

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE TERREBONNE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

APRIL 20, 2004

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

Ms. Wanda Rhodes led the Board and audience in the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Mr. Robert "Bob" LeBlanc, former School Board Member, who recently passed away.

President Bonvillain recognized Mr. Peter Rhodes, Council Vice-Chairman and former School Board Member; Mr. Wayne Thibodeaux, Councilman; and Rev. Arthur Verrett, Jr., former School Board Member, who were in attendance at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Wayne Thibodeaux, Councilman, addressed the Board regarding: Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government-Sponsored 2004 Summer Camp Programs and Sites, the Terrebonne Parish School Board's Apparent Unwillingness to Collaborate and Participate, and Discussion of any and all Existing Cooperative Endeavor Agreement(s), Indemnification Agreement(s), and Reciprocity Agreement(s) between the Two Entities.

Mr. Peter Rhodes and Rev. Arthur Verrett, Jr. addressed the Board regarding the foregoing issue.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. Harding, unanimously carried, the Board requested that the foregoing issue, as presented by Mr. Thibodeaux, relative to the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government-Sponsored 2004 Summer Camp Programs and Sites, be brought to the next Finance, Insurance, and Section 16 Lands Committee meeting on April 26, 2004, for cost analysis.

The following Education and Policy Committee report was presented to the Board with Mr. Badeaux, Chairman, presiding:

Dear Members of the Board:

The Education and Policy Committee met on Monday, April 5, 2004, at 5:00 P.M., in the Board Room of the School Board Office with the following members present: Mr. Hayes Badeaux, Chairman, Mr. Rickie Pitre, Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Richard Jackson. Also in attendance were Mr. L. P. Bordelon, III, Vice-President, Superintendent Elizabeth Scurto, and members of the staff.

Superintendent Scurto presented information to the Committee regarding the State Department of Education's approval of the district's response to the Corrective Action Improvement Plan on the recent monitoring of the local Special Education Department (see attachment).

### RECOMMENDATION #1:

The Committee received the foregoing information, as presented by Superintendent Scurto, relative to the State Department of Education's

approval of the District's response to the Corrective Action Improvement Plan on the recent monitoring of the local Special Education Department, and requested that said information be forwarded to the full Board.

Ms. Pamela Lemoine, Supervisor of Elementary and Secondary Education, presented information to the Committee regarding moving third grade from Dularge Elementary School to Dularge Middle School.

**RECOMMENDATION #2:**

The Committee recommends that the issue regarding moving third grade from Dularge Elementary School to Dularge Middle School be brought to the full Board.

There being no further business to come before the Education and Policy Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Hayes Badeaux, Chairman  
/s/ Rickie Pitre, Vice-Chairman  
/s/ Richard Jackson

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. Jackson, unanimously carried, the Board received and accepted the information, as presented by Superintendent Scurto, relative to the State Department of Education's approval of the District's response to the Corrective Action Improvement Plan on the recent monitoring of the local Special Education Department.

Motion of Mr. DeHart, seconded by Mr. Jackson, unanimously carried, the Board accepted the request of the Committee to bring the issue regarding moving third grade from Dularge Elementary School to Dularge Middle School to the full Board for discussion.

Motion of Mr. DeHart, seconded by Mr. Jackson, unanimously carried, the Board authorized the Superintendent and staff to move third grade from Dularge Elementary School to Dularge Middle School, effective with the 2004-2005 school session.

The Education and Policy Committee report was concluded, and the President reassumed the chair and presided for the remainder of the proceedings.

Motion of Mr. DeHart, unanimously seconded, unanimously carried, the Board approved the following resolution acknowledging May 2-8, 2004, as Teacher Appreciation Week:

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, The week of May 2-8, 2004, has been designated as Teacher Appreciation Week; and

**WHEREAS**, Teachers are dedicated to promoting quality instruction for all students; and

**WHEREAS**, Teachers mold the minds and influence the lives of thousands of youngsters each year; and

**WHEREAS**, Teachers prepare students for a happy and successful role in society; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Terrebonne Parish School Board hereby acknowledges the week of May 2-8, 2004, as Teacher Appreciation Week and extends heartfelt thanks and appreciation to teachers throughout the district; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to all Terrebonne Parish Public Schools and departments.

Motion of Mr. Badeaux, seconded by Mr. Duplantis, unanimously carried, the Board approved a request to allow Ms. Melanie Boulet, teacher at Montegut Middle School, to attend a conference on "Using Brain Research to Improve Child Learning, ADHD, Mood, Memory, & Health" in Cambridge, Massachusetts, April 29-May 1, 2004 (Thursday-Saturday), in accordance with Policy (FILE: F-11.2), expenses to be paid by Ms. Boulet.

