

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TERREBONNE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

December 16, 2003

The Terrebonne Parish School Board met today at 7:00 P.M. in regular session at its regular meeting place, the Terrebonne Parish School Board Office, 201 Stadium Drive, Houma, Louisiana, with Mr. Clark J. Bonvillain, President, presiding, and the following members present: Mr. L. P. Bordelon, III, Vice-President; Mr. Roosevelt Thomas, Mr. Gregory Harding, Mr. Richard Jackson, Mr. Rickie Pitre, Mr. Roger Dale DeHart, Mr. Donald Duplantis, and Mr. Hayes Badeaux.

ABSENT: None

Mr. Bordelon led the Board and audience in the opening prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Victoria Porter, retired custodian, and Elvine Hotard, retired teacher, who recently passed away.

Motion of Mr. Badeaux, seconded by Mr. Duplantis, unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes of the School Board meeting of December 2, 2003, as recorded.

Ms. Bernadette Pickett, Assistant District Attorney representing Mr. Joseph Waitz, Jr., District Attorney, addressed the Board regarding "Truancy Reduction Intervention Program."

The Buildings, Food Service, and Transportation Committee report was presented to the Board with Mr. DeHart, Chairman, presiding:

Dear Members of the Board:

The **Buildings, Food Service, and Transportation Committee** met on Monday, December 8, 2003, at 5:00 P. M. in the Board Room of the School Board Office, 201 Stadium Drive, with the following members present: Mr. Roger Dale DeHart, Chairman, and Mr. Rickie Pitre, Vice-Chairman. Mr. Gregory Harding was absent. Others in attendance were Mr. Clark J. Bonvillain, President; Mr. L. P. Bordelon, III, Vice-President; Mr. Donald Duplantis, Mr. Richard Jackson, Superintendent Elizabeth Scurto, and members of the staff.

Mr. DeHart called the meeting to order. The meeting began with the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Committee addressed the substantial completion of the Dularge Elementary School roof project.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

The Committee recommends that the Board approve the substantial completion of the Dularge Elementary School roof project, subject to the punch list, authorize the Board President to sign the necessary documents pertaining thereto, and upon completion of the punch list items, final inspection, and receipt of the lien-free certificate, authorize the release of retainage.

The Committee addressed the substantial completion of the Grand Caillou Elementary School main electrical distribution panel replacement project.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

The Committee recommends that the Board approve the substantial completion of the Grand Caillou Elementary School main electrical distribution

panel replacement project, subject to the punch list, authorize the Board President to sign the necessary documents pertaining thereto, and upon completion of the punch list items, final inspection, and receipt of the lien-free certificate, authorize the release of retainage.

The Committee deviated from the agenda to address a decreasing change order for the Grand Caillou Elementary School main electrical distribution panel replacement project.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3

The Committee recommends that the Board approve a decreasing change order for the Grand Caillou Elementary School main electrical distribution panel replacement project in the amount of \$300.00, decreasing the contract price of Rodrigue's Electric, Inc., from \$65,400.00 to \$65,100.00, and authorize the Board President to sign all necessary documents pertaining thereto.

Mr. Davis addressed an amendment to the sewer service contract.

RECOMMENATION NO. 4

The Committee recommends that the Board approve an amendment to the current sewer services contract with S.T.A.T. Waste Stream Services, Inc. to perform weekly services to the bus wash drainage system (including the oil/water separator and lift station) and the newly-installed 6000 GPD surge tank installed at South Terrebonne High School, in lieu of previous services performed on two sewer plants that were removed at the auxiliary services complex, at no additional cost to the Board, and further, authorize the Board President to sign all necessary documents pertaining thereto.

Superintendent Scurto addressed the Comprehensive Facility Master Plan. No action was taken on this matter.

Mr. DeHart and Mr. Pitre addressed an update of school-by-school maintenance needs and requested that the Superintendent provide the Committee with a list of the maintenance needs of schools developed in the Spring of 2003.

The Committee was presented with a monthly update on projects and maintenance issues.

There being no further business to come before the **Buildings, Food Service, and Transportation Committee**, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Roger Dale DeHart, Chairman

/s/ Rickie Pitre, Vice-Chairman

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. Pitre, unanimously carried, the Board approved the substantial completion of the Dularge Elementary School roof project, subject to the punch list, authorized the Board President to sign the necessary documents pertaining thereto, and upon completion of the punch list items, final inspection, and receipt of the lien-free certificate, authorize release of retainage.

Motion of Mr. Bordelon, seconded by Mr. Bonvillain, unanimously carried, the Board approved the substantial completion of the Grand Caillou Elementary School main electrical distribution panel replacement project, subject to the punch list, authorized the Board President to sign the necessary documents pertaining thereto, and upon completion of the punch list items, final inspection, and receipt of the lien-free certificate, authorize release of retainage.

