

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE TERREBONNE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

January 8, 2019

The Terrebonne Parish School Board met today at 6:00 P.M. in regular session at its regular meeting place, the Terrebonne Parish School Board Office, 201 Stadium Drive, Houma, Louisiana, with Mr. Roger Dale DeHart, president, presiding, and the following members present: Mr. Michael T. LaGarde, Mr. Gregory Harding, Mr. Matthew J. Ford, Mrs. Debi Benoit, Mrs. Stacy V. Solet, Mr. Clyde F. Hamner, Dr. MayBelle N. Trahan, and Mr. Dane Voisin.

ABSENT: None

President DeHart led the Board and audience in the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Paul W. Fournier, Jr., retired former Terrebonne Parish School Superintendent and Educator; Jeanne B. Zaleski, retired school teacher; Richard Grabert, retired school teacher, and Katherine Bowens, retired school teacher, who recently passed away.

At this time, the following School Board Members were administered the Oath of Office by the Honorable Matthew H. Hagen, Terrebonne Parish City Court Judge, for a four-year term beginning this date and ending December 31, 2022:

District 1 – Mr. Michael T. LaGarde  
District 2 – Mr. Gregory Harding  
District 3 – Mr. Matthew J. Ford  
District 4 – Mrs. Debi Benoit  
District 5 – Mrs. Stacy V. Solet  
District 6 – Mr. Clyde F. Hamner  
District 7 – Mr. Roger Dale DeHart  
District 8 – Dr. MayBelle N. Trahan  
District 9 – Mr. Dane Voisin

President DeHart, at this time, announced that he had a special acknowledgment for Mrs. Ramona Brunet, Executive Assistant to the Board. President DeHart then presented a plaque to Mrs. Brunet in recognition for her dedicated service and contribution to the Terrebonne Parish School District and its Board.

President DeHart then announced that the first order of business was the election of the president and vice president of the Terrebonne Parish School Board for a one-year term beginning this date.

Mr. Harding placed in nomination for the presidency the name of Mrs. Debi Benoit.

Mr. Ford placed in nomination for the presidency the name of Mr. Roger Dale DeHart.

Motion of Mr. Hamner, seconded by Mrs. Solet, unanimously carried, the nominations for the office of president were closed.

A roll call vote having been taken for the election of the president, the vote thereon was as follows:

For Mrs. Debi Benoit – Mr. LaGarde, Mr. Harding, Mrs. Benoit, Mrs. Solet, Mr. Hamner, Dr. Trahan, and Mr. Voisin

For Mr. Roger Dale DeHart – Mr. Ford and Mr. DeHart

Mrs. Debi Benoit was declared elected president of the Terrebonne Parish School Board for a one-year term beginning this date.

President Benoit announced that nominations were open for the office of vice president of the Board for a one-year term beginning this date.

Mr. Hamner placed in nomination for the vice presidency the name of Mrs. Stacy Solet.

Motion of Mr. Voisin, seconded by Mrs. Solet, unanimously carried, the nominations for the office of vice president were closed.

A roll call vote having been taken for the election of the vice president, the vote thereon was as follows:

For Mrs. Stacy Solet – Mr. LaGarde, Mr. Harding, Mr. Ford, Mrs. Benoit, Mrs. Solet, Mr. Hamner, Mr. DeHart, Dr. Trahan, and Mr. Voisin

Mrs. Stacy Solet was declared elected vice president of the Terrebonne Parish School Board for a one-year term beginning this date.

Several announcements were made by President Benoit relative to upcoming meetings.

The Executive Committee report was presented to the Board.

Motion of Mr. DeHart, seconded by Mr. Voisin, unanimously carried, the Board received the following report of the Executive Committee in its entirety:

Dear Members of the Board:

The **Executive Committee** met at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, December 18, 2018, in the Board Room of the School Board Office with the following members present: Mr. Roger Dale DeHart, president, Ms. Vicki Bonvillain, vice president, and Mr. L. P. Bordelon, III. Also in attendance were Mr. Donald Duplantis, Superintendent Philip Martin, and Mrs. Rebecca Breaux, Chief Financial Officer.

The meeting began with an invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**The Executive Committee** examined and authorized payment of invoices for the current month (including supplemental payroll and travel expenses).

**The Executive Committee** addressed member concerns.

There being no further business to come before the **Executive Committee**, the meeting was adjourned at 5:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Roger Dale DeHart, President

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Vicki Bonvillain, Vice President

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L. P. Bordelon, III

BB/bp

The Executive Committee report was concluded.

