forward to working with (Name Removed) in this capacity.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

(Name Removed) made a motion to approve the minutes of March 19, 2008 as

presented. (Name Removed) seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved. (Tab A)

### **III. SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

(Name Removed), Teacher of Lejeune High School (LHS) and Teacher Representative to the LHS Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) Board, received recognition for her superior performance to the PTO during SY 2007-08. An excerpt from the PTO's letter read that "(Name Removed) has served as a valuable asset and is a highly respected member of the Board. She is to be commended for her unselfish dedication to Lejeune High School, the Lejeune High School PTO, and the Lejeune High School students. She has given of her time freely and gone above and beyond the call of duty."

It was with distinction that the Chair and Assistant Superintendent of Schools presented (Name Removed) with a 'Certificate of Excellence'. Thank you sincerely for your time and energy as you have made a significant difference for all those involved in the high school setting.

### **IV. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS**

#### **A. Living in the New Normal (LINN) Program Overview**

The Living in the New Normal initiative, sponsored by the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC), provides educators and other concerned adults with vital information to help military children during times of uncertainty, trauma, and grief. (Name Removed), Instructional Systems Specialist for CLDS; along with members of Marine Corps Family Team Building, Family Counseling, Youth and Teen Programs, Camp Lejeune and Onslow County Schools had the opportunity to attend a LINN training aboard Camp Lejeune. (Name Removed) expressed gratitude to Col Flatau for his recent support and financial funding of the LINN Training. Each attendee found the training to be most beneficial as it provides practical structures, school-based applications, transition support systems, and response models in working with the emotional, social, and educational aspects affecting the military child. Living in the New Normal supports and promotes an environment of resilience, courage, and the identification of effective resources when dealing with grief. Examples were provided of what helps a person to grow after trauma; and as a school system, we know that keeping children actively engaged in school and on a routine is essential to the healing process. Keeping children physically active is equally important. It was emphasized that grief can be conveyed through art, poetry, planting a tree, establishing a memorial or displaying tokens of remembrances. Another recommendation for helping a child to deal with grief is asking the individual to 'bask' by taking the mind to a place where something good has occurred. During the training, informative handouts were provided to offer a variety of resources and strategies when working with students in difficult situations. CLDS plans to purchase additional handouts for School Counselors and Librarians.

(Name Removed) inquired about the makeup of the group attending the training. (Name Removed) reported that during this first training session there were School Administrators, Principals, and Counselors of the Base and County school systems as well as Coordinators from various Base organizations such as Youth and Teen, Family Counseling, and Marine Corps Family Team Building. The two-day training provided attendees an opportunity also to get to know each other and share their resources.

(Name Removed) asked how the information would transfer to teachers. The resources and handouts will be shared with staff members. In addition, (Name Removed) meets regularly with the School Counselors and Nurses; and this will be another avenue for sharing of information. Teachers will have access to the shared drive where the information will be provided in a toolbox. Ms. White, Principal of DeLalio Elementary School, has made her faculty aware that she is a resource for this information; and plans to incorporate it in school newsletters as well. Ms. Thomas shared an example of how resources are provided to our parents when there is the need to speak with their child about a tragedy/loss within the school system.

Col Flatau received favorable feedback from the LINN Training; and in addition to the planned October 2008 training, the Command is looking to fund an additional training session during the July/August timeframe, prior to the start of the new school year.

The School Board was appreciative of the overview on the LINN Program initiative.

#### B. School Improvement Update

(Name Removed), Instructional Systems Specialist, gave an update on School Improvement for Tarawa Terrace 2 Elementary, Bitz Intermediate, and DeLalio Elementary Schools. As shown in the handouts, each school has a mission statement determined by the faculty and staff. Goals 1 and 2 are established to address the academic needs of the individual school. Each school determines their goals based on data. The essence, identified under each goal, defines the goal. Through the school improvement process, the faculty and SIP team researches specific interventions to decide what will make a difference for students. Once the interventions are determined, staff development is planned and implemented. The schools monitor their implementation of the interventions and student achievement improvement through multiple assessments. (Name Removed) acknowledged that this is a five-year process.

