

Pay increase approved for state Superintendent Picard

BATON ROUGE (AP) — The state's top school board on Thursday approved a hefty pay raise for the new superintendent of education.

The contract for state Sen.

Cecil Picard provides him an annual salary of \$115,000, a car and an additional \$12,000 annual allowance for housing and other expenses.

Picard was selected by the

Board of Elementary and Secondary Education last month to replace Raymond Arveson, who is retiring. Arveson received \$95,000 as superintendent, but did not receive a hous-

ing allowance.

Picard, a former teacher coach and principal who has served in the Legislature since 1976, is slated to begin the job July 1.