



Accelerating Academic Gains in New Orleans

2012 Annual Update



**NEW SCHOOLS
FOR NEW ORLEANS**

Delivering on the Promise of Excellent Public Schools for Every Child in New Orleans.

The Road Ahead

In 2012, a great deal was asked of our city, our schools, and our partners in order to continue raising achievement for all New Orleans students. We are energized by what has been accomplished thus far: the city's schools have improved, more students have been accepted to college, and fewer children are attending failing schools. Yet, we remain focused on navigating a challenging and uncharted road as we strive to become the nation's first high-performing urban public school district.

Across Louisiana, student achievement scores are improving and New Orleans schools are leading the way. For the seventh straight year New Orleans outpaced the state in School Performance Score (SPS) growth. John Dibert Community School and Joseph S. Clark Prep, both NSNO-supported schools, achieved two of the largest one-year SPS gains in the city.

The monumental improvement in New Orleans schools goes beyond test scores. More young adults now have the opportunity to attend college. Sci Academy, one of the first schools supported by NSNO, graduated its first class in June 2012 with 97% of seniors accepted into a four-year college; 90% will be the first in their family to attend college.

Moving forward, building the skills of educators and leaders across the city will be critical to the success of our city's schools. In 2012, NSNO increased investments in human capital providers and added direct services to support our partner schools. As a result, more teachers and leaders have access to resources that can accelerate student learning and prepare students to be successful in college and in their careers.

Additionally, through the generous support of the Laura and John Arnold Foundation, NSNO—in partnership with the Charter School Growth Fund—received a \$25 million commitment over the next five years to transform New Orleans public education at an unprecedented rate. Over the course of the grant, we will create 15,000 high-quality public school seats in New Orleans.

The achievements of our students and our schools are tremendous. Still, we recognize the challenges ahead. While New Orleans is on track to become the first urban school district to surpass state proficiency averages, our mission is not to create merely a “proficient” urban school district. We remain steadfast in our goal to provide every child in New Orleans with the opportunity to attend an excellent school. We will continue to support both the expansion of great schools and the transformation of schools that fail to provide a high-quality education to their students.

We applaud the hard work of our students, parents, educators, and communities that have driven the progress to date. We thank you for your support and look forward to continuing to work together to accelerate academic gains in New Orleans.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N. Kingsland". The signature is fluid and cursive.

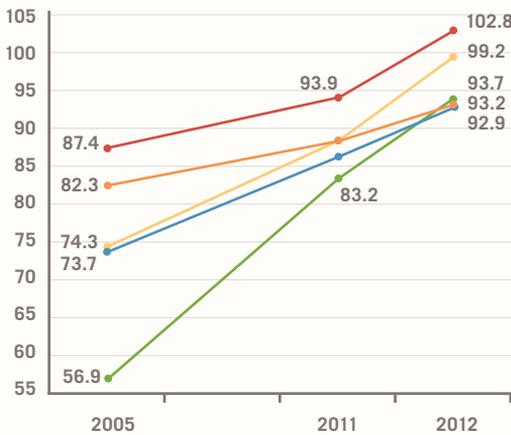
Neerav Kingsland