Motion of Dr. Trahan, seconded by Mr. Hamner, unanimously carried, the Board adopted the following Banking and Investment Resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 1896**

**Whereas** in a regular session of the Terrebonne Parish School Board held on January 8, 2019, the Board, by viva voce vote, elected Mrs. Debi Benoit to serve as president of the Terrebonne Parish School Board for the one-year term beginning this date;

**Whereas** in a regular session of the Terrebonne Parish School Board held on January 20, 2009, the Board, by viva voce vote, appointed Mr. Philip Martin to serve as Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer of the Terrebonne Parish School Board beginning January 20, 2009;

**Whereas** Mr. Philip Martin, on January 20, 2009, upon furnishing bond as required by law, did assume the office and functions of Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer of the Terrebonne Parish School Board; and

**Whereas** on January 8, 2019, Mrs. Debi Benoit, upon furnishing bond as required by law, did assume the office and functions of president of the Terrebonne Parish School Board; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved** that copies of this resolution, certified by the Secretary of the Terrebonne Parish School Board, be furnished to any and all interested parties, including fiscal depositories, directing and authorizing said institutions to grant full faith and credit to the acts and signatures of Mr. Philip Martin as Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer of the Terrebonne Parish School Board and Mrs. Debi Benoit as president of the Terrebonne Parish School Board;

**Resolved** that all fiscal depositories are directed and authorized to honor negotiable instruments drawn upon the accounts of the Terrebonne Parish School Board bearing the facsimile signature of Mr. Philip Martin and Mr. Roger Dale DeHart until such time as a signature plate bearing the facsimile signatures of both Mrs. Debi Benoit and Mr. Philip Martin is procured and placed into service;

**Resolved** that the Superintendent, Chief Financial Officer, or the duly authorized subordinate employee of each or any of the foregoing appointed officers be and is authorized to individually conduct and transact the business of purchasing, redeeming, or reinvesting certificates of deposit and other types of interest-bearing investments, as well as pledging matters and wire transfers relating thereto;

**Resolved** that the Superintendent, Chief Financial Officer, or the duly authorized subordinate employee of each or any of the foregoing appointed officers be and is authorized and directed to accept physical custody of such interest-bearing investments and monetary

returns on same in the name and on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish School Board; and be it further

**Resolved** that said Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer be and are authorized to release any safekeeping receipt and/or security pledged to the Terrebonne Parish School Board provided that each release will bear the signatures of both of the above authorized individuals.

Motion of Mr. DeHart, unanimously seconded, unanimously carried, the Board approved the following resolution recognizing January 2019 as "Local School Board Member Recognition Month" in the State of Louisiana:

### **RESOLUTION**

#### **Louisiana School Board Recognition Month January 2019**

**Whereas** the education of Louisiana's school-aged children is the foundation upon which the economic, social and intellectual capital of our state is built;

**Whereas** locally elected school boards play an important and vital role in a representative democracy, and decisions made by local boards of education directly influence instruction in Louisiana's public schools;

**Whereas** these decisions affect the present and future lives of children, and also set direction to prepare all students to be competitive in a local, state, national, and global 21<sup>st</sup> century economy;

**Whereas** local school board members work with parents, businesses, education professionals, all elected officials and other community members to create the educational visions we want for our students;

**Whereas** this year's theme – **SCHOOL BOARDS MATTER!** - reflects the relevance of local school board members as they advocate for public education with local, state, and federal leaders; and

**Whereas** School Board Recognition Month provides an opportunity to build stronger relationships between the thousands of people in Louisiana who champion the mission of public education and school board members; now, therefore be it

**Resolved**, the Terrebonne Parish School Board recognizes the contributions of the state's local school boards to the academic success of its public school students and expresses its sincerest recognition to the local school board members for their focus on the well-being and achievement of children throughout the state; further

**Resolved**, the Terrebonne Parish School Board declares January 2019 as School Board Member Recognition Month and encourages local school districts and community leaders to appropriately recognize our state's dedicated school board members; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to all local media contacts and Terrebonne Parish public schools and office buildings.

Motion of Mr. DeHart, seconded by Mr. Harding, unanimously carried, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting **(6:40 P.M.)**.

/s/ Philip Martin, Secretary

/s/ Debi Benoit, President

RLB