Comparisons of Terra Nova scores in reading and math were provided for SY's 05-06 and 06-07. (Name Removed) noted that 75% of our students are performing above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile, which is the norm. There is a continual review of how instruction is offered and what differences are needed to ensure student achievement. School administrators and teachers carry on a continuous dialogue in seeking ways to improve

education. The School Improvement Teams meet once a week to share feedback. (Name Removed) recognized that every school is unique and different based on needs and population.

(Name Removed) added the importance of having parental involvement as it is vital in making schools successful. (Name Removed) agreed wholeheartedly; and shared how the School Board could help by encouraging parents to join the School Improvement Teams.

School Improvement information for Johnson Primary, TT1 Primary, Lejeune High and Brewster Middle Schools will be provided in May.

The School Board thanked (Name Removed) and (Name Removed) for the update on School Improvement within TT2, Bitz and DeLalio schools.

### C. Lejeune High School Schedule

Ms. Wyonia Chevis, Principal of Lejeune High School, provided a summary on the high school class schedule for SY 2008-09. All days will be fixed and entail the following schedule:

Mondays – Students will attend all classes, periods 1 through 8, for 42 minutes each.

Tuesdays and Thursdays – Students will be on Schedule A to attend class periods 1 through 4 for an 80-minute segment. Extended Learning (EL) will be held from 2:00 – 2:35 p.m.

Wednesdays and Fridays – Students will be on Schedule B to attend class periods 5 through 8 for an 80-minute segment. Extended Learning (EL) will also be held from 2:00 – 2:35.

(Name Removed) inquired if the administration felt that Extended Learning (EL) would work by having it at the end of the school day. Ms. Chevis replied that while there are both pros and cons with holding EL at the end of the school day, the fact is that EL is a part of the academic program and a mandatory class. There will be incentives next school year to encourage students to attend EL.

(Name Removed) asked, “What affect will the schedule have on the Monday and Friday classes if these are no school days due to holidays, etc., during the school year?” In a review of the proposed school calendar for SY 08-09, Ms. Thomas reported that there are 2 days in which school is not in session on Friday.

(Name Removed) questioned what the lunch schedule would look like for students. While two lunches will be provided each day, Ms. Chevis indicated that the

lunch schedule for students may alternate dependant upon their class selections.

(Name Removed) inquired if there was a timeline for reevaluating the effectiveness of the new schedule? If the schedule is not feasible, is there a back-up plan? While several committees were involved in developing the schedule, the members will continue to monitor it to determine if changes are needed. (Name Removed), President of the LEA, felt that if there were problems with the schedule then issues would be noticeable early on.

(Name Removed) shared concern about the reduced amount of time a student is in class. (Name Removed) shared that the committees reviewed the possibility of a seven-period day; it was determined there are many reasons why this option is not workable.

While a lot of work and time has been involved in the development of the high school schedule, there is one day a week where the students will have all teachers and seven days in the school year where students will not have their teacher. (Name Removed) expressed the need for some flexibility in the schedule in an effort to capture those students leaving mid-year. For the most part, these students will enroll in a school system that is not on the same schedule. Families have been impacted where a receiving school is not on a 4x4 schedule. (Name Removed) reported that students lost six weeks of curriculum while on the 4x4 schedule thus the reason for moving to an alternating block schedule. Additionally, teachers are provided the opportunity to teach more content on this schedule. (Name Removed) questioned how much of the nation is on a 4x4 schedule. For the military member who is transferring out, a majority of the time the family is transferring to a public school system. How will the schedule impact students who are taking a course all year long? Is there any data available to review the various scenarios? How do other schools deal with this concern? Some teachers would prefer having students every day, i.e., band.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Projected Growth for CLDS**

The PPV partner is preparing a concept layout for homes and schools aboard Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune. A Source Selection Board (SSB) will convene in mid-May to review and approve the PPV partner's proposal. Mr. Benton noted that a

considerable amount of housing is being constructed in Knox Park. Bussing of students should be taken into consideration.

