

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE TERREBONNE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

June 28, 2011

The Terrebonne Parish School Board met today at 6:00 P.M. in **special session** at its regular meeting place, the Terrebonne Parish School Board Office, 201 Stadium Drive, Houma, Louisiana, with Mr. L. P. Bordelon, III, President, presiding, and the following members present: Mr. Roosevelt Thomas, Vice-President, Ms. Debi Benoit, Ms. Brenda Leroux Babin, Mr. Roger Dale DeHart, Mr. Donald Duplantis, and Mr. Hayes J. Badeaux.

ABSENT: Mr. Gregory Harding and Mr. Richard Jackson

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

President Bordelon stated that this special meeting was called for the sole purpose of evaluating the Superintendent in accordance with Policy FILE: C-3.6, Superintendent Evaluation.

At this time, Superintendent Philip Martin presented his opening remarks.

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. DeHart, unanimously carried, the Board voted to move into executive session (6:06 P.M.) to address the matter bearing upon Policy FILE: C-3.6, Superintendent Evaluation.

Motion of Mr. DeHart, seconded by Mr. Thomas, unanimously carried, the Board reconvened in open session (6:50 P.M.) with all members present, with the exception of Mr. Harding and Mr. Jackson who were absent.

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, unanimously seconded, unanimously carried, the Board rated the overall performance of Superintendent Philip Martin for the 2010-2011 fiscal year as "Satisfactory," the highest rating possible, and further, ordered Superintendent Philip Martin's prior opening remarks spread across the minutes, as follows:

The past year has posed a number of significant issues, challenges, and accomplishments for the district. Even though this has been a Reduction In Force (RIF) year the district progressed in many areas. I have summarized as follows:

### A. Instructional Highlights

- Our most recent District Performance Scores (DPS) have increased from 90.4 to 92.3, both of which are higher than the state average (3 year trend: 84 → 90.4 → 92.3).
- The number of 4<sup>th</sup> graders who have met the state promotional standard on the LEAP Test has increased from 80% to 85%. This performance level exceeds the state average by 5%.
- The number of 8<sup>th</sup> graders who have met the state promotional standard on the LEAP Test has increased by 13%, our largest increase.
- As a result of increased numbers of students meeting the state promotional standard in 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades, there has been a significant reduction in the number of students in LEAP summer school.

4<sup>th</sup> grade – 210 this summer, 301 last summer

8<sup>th</sup> grade – 311 this summer, 563 last summer

- The district's graduation rate has improved and the district has lowered the drop-out rate.
- The most recent School Performance Scores show that 33 of 36 schools have improved.
- 4 of our schools have been recognized by the state as High Performing. This is the largest number of any district in the state.
- In the most recent School Performance Scores, 17 of our schools met their growth target (3 year trend: 6 → 12 → 17).
- We have implemented a Superintendent's Curriculum Advisory Council for English/Language Arts and Math.

#### B. Financial Highlights

The district continues to:

- Manage a difficult financial situation with minimal impact on instructional issues.
- Maintain austerity measures such as attrition, combination of job responsibilities, and reduction of spending in many areas.
- Manage significant increases in retirement and health insurance costs.
- Procure alternate funding. The district received a second \$10 million dollar interest-free loan for school construction.

### **Goals for 2011-2012**

#### A. Student Achievement

- The district has made much progress, but we are not yet where we need to be or where we will be. Student achievement is, and will continue to be, our highest priority.
- We will expand and maximize the "fix before they fail" philosophy through targeted strategies, enhanced utilization of response to intervention (RTI) and Focus Program concepts.

#### B. Instructional and Curriculum Issues

We are committed to:

- Establish an identifiable response to intervention (RTI) program at every school.
- Focus on Grade Level Expectations (GLEs) and Louisiana Comprehensive Curriculum (LCC) as an inseparable component of each teacher's instructional plan.
- Provide staff development opportunities that emphasize effectiveness, both in the classroom and in leadership.

- Address specific assessment transitions, such as End of Course Exams (EOC), which are replacing Graduate Exit Exams (GEE).
- Additionally, many schools attribute their achievement gains to more effective use of the district's instructional software; we will use these "effective" models for replication in similar schools.

C. District Financial Stability

We must remain vigilant as a district with regard to financial issues. This remains a significant challenge. As such:

- The district will continue to prioritize funding at the classroom level and focus on those issues that directly impact student achievement.
- We will continue to explore and implement alternate sources of funding for salaries and other expenses.

D. Conclusion

Terrebonne Parish is committed to moving forward. There are many areas in which greater improvement will be needed and will be required. Terrebonne Parish is perceived by many as a progressive and innovative parish and we have been recognized by the State Department of Education as a Trailblazer parish. We have been selected to participate in many new and emerging programs into which few select districts are accepted. As a result of the district's accomplishments, we have been recognized and participated in many prestigious events (see attached).

As we look to the next school year, we are aware that we face many challenges. We will approach each challenge as an opportunity and with a sense of optimism as we continue to move forward.

Motion of Mr. Duplantis, seconded by Mr. DeHart, unanimously carried, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting at **6:55 P.M.**

/s/ Philip Martin, Secretary

/s/ L. P. Bordelon, III, President

RLB