Motion of Mr. DeHart seconded by Mr. Thomas, unanimously carried, the Board approved a request to allow Ms. Brenda Bergeron, Operation MOVE I Program Manger in the Federal Department, to attend the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers' Summer Institute in Los Angeles, California, July 21-23, 2004 (Wednesday-Friday), in accordance with Policy (FILE: F-11.2), expenses to be paid by Operation MOVE I Fund.

Superintendent Scurto announced, at this time, that she was postponing the personnel appointment for the position of Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance, due to the fact that the list of applicants had not been sent to School Board Members in a timely fashion.

Mr. Harding moved, seconded by Mr. Badeaux, that the Board waive Policy (FILE: F-9.11 - Promotion) and allow Superintendent Scurto to present the personnel recommendation for the position of Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance.

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. Pitre, Mr. Bordelon, and Mr. Badeaux

**NAYS:** Mr. Bonvillain, Mr. DeHart, and Mr. Duplantis

**ABSENT:** None

The President declared the motion to waive Policy (FILE: F-9.11 - Promotion) carried.

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. Badeaux, with the exception of Mr. DeHart who objected, the Board approved the personnel appointment of Mr. Ernest Brown, Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance, as recommended by the Superintendent, effective April 21, 2004.

Motion of Mr. Bordelon, seconded by Mr. Thomas, with the exception of Mr. DeHart who objected, the Board approved the personnel appointment of Mr. Gerard Lotz, II, Principal at Andrew Price School, as recommended by the Superintendent, effective April 21, 2004.

Motion of Mr. DeHart, seconded by Mr. Jackson, unanimously carried, the Board approved a family and medical leave, in accordance with Policy (FILE: F-11.4a), for Ms. Rebecca Harding, teacher at Grand Caillou Elementary School, beginning April 19, 2004. through May 31, 2004.

Motion of Mr. Thomas, unanimously seconded, unanimously carried, the Board approved a military leave of absence, in accordance with Policy (FILE: F-11.7), for Mr. Todd Hargroder, teacher at East Street School, beginning April 19, 2004, for length of call to active service.

Motion of Mr. Bordelon, seconded by Mr. Jackson, unanimously carried, the Board approved a leave of absence without pay, in accordance with Policy (FILE: F-11.10) for Ms. Roxanne Thibodeaux, teacher at Houma Jr. High School, for the 2004-2005 school session.

President Bonvillain announced, at this time, that a letter from the Superintendent Search Committee had been placed at each School Board Member's desk and requested that said letter be spread across the minutes. He further stated that interviews for the "Superintendent Vacancy" will be conducted between May 11-20, 2004, and that the new Superintendent would be appointed June 1, 2004.

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. Thomas, unanimously carried, the Board, as requested by President Bonvillain, ordered the following letter received from the Superintendent Search Committee to be spread across the minutes:

April 8, 2004

Mr. Clark J. Bonvillain, President  
Terrebonne Parish School Board  
8608 Park Avenue  
Houma, LA 70360

Dear Mr. Bonvillain and Members of the Board:

The Superintendent Search Committee met on Thursday, April 8, 2004, at the Terrebonne Parish School Board Office, for the purpose of reviewing the application packets of candidates for the position of Superintendent.

The members of the Search Committee who were present at this meeting include: Philip Martin, Assistant Superintendent, and Chairman of the Search Committee; Linda Joseph, Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance; Gerald Picou, Supervisor of Federal Programs; and Louise Whipple, Assistant Supervisor of Personnel.

The Committee reviewed the application packets submitted by the following candidates:

- Susan Aysenne, Ed.D.
- Charles Michel, Ed.D.
- Edward Richard, Jr.

All application packets were received or postmarked by the deadline of March 31, 2004.

After careful review of the packets submitted, the Committee concludes that all three (3) candidates submitted application packets that included all components specified in Policy (FILE: C-3.3, Superintendent Election).

These components consisted of:

- 1) Current resume'
- 2) Transcripts from all colleges
- 3) Proof of Louisiana certification as Superintendent of Schools or equivalent out-of-state certification
- 4) Cover letter indicating motivation for seeking the position of Superintendent
- 5) Fingerprint card
- 6) At least three (3) educational essay questions regarding the current objectives of the school district to be answered by each applicant. Additionally, as required by policy, all applicants' references were confirmed.

Sincerely,

/s/ Philip Martin, Chairman  
Assistant Superintendent  
Instruction and Student Support Services

/s/ Linda Joseph  
Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance

/s/ Gerald Picou  
Supervisor of Federal Programs

/s/ Louise Whipple  
Assistant Supervisor of Personnel

PM/LJ/GP/LW/wl

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. Pitre, unanimously carried, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting (8:47 P.M.).

/s/ Elizabeth Scurto, Secretary  
President

/s/ Clark J. Bonvillain,

RLB