### **B. 2008 School Board Election**

At the end of the current term, four vacancies will exist on the CLDS School Board. (Name Removed) reiterated that an eligible candidate must reside in permanent

housing aboard MCB, Camp Lejeune or MCAS, New River at the time of the Election. Information on how to access an application will be incorporated in school newsletters, displayed via the Base WAN, and posted on school websites. The Globe and Rotovue will serve as media avenues. Applications will become available May 5th and can be accepted through COB on September 4, 2008. The School Board Election is scheduled for Thursday, September 18, 2008. An election site will run from 0730 until 1700 hours at each school location.

## **VI. INFORMATION ITEMS**

A. 'Month of the Military Child' Appreciation Letter – (Tab N) A joint letter of appreciation signed by Dr. Hager, NC DDESS Superintendent and Ms. Thomas, Assistant Superintendent, CLDS acknowledges the 'Month of the Military Child.' A special thank you to Col Flatau for issuing a proclamation aboard MCB, Camp Lejeune, declaring April as the 'Month of the Military Child.' A copy of the Command proclamation is on display in all schools.

B. Insite Information (4/08) – Tab O

C. CLDS Monthly Newsletters – Tab P

D. National Teacher Appreciation Week – Please join us in recognizing our outstanding teachers during 'National Teacher Appreciation Week', May 10-14, 2008.

E. Eligibility Start Date for SY 08-09 – (Name Removed), Director for Student Services, shared a copy of the notice announcing a change in the eligibility birth date for new preschool and kindergarten age students enrolling in CLDS.

As background, effective SY 2009-2010, the Department of Defense Schools will change the eligibility birth date for all preschool and kindergarten children enrolling in DoD schools to 1 September. All North Carolina Public Schools will change their eligibility birth date for all preschool and kindergarten children to 31 August effective SY 2009-10.

To mirror Onslow County Schools where they will incorporate a change in their eligibility birth date for pre-kindergarten students effective SY 2008-09, CLDS will change their preschool eligibility birth date to 1 September effective SY 2008-09 as well. New pre-school students enrolling in CLDS must be 4 years old by 1 September 2008 to enroll in the program during SY 2008-09. Effective SY 2009-2010, new students entering Kindergarten must be five years old by 1 September 2009.

Three and four year old children with disabilities who have a Camp Lejeune Individualized Education Plan (IEP) that indicates the child should receive preschool services may enter the program any time after his/her third birthday, regardless of their birth date.

After discussion, the School Board requested that this change be published community wide in an effort to inform current and in-coming families to the area. It is important to get this information out as soon as possible. Some suggested avenues were through the 'welcome aboard packets' at Base Housing, Child Development Centers (CDCs), the Base WAN, The Globe and The Rotovue, through the School Liaison Officer, school newsletters and websites, etc.

F. NC Teaching Fellows Visit – (Name Removed) shared the program goals of The North Carolina Teaching Fellows program where students receive academically and culturally enriched preparations to extend them beyond the regular college program. Through the NC Teaching Fellows program, opportunities and experiences are provided to encourage the development of leaders and decision makers. As the Teaching Fellows seek employment, they literally board a bus for several weeks to tour school systems throughout the State. With the projected increase in student population at Camp Lejeune over the next five to seven years, it is critical to recruit and hire professionals from a wide recruiting pool to support our needs. Recruiting from the NC Teaching Fellows program will help us meet our Community Strategic Plan goals to maintain a high qualified, motivated, and diverse workforce. (Name Removed) has worked with Ms. Gladys Graves, Director of the North Carolina Teaching Fellows program, to coordinate Teaching Fellows to visit with the Camp Lejeune Dependents School system. CLDS will host 45 Teaching Fellows on Tuesday, May 20, 2008. It is our goal to provide an informative and enlightening tour of CLDS as well as the opportunity to hear a variety of guest speakers during the lunch schedule. Through coordination with (Name Removed) and partnership with the Base community, the Teaching Fellows will observe Marine Corps activities at the Military Operations in Urban Training (MOUT) facility.

