

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 177

BY SENATOR GARY SMITH

A RESOLUTION

To commend Larry Bourgeois Jr., upon his retirement after thirty-four years of extraordinary service at St. Joan of Arc Catholic School in LaPlace, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Larry Bourgeois is a native of Garyville, Louisiana, and a graduate of St. Peter Catholic School and Riverside Academy in Reserve; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from Nicholls State University in 1980 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in secondary school social studies, with a minor in English, and was employed at St. Joan of Arc Catholic School, a kindergarten through eighth grade school; and

WHEREAS, Larry Bourgeois continued his education while teaching at SJA, which currently teaches children age three (kindergarten) through eighth grade, and received his Master of Education degree in administration and supervision from Nicholls State University in 1990; and

WHEREAS, he obtained additional certifications from the Archdiocese of New Orleans Office of Religious Education as an elementary school catechist and received certification in the course *The Principal as Spiritual Leader*; and

WHEREAS, Larry Bourgeois has served as a teacher for fourteen years, as assistant principal for five years, and as principal for eight years at SJA; and

WHEREAS, in the mid-1990's he was a member of the Archdiocese Office of Middle School Task Force which introduced leveled classes, individualized scheduling, and exploratory classes at SJA and other Catholic middle schools and SJA remains the only school in the river parishes to offer these programs; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure at SJA, Larry Bourgeois established the student council, which he has guided since its establishment fifteen years ago, and SJA is one of the few schools in the river parishes which maintains the student government as an active member of the Louisiana Association of Student Councils; and

WHEREAS, he serves as a member of the Archdiocese of New Orleans office of

Catholic Schools' Principals' Steering Committee for Best Standards and as cohort leader for the six Catholic elementary schools in the river parishes area; and

WHEREAS, Larry Bourgeois also represents the Catholic elementary schools of the river parishes as their moderator on the Principals' Committee for the Catholic Schools Athletic League; and

WHEREAS, he maintains active membership in the National Catholic Educators Association, the National Council for Social Studies, the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, the National Geographic Society, the Louisiana Middle School Association, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, Phi Alpha Theta, Phi Kappa Phi, and Kappa Delta Phi; and

WHEREAS, a life-long love for history and the theater, led Larry Bourgeois to become a member of the River Road Historical Society and the Friends of the St. John Theatre at their inception twenty-five years ago and his membership continues to this day; and

WHEREAS, he is a parishioner of St. Peter Catholic Church in Reserve, where he has been a member of the Msgr. Jean Eyraud Knights of Columbus Council #3426 for over thirty years; and

WHEREAS, Larry Bourgeois is a fourth degree Knight in the Archbishop Blenk Knights of Columbus Assembly and he serves as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at both St. Peter Church in Reserve and St. Joan of Arc Church in LaPlace.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Larry Bourgeois upon his retirement after thirty-four years of extraordinary service at St. Joan of Arc Catholic School in LaPlace, Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Larry Bourgeois Jr. through St. Joan of Arc Catholic School in LaPlace.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE