

French and Montessori Education, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of February 23, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of FAME, the governing board of Audubon Charter School, was held Saturday, February 23, 2008, at the Broadway Campus. The meeting began at 10:20 a.m.

In attendance: Carlos Zervigon, Edwin Shorty, Sharon Nossiter, Teddi Locke, Wynn Seeman, Laura Watts and James Reiss. The administration was represented by Janice Dupuy, Lynette Brice, Dawn Collins, and Ellen Selvidge.

The board accepted the resignation of. Board member Gary Allen Wood, who is moving with his family from New Orleans. Ms. Seeman moved for a resolution thanking Mr. Wood for his service to FAME and the Audubon community, as well as the city of New Orleans, and wishing him the best in his future career. Action is pending.

Mr. Reiss moved for acceptance of the January 26, 2008, minutes. Approval was unanimous with no discussion.

Mr. Shorty moved that the March meeting of FAME be changed to March 15 because of the conflict with spring break. It was approved unanimously.

Ms. Selvidge gave the Montessori update: Activities were held in February to celebrate Montessori Education Week. Montessori trainers Peter and Rosanne Larrow visited to observe the Montessori faculty who are in training. The annual Spring Conference in Washington, D.C., is scheduled for March 6-9, and will be attended by Ms. Selvidge and three primary teachers.

Ms. Dupuy gave the French update: The French 5th grade has raised enough money for its trip to buy tickets for all 17 students, plus Mme. Caroline, Jane Joyner and Ann Crowe, who will be chaperoning.

A test coordinator from Orleans Parish will attend the February session of Professional Development to make sure Audubon is in compliance and answer questions. The Leadership Team will also discuss next year's calendar, which should be ready for approval in March.

New signs are up at both campuses regarding which entrances to use throughout the school day.

A gas leak in one of the portable French classrooms at Carrollton was repaired by Entergy and Sodexo. Other portables rooms were checked the next day and no other leaks were reported.

Drainage problems at Carrollton are being addressed. Heavy rains make it impossible for students to move about without getting wet.

Admission letters for next year's classes will go out March 7. The lottery will be held February 28. It is open to the public.

Ms. Collins congratulated the 6th grade boys basketball team for its season. She also reported that 54 students were present at today's LEAP tutoring.

Ms. Dupuy acknowledged and thanked the teachers who work in after-school tutoring at Carrollton, and come out on Saturday mornings to keep Audubon advancing. She also thanked Alisa Dupre for her work on getting Audubon into the Metro League Sports, which already has improved morale and team spirit among the students.

Ms. Watts gave the Budget Committee report. The Budget Committee needs to meet earlier in the week before FAME meetings, she said, because she is still working with the administration on problems with the Blackbaud system. A budget committee meeting will be scheduled in the upcoming weeks to begin work on next year's budget.

Ms. Dupuy gave the Facilities Meeting update. Possibilities for Audubon include tearing down all portable buildings at both campuses to replace them with permanent buildings. Those present at the meeting discussed having the entire school on one campus, or maintaining both. Ms. Dupuy said we can count on roof repair at both buildings, which hopefully could take place during the summer to avoid moving classes.

Ms. Seeman moved for executive session to discuss the appeal of a one-day suspension. The executive session began at 10:45 a.m. The board voted unanimously to uphold the suspension. Executive session ended at 11:09 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m., on a motion by Mr. Shorty.

Submitted by Secretary Sharon Nossiter