(Name Removed) requested an update on their visit.

G. DeLalio Elementary School Gym – A bid opening for the new school gym at DeLalio Elementary School, Marine Corps Air Station, New River, is expected during mid-May. The project completion date is set for May 2009.

H. Lejeune High School Prom, April 5, 2008 – Ms. Thomas thoroughly enjoyed the evening at the LHS Prom. She was proud of the students and the outstanding manner in which they carried themselves throughout the evening. It was a prideful moment and a good time. Thank you to the Culinary Arts students for the elegantly prepared snacks. A special thanks to all who played a part in making this a meaningful event.

I. Literacy Week at Tarawa Terrace I Primary School – Students and staff of TT1 Primary School celebrated Literacy Week during April 7-11, 2008. One of the opening events included a Book Character Parade where students and staff portrayed/dressed in their favorite book character. Students of TT2 Elementary School joined in the celebration. It was an honor to have staff participants and members of the 2d Marine Division Band as they provided introductory music and marched with the

students during the parade. Immediately following the parade, members of the Band took the opportunity to interact with the students that made for an enjoyable event.

J. DeLalio Dinner Theatre – The fourth and five grade students of DeLalio Elementary School provided a remarkable evening of Broadway music during a Dinner Theatre held on April 10, 2008. The staff and students are to be commended for their outstanding efforts and performance.

K. Base Energy Awareness Fair – The entire student body of Brewster Middle School had the opportunity to tour the Base Energy Awareness Fair during a visit by Secretary Bodman, the Secretary of Energy on April 22, 2008. Students saw a variety of displays depicting energy conservation and heard remarks from the Secretary. (Names Removed), students of Brewster Middle School, recently placed second in the Regional Ecybermission Contest for their project submission to replace the standard light bulb with compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs. As a result, each student is the recipient of a \$3,000 scholarship. The student winners were invited to set up a booth of their project at the Energy Fair. Secretary Bodman spent a considerable amount of time with the students to inquire about their initiative.

Ms. Thomas highly complimented the middle school students for their well-behavior and giving special guests and other attendees their undivided attention. My sincere appreciation to Ms. Sholar and her staff as well as (Name Removed)and (Name Removed), CLDS Transportation, for their outstanding coordination.

L. LHS Election Awareness Week – School Board members were reminded of the special events that are being held at Lejeune High School in conjunction with this year's Election. Students will hold mock elections and conduct rallies in support of their candidate during May 1-6, 2008.

M. Card of Appreciation - (Name Removed), former Command Representative, sent a thank-you card expressing her appreciation for the recent School Board recognition.

N. Public Affairs Office Acknowledgement – Ms. Thomas took this opportunity to convey her sincere appreciation to the Public Affairs Office, MCB, Camp Lejeune for outstanding coverage of the schools during this school year. It is greatly recognized and highly valued.

## **VII. AGENDA BUILDING**

- \*School Improvement Update: Part II
- \*2008 Read Across America Highlights

## **VIII. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 21 at 10:00 a.m. in the CSO Board Room.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1140 hours.

**X. FUND COUNCIL**

A. Financial Report of March 2008

(Name Removed) made a motion to approve the Financial Report of March 2008 as presented. (Tab J) (Name Removed) seconded the motion and the Board approved the report unanimously.

B. Student Activity Fund Expenditure

The following expenditure was presented for approval:

A check made payable to Burnett Lime Company in the amount of \$2,104.88 to cover field paint and lime for the baseball/softball fields for Lejeune High School.

(Name Removed) made a motion to approve the expenditure, seconded by (Name Removed). The Board approved it unanimously.

C. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1145 hours.

(Name Removed)  
Chair, CLDS School Board

Attachments:  
As stated

cc: Director, DDESS/DoDDS-Cuba