



NEW SCHOOLS
FOR NEW ORLEANS

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Dear Newsletter Recipients:

After recovering from Hurricanes Gustav and Ike, students, teachers, and parents are immersed in another school year. The October 1st enrollment counts have been taken at each school, and last year's School Performance Scores will be announced in the coming weeks. Stay tuned!

Thank you for your continued interest in, and support of, our work. As always, I encourage you to email me with thoughts and questions regarding information in this email!

Enjoy,
Renita Thukral
Director of Policy & Advocacy
renita@nsno.org

OPSB Election Results

This Saturday, October 4th, voters in Orleans Parish elected 4 new members and re-elected 2 members of the Orleans Parish School Board. The board now includes the following 7 members:

- Ira Thomas (District 1)
- Cynthia Cade (District 2)
- Brett Bonin (District 3)
- Lourdes Moran (District 4)
- Seth Bloom (District 5)
- Woody Koppel (District 6)
- Thomas A. Robichaux (District 7)

For more details, click [here](#), then scroll down to "School Board".

SPS Scores To Be Released

School Performance Scores, an accountability measure used to "grade" individual schools that is based on standardized, statewide test scores as well as attendance and drop out rates, will be released for all Orleans Parish schools in mid-October. These scores will reflect school performance during the 2007-2008 school year.

An SPS score of below 60 qualifies a school as "academically unacceptable." The statewide goal is for all schools to reach a score of 120 by 2014. In the 2006-2007 school year, the Louisiana state average SPS score was 85.7. Orleans Parish and other Katrina-affected districts did not receive SPS scores in 2006-2007 and therefore are not reflected in this average.

Charter Applications Due

All organizations interested in submitting charter applications to the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education must do so by Friday, October 10th. The original deadlines were extended due to Hurricanes Gustav and Ike.

Spotlight

[OPSB Election Results](#)
[SPS Scores Released Soon](#)
[Charter Apps Due](#)
[Recent Press](#)

Related Links

[New Schools for New Orleans](#)
[New Orleans Parent's Guide to Public Schools](#)
[NOLA Charter School Blog](#)
[School Leadership Center](#)
[Scott Cowen Institute](#)
[Board of Elementary and Secondary Education](#)
[Recovery School District](#)
[Orleans Parish School Board](#)

Upcoming Events

TODAY!! October 7th, 7pm, Tulane University: Wendy Kopp, Founder and Executive Director of Teach For America speaks at Tulane. For more info, click [here](#).

October 27th: Applications to teach in New Orleans as a member of teachNOLA's mid year cohort due. To apply, click [here](#).

Recent Press

[RSD Chief of Staff heads to St. Louis](#)

Times-Picayune, Sarah Carr, *Recovery District Loses Key Leader*: Late last month, the St. Louis School Board announced its new Superintendent for the 2009-2010 school year: Kelvin Adams, the Recovery School District Chief of Staff. This article discusses the impact of this staffing change on the RSD.

Click [here](#) for full article.

[teachNOLA Teacher Blogs for New York Times](#)

New York Times, Caitlin Corrigan, *Lesson Plans*: Each Fall, the New York Times hosts a blog titled "Lesson Plans" in which teachers around the country post their stories from the first few weeks of school. This year, and for the first time ever, a teacher from New Orleans was selected as a guest blogger! Check out the site to reach stories from Caitlin Corrigan, a 2007 [teachNOLA](#) Fellow and second-year teacher at Craig Elementary School.

Click [here](#) for full article.

[NOLA School Leaders Spotlited by Education Week](#)

Education Week, Lesli Maxwell, *Opening a School Draws on All of Founders' Skills*: As part of EdWeek's "Leading for Learning" series, a September article highlights Miller-McCoy Academy in discussing the challenges confronted by those opening new public schools.

Click [here](#) for full article.

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