

SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGAL STATUS

The Terrebonne Parish School Board derives its legal status from the State Legislature, which is subject to the Constitutions of the State of Louisiana and the United States. The Legislature has been granted authority for creation of school boards by Article VIII, Section 9 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 which states: "...The legislature shall create parish school boards and provide for the election of their members..." School boards, in turn, have been empowered to create school districts or attendance areas of the parish as a whole or any part thereof.

Terrebonne Parish, including the city of Houma, is organized into one consolidated school district known as *Consolidated School District Number One* of the Parish of Terrebonne. The school district is under the exclusive control and management of the Terrebonne Parish School Board, a body duly authorized by the State Legislature. Consequently, the Board is responsible for the general administration and supervision of the Parish schools and shall operate the school system in accordance with all applicable constitutional and statutory provisions. Responsibility for interpreting these provisions shall lie with the School Board, except where formal interpretation of such provisions has been made by the courts or other constituted authority.

Ref: U.S. Const. Amend. X; U.S. Const. Amend XIV, Sec. 1; Constitution of Louisiana, Art. VIII, Sec. 9; La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§17:51, 17:1371, 17:1371.1, 17:1372, 17:1373, 17:1377; Ordinance #370, February 24, 1931; Wisconsin v. Yoder, 92 S.Ct. 1526 (1972); Milliken v. Bradley, 94 S.Ct. 3112 (1974); Dayton Board of Education v. Brinkman, 97 S.Ct. 2755 (1977); Hawthorne v. Jackson Parish School Board, 5 La. App. 508 (1927).