

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE TERREBONNE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

SEPTEMBER 23, 2014

The Terrebonne Parish School Board met today at **5:00 P.M.** in **Special 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. Richard Jackson, Vice-President, Mr. L. P. Bordelon, III, Mr. Donald Duplantis, and Mr. Hayes J. Badeaux.

ABSENT: Mr. Roosevelt Thomas, Mr. Gregory Harding, Ms. Debi Benoit, and Dr. Brenda Leroux Babin

Mr. Jackson led the Board and audience in the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

This special meeting of the Terrebonne Parish School Board was called for the sole purpose of conducting a tenure hearing in accordance with R.S. 17:493 for Ms. Kenya Lyons, tenured school bus operator in the Terrebonne Parish School System.

Acting as the hearing officer for the Board was Mr. Clayton "Sonny" Lovell, Board Attorney.

Acting as legal counsel for Superintendent Philip Martin and the administration was Mr. Alexander Crighton, III, Attorney.

At this time, following two announcements asking if Ms. Kenya Lyons was in attendance at this meeting, and receiving no response, it was duly noted for the record that Ms. Lyons was not present for this tenure hearing.

Mr. Clayton "Sonny" Lovell, Board Attorney, addressed the Board and stated that the tenure hearing should proceed in executive session. He further stated that had Ms. Kenya Lyons been in attendance at this special meeting she would have had the option to have the tenure hearing in public or executive session.

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. Jackson, unanimously carried, the Board voted to go into executive session, at this time (5:05 P.M.), relative to Ms. Kenya Lyons, tenured school bus operator in the Terrebonne Parish School System.

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. Bordelon, unanimously carried, the Board reconvened in special session (5:28 P.M.) with all members present, with the exception of Mr. Thomas and Mr. Harding who were absent. Ms. Benoit and Dr. Babin entered the meeting during executive session.

Mr. Duplantis moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, that the Terrebonne Parish School Board uphold the recommendation of Superintendent Philip Martin and terminate Ms. Kenya Lyons, tenured school bus operator in the Terrebonne Parish School System, effective at the beginning of the day on Wednesday, September 24, 2014, on the grounds of: a) Willful violation of the School Board's policy on the use of cellular telephones; b) Violation of La. R.S. 32:300.5; and c) Incompetence.

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

**YEAS:** Mr. Jackson, Ms. Benoit, Dr. Babin, Mr. Bordelon, Mr. DeHart, Mr. Duplantis, and Mr. Badeaux

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Mr. Thomas and Mr. Harding

President DeHart declared the foregoing motion carried: That the Terrebonne Parish School Board uphold the recommendation of Superintendent Philip Martin and terminate Ms. Kenya Lyons, tenured school bus operator in the Terrebonne Parish School System, effective at the beginning of the day on Wednesday, September 24, 2014, on the grounds of: a) Willful violation of the School Board's policy on the use of cellular telephones; b) Violation of La. R.S. 32:300.5; and c) Incompetence.

Dr. Babin moved, seconded by Mr. Bordelon, that the Board authorize Superintendent Philip Martin to send Ms. Kenya Lyons a Notice of Termination, immediately, according to the provisions of La. R.S. 17:493.

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

**YEAS:** Mr. Jackson, Ms. Benoit, Dr. Babin, Mr. Bordelon, Mr. DeHart, Mr. Duplantis, and Mr. Badeaux

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Mr. Thomas and Mr. Harding

President DeHart declared the foregoing motion authorizing Superintendent Philip Martin to send Ms. Kenya Lyons a Notice of Termination, immediately, according to the provisions of La. R.S. 17:493, carried.

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. Jackson, unanimously carried, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting (5:35 P.M.).

/s/ Philip Martin, Superintendent

/s/ Roger Dale DeHart, President

RLB