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. Thomas, unanimously carried, the Board approved a decreasing change order for the Grand Caillou Elementary School main electrical distribution panel replacement project in the amount of \$300.00, decreasing the contract price of Rodrigue's Electric, Inc., from \$65,400.00 to \$65,100.00, and authorized the Board President to sign all necessary documents pertaining thereto.

Motion of Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Pitre, unanimously carried, the Board approved an amendment to the current sewer services contract with S.T.A.T. Waste Stream Services, Inc. to perform weekly services to the bus wash drainage system (including the oil/water separator and lift station) and the newly-installed 6000 GPD surge tank installed at South Terrebonne High School, in lieu of previous services performed on two sewer plants that were removed at the auxiliary services complex, at no additional cost to the Board, and further, authorized the Board President to sign all necessary documents pertaining thereto.

Superintendent Elizabeth Scurto addressed the Board regarding the Comprehensive Facility Master Plan.

Mr. Duplantis moved, seconded by Mr. Bordelon, that the Board issue a "Notice to Proceed" (as per existing architectural contract agreement) to the Merlin Group, LTD to proceed with plans and specifications for the Comprehensive Facilities Survey for Future Educational Planning and Renovations and/or New Construction Estimates at all sites of the Terrebonne Parish School District, establish a budget not to exceed \$165,000.00, with monies to be derived from the General Fund, and further, authorize the Board President to sign all necessary documents pertaining thereto.

Mr. Merlin Lirette, Architect, addressed the Board regarding the foregoing motion.

Following a lengthy discussion, a roll call vote having been called for on the motion, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Thomas, Mr. Harding, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Bordelon, and Mr. Duplantis

NAYS: Mr. Pitre, Mr. Bonvillain, Mr. DeHart, and Mr. Badeaux

ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

The Buildings, Food Service, and Transportation Committee report was concluded, and the President reassumed the chair.

The following partial report of the Finance, Insurance, and Section 16 Lands Committee was presented to the Board with Mr. Duplantis, Chairman, presiding:

Dear Members of the Board:

The FINANCE, INSURANCE, and SECTION 16 LANDS COMMITTEE met in the Board Room of the School Board Office, 201 Stadium Drive, at 5:00 P.M. on Monday, December 15, 2003, with the following members present: Mr. Donald Duplantis, Chairman; Mr. L. P. Bordelon, III, Vice-Chairman; and Mr. Hayes Badeaux. Also in attendance were Mr. Clark Bonvillain, President, Mr. Richard Jackson, Mr. Rickie Pitre, Mr. Roosevelt Thomas, Superintendent Elizabeth Scurto, and members of the staff.

Mr. Duplantis called the meeting to order. The meeting began with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following is a **partial report** of the Committee meeting.

Mr. Jack Moore addressed the Committee relative to the proposed Group Health Plan (copies attached) indicating that a savings of some 2.5 million dollars is needed in the Group Insurance Fund. He stated that this can be achieved by either adding additional dollars or reducing the cost to the Insurance Fund.

A general discussion ensued.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

The Committee recommends, with the exception of Mr. Badeaux who objected, that the Board accept an Exclusive Provider Network ("EPO") that will provide for lower medical costs and greater benefits (85/15), while continuing benefits to the American Lifecare provider network (70/30) and non-network providers (50/50), effective January 1, 2004, with a transition period ending January 31, 2004, allowing employees opportunity to select an appropriate "EPO" provider(s), and authorize the Board President to sign all necessary documents pertaining thereto, and further, that this recommendation be reported at the December 16, 2003, Board meeting.

Mr. Herbert Carreker gave a brief history of the current telephone system at the schools. He indicated a need to improve and that the current system has reached its maximum capacity with many school sites not having the hardware to accommodate additional expansion. He also stated that for the first time the ability of obtaining E-Rate funding is possible with Form 470 to be filed and a Request for Proposal (RFP) has to be released advertising such. The system will have until late January to determine whether or not to proceed for E-Rate funding and to determine the School Board's share.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

The Committee recommends that the Board authorize the Purchasing Department to advertise for Request for Proposals to upgrade the telephone systems for school sites and report back to the School Board at the January 20, 2004, meeting; further, that a partial report be presented to the Board at the December 16, 2003, meeting.

Mr. Chris Babin and Mr. Carreker explained the need for an RFP relative to efforts to upgrade and bring the district's school technology plan into compliance with state requirements with the necessity to purchase certain technology equipment as it relates to obtaining possible E-Rate funding.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3

The Committee recommends that the Board authorize the Purchasing Department to advertise for Request for Proposals (RFP) to purchase equipment to upgrade equipment for the school computer network and report back to the School Board at the January 20, 2004, meeting; further, that a partial report be presented to the Board at the December 16, 2003, meeting.

