



**MEDIA ALERT**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Wednesday, April 26, 2017**

The Metairie Business Development District (Metairie BDD), Jefferson Chamber Foundation (JCF) & Fat City Friends invite the media to come see Grace King students painting 56 linear feet of murals real time. Once complete these murals will be installed along the Entergy substation located at Edenborn and West Esplanade. **\*On Tuesday May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11:30 AM until 12:45 PM located at Grace King School gymnasium (4301 Grace King Pl, Metairie, LA 70002), the media is invited to come take pictures of students at work painting these murals.\*** These murals will be installed once construction has been completed on the Edenborn drainage project.

*“The fence murals are yet another sign of the creativity and vitality blossoming in the new Fat City,” said Jefferson Parish District 5 Councilwoman Jennifer Van Vrancken.*

On Monday, November 14, 2016, representatives of Entergy presented a check to the Metairie Business Development District and the Jefferson Chamber Foundation for an improvement project in the Fat City area. The project, which began in January, will involve installation of murals along the Entergy substation at the corner of West Esplanade and Edenborn Ave. The new panels will have murals designed and painted by members of the Grace King High School’s gifted art classes, supervised by instructor Tracey Bullington.

Sixteen students from Grace King’s talented visual art program were chosen to participate in the project and spent months brainstorming, sketching, and revising their designs for the mural’s seven panels. Students chose to represent the people, animals and scenes that, in their opinions, make Fat City unique and memorable. Students are working in small groups and have each been assigned a panel to complete, although they are also carefully considering how the panels look together as one complete and cohesive design. Students are expected to finish the mural by the end of the school year in May. The following are the students who are involved in the project: *Maria Ballesteros, Syed Basit, Jezelle Burton, Crystal Chen, Chase Cunningham, Amber Drumm, Helana Gegenheimer, Demir Hajdarevic, Emily Kuylen, Ja'Diah McCray, Tiffany Perdomo, Elaina Profit, Anna Sanabria, L Speziale, Kelsea Trecek, and Xiao Zhang.*

Entergy provided \$10,000.00 for the installation of the murals, art supplies, and weatherproofing to ensure that the murals will last for years to come. The MBDD, JCF & Fat City Friends are funding the remainder of the project and Helm Paint & Supply has provided the paint and other equipment free of charge.

**Background of Metairie Business Development District (Metairie BDD) - [www.MetairieBDD.com](http://www.MetairieBDD.com)**

The Metairie Business Development District, a group that focuses on infrastructure improvements and economic development in Metairie, coordinated this project in cooperation with the Jefferson Chamber Foundation. This fence replacement is another project that will revitalize the Fat City area and include local artists in the process. For more information on the Metairie Business Development District, you can visit their Facebook page [Metairie BDD Facebook Page Link](#).

**Questions**

If you have any questions please contact Metairie BDD Project Manager, Warren M Surcouf III, at (504) 237-3800 or [warren@MetairieBDD.com](mailto:warren@MetairieBDD.com).