

# BOND ELECTION 2017 FAQ – FURTHER DOCUMENTATION

## **CPSB Board Members Contact Info**

Eric Tarver 337-540-2458 <a href="mailto:eric.tarver@cpsb.org">eric.tarver@cpsb.org</a>	Dean Roberts 337-477-4710 <a href="mailto:dean.roberts@cpsb.org">dean.roberts@cpsb.org</a>	Annette Ballard 337-477-6345 <a href="mailto:annette.ballard@cpsb.org">annette.ballard@cpsb.org</a>	Ron Hayes 337-477-0441 <a href="mailto:ron.hayes@cpsb.org">ron.hayes@cpsb.org</a>
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## **Riverboat Funded POD Classrooms in Bonding District 34**

Barbe High	12	College Oaks	8	Barbe Elem	6	Prien Lake	10
S.J. Welsh	40	Dolby	16	St. John	14	Nelson	30

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## **Largest Tax Payers in Bonding District 34 (2016)**

	Taxes Paid	Taxable Value
GOLDEN NUGGET LAKE CHARLES LLC	\$ 282,996	\$ 56,599,230
PNK (LAKE CHARLES) LLC(L'AUBERGE)	\$ 223,302	\$ 44,660,400
LAKE CHARLES LNG COMPANY LLC	\$ 102,649	\$ 20,529,920
REYNOLDS METALS COMPANY	\$ 62,345	\$ 12,469,150
CALCASIEU REFINING COMPANY	\$ 50,284	\$ 10,056,790
CROWLEY MARINE SERVICES	\$ 45,160	\$ 9,031,960
SHAW GROUP INC	\$ 30,513	\$ 6,102,550
PRESSURE PUMPING	\$ 27,586	\$ 5,517,170
OSG 242 LLC	\$ 23,325	\$ 4,665,000
WOMEN & CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL LLC	\$ 16,804	\$ 3,360,820
ENTERGY GULF STATES LOUISIANA LLC	\$ 12,952	\$ 2,590,311
WEST M LAKE CHARLES LLC	\$ 12,687	\$ 2,537,500

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## **Changes in Student Count Since 2012 (M/M = students out-of-zone due to majority-to-minority rule)**

	<b>2012 Count</b>	<b>M/M</b>	<b>M/M %</b>	<b>2017 Count</b>	<b>M/M</b>	<b>M/M %</b>
Barbe High	1797	397	22%	2034	328	16%
S.J. Welsh	1287	291	23%	1368	278	20%
St. John	898	41	5%	841	69	8%
Barbe Elem.	349	1	0%	296	0	0%
College Oaks	347	0	0%	320	0	0%
Dolby	491	71	14%	396	27	7%
Nelson	661	58	9%	796	98	12%
Prien Lake	552	78	14%	767	105	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6382</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>6818</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>13%</b>

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## **Millages Paid by the Other Bonding Districts Across the Parish**

DeQuincy	18.4 mills	Westlake/Maplewood	8.5 mills
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Starks	8.7 mills	Sulphur	11.3 mills
Iowa	34.2 mills	North Lake Charles	21.0 mills
Vinton	27.7 mills	Southeast Lake Charles	13.0 mills
Bell City	19.4 mills	<b>Southwest Lake Charles</b>	<b>4.8 mills</b>

**5 Cost to Home Owners of Bond Issues if Passed (Per Month)**

Home Value	Proposition #1	Proposition #2
\$ 75, 000	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
\$150,000	\$ 4.67	\$ 2.58
\$225,000	\$ 9.34	\$ 5.16
\$300,000	\$ 14.01	\$ 7.74

**6 Message from S.J. Welsh Principal, Bobby Jack Thompson:**

S. J. Welsh Middle School is a diverse school which has the ability to offer a multi-faceted curriculum including two foreign languages and immersion, gifted program, differentiated music programs featuring beginner, intermediate, and advanced strings, orchestra and choir; not to mention our plethora of athletic opportunities. Our students are offered eight high school credit courses, can participate in a growing theatre program which we are hoping to expand, and an aerospace program complete with drones and a flight simulator with hours towards acquiring a pilot’s license. We strive to be responsive to our students and are currently looking into adding Mandarin to our foreign languages due to our growing international population. The most common concern we hear from stakeholders focuses on our size. For those in the community who question our size, we invite them to visit our school. They will find that we operate as a school within a school with all three grade levels operating independently of one another, embracing our size. We have manageable class sizes, and we welcome all the opportunity that comes with it. Our teachers are content specialists, and we boast a 95% teacher retention rate which indicates stability and educational excellence. The Leadership Team recognizes that downsizing our school by restructuring or organization would come with sacrificing all that we can offer because of our size.



Bobby Jack Thompson  
Principal

**7 Tax History of Bonding District 34**

The assessed taxable value of the bonding district changes each year based on businesses and houses entering or leaving the tax rolls, so there has not been a flat tax rate. Millages fluctuate each year based on the valuation.

Through the 1980s there was only one South Lake Charles bonding district, (22) and through those years the voters passed taxes to bring the millage as high as 36 mills in 1991. In the early 2000s, the South Lake Charles districts were separated into 33 (LaGrange) and 34 (Barbe) and the District 22 millage phased out completely by 2010. When the last District 34 bond issue passed in 2002, the total millage paid on outstanding debt was 21.7 mills. The millage paid by District 34 voters then reached another peak of 29.6 mills in 2005.

As of June 30, 2017, the remaining debt from the 2002 bond issue is \$16,590,000 for bonds sold in 2002, 2004, and 2005 at our average borrowing rate of 2-3%. Currently because of increasing taxable value and the rolling off of old taxes the millage in District 34 is 4.8 mills. If both 2017 propositions pass, millage would reach estimated high of 16.5 mills and would begin declining again in 2022 or earlier if assessed valuation continues to grow.