Mr. Harris Henry then reported on the 2003-2004 Consolidated Drive collection. He stated that the participation was satisfactory and exceeded the suggested set quota.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4

The Committee recommends that the 2003-2004 Consolidated Drive collection of \$11,931.42 be distributed in the same manner as 2002 whereby, the American Red Cross receives one-half of the collections and of that one-half the adult collections are distributed to the adult chapter of the American Red Cross and the remaining amount to the Junior Red Cross Chapter; the remaining one-half then equally divided among the attached list of participating

organizations as per Board action of December 6, 1994, and further, authorize the distribution of the Consolidated Drive collections.

A final report of the Committee meeting will be presented to the Board at its January 6, 2004, meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Donald Duplantis, Chairman
 /s/ L. P. Bordelon, Vice-Chairman
 /s/ Hayes Badeaux

Mr. Bordelon moved, seconded by Mr. Harding, that the Board accept an Exclusive Provider Network ("EPO") that will provide for lower medical costs and greater benefits (85/15), while continuing benefits to the American Lifecare provider network (70/30) and non-network providers (50/50), effective January 1, 2004, with a transition period ending January 31, 2004, allowing employees opportunity to select an appropriate "EPO" provider(s), and authorize the Board President to sign all necessary documents pertaining thereto.

Mr. Badeaux, seconded by Mr. Bonvillain, offered a substitute motion, that the Board adopt an Exclusive Provider network (EPO), that would be offered to all American Lifecare (ALC) providers, regardless of location, providing for lower medical costs and greater benefits (85/15), with benefits for ALC providers that do not participate in the EPO (70/30) and non-network providers (50/50), effective 1/1/04, with a transition period ending 1/31/04, allowing employees the opportunity to select an appropriate EPO provider, authorize the Board President to sign all necessary documents pertaining thereto, and further, authorize the staff to immediately begin formulation of a Request for Proposal relative to the Group Health and Life benefit programs.

Mr. Jack Moore, Risk Manager, addressed the Board regarding the foregoing motions.

A roll call vote having been called for on the substitute motion, the vote thereon, was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Thomas, Mr. Harding, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Bonvillain, Mr. Bordelon, Mr. Duplantis, and Mr. Badeaux

NAYS: Mr. Pitre and Mr. DeHart

ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the substitute motion carried.

Motion of Mr. Badeaux, seconded by Mr. Jackson, unanimously carried, the Board authorized the Purchasing Department to advertise for Request for Proposals to upgrade the telephone systems for school sites and report back to the Board on January 20, 2004.

Motion of Mr. Badeaux, seconded by Mr. Jackson, unanimously carried, the Board authorized the Purchasing Department to advertise for Request for Proposals (RFP) to purchase equipment to upgrade equipment for the school computer network and report back to the Board on January 20, 2004.

Motion of Mr. Bordelon, seconded by Mr. Bonvillain, unanimously carried, the Board authorized the distribution of the 2003-2004 Consolidated Drive collection of \$11,931.42 in the same manner as 2002 whereby, the American Red Cross receives one-half of the collections and of that one-half the adult collections are distributed to the adult chapter of the American Red Cross and the remaining amount to the Junior Red Cross Chapter; and the remaining one-half then equally divided among the list presented of participating organizations, as per Board action of December 6, 1994.

At this time, the partial report of the Finance, Insurance, and Section 16 Lands Committee was concluded, and the President reassumed the chair and presided for the remainder of the proceedings.

Motion of Mr. DeHart, seconded by Mr. Duplantis, unanimously carried, the Board approved a request to allow Mr. Glynn Dagenhardt and Ms. Tara Lugibihl, Instrumental Music Teachers at Houma Jr. High School, to attend the Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Illinois, December 17-20, 2003 (Wednesday-Saturday), in accordance with Policy (FILE: F-11.2), expenses to be borne by the teachers.

Motion of Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Jackson, unanimously carried, the Board approved a request to allow Ms. Tess Daigle (principal), Ms. Angie Broussard (teacher), and Ms. Valerie Shaw (librarian), West Park School, to attend the Accelerated School Conference in Charleston, South Carolina, January 30-31, 2004 (Friday-Saturday), in accordance with Policy (FILE: F-11.2), expenses to be borne by NCLB Title I Fund.

Motion of Mr. Bordelon, seconded by Mr. Thomas, unanimously carried, the Board authorized the Purchasing Department to advertise for bids for approximately eighty-six (86) Accelscan Serial Scanners, funding to be derived from LQEA 8(g) Block Grant Funds.

Ms. Cindy Hebert, Educational Technology Facilitator, addressed the Board regarding the foregoing motion.

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. Thomas, unanimously carried, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting (8:30 P.M.).

/s/ Elizabeth Scurto, Secretary
President

/s/ Clark J. Bonvillain,

RLB