School Board seeks short-term loan

Acadiana bureau

CENTERVILLE — The St. Mary Parish School Board learned Thursday that it may have to borrow from local banks to meet its Dec. 19 payroll.

Superintendent of Education Evans Medine asked the board’s permission to approach “local financial institutions” and pursue a $1.5 million short-term loan.

Medine said the state told him that funds for the Minimum Foundation Program may be delayed.

“They claim the money may not come till after Christmas, or at least a five- or six-day delay,” Medine said.

Any short-term loan would be repaid when the state funds are received, he said.

On another matter, the Finance Committee has decided to delay making any recommendations on salary cuts or layoffs during the current budget crisis, Chairman Wayne Deslatte said.

Deslatte said the committee will wait until the end of the special legislative session before making any decisions.

Also, four of the 15 board members participated in the final meeting of their terms Thursday. All but those four members of the board were re-elected to their positions during the last School Board election.

Board President Carroll Thorguson chose not to seek re-election, while members Paul Conner, Alden Vinning Jr. and John Cart Jr. were defeated in their re-election bids.

The new board will be sworn into office at the first regular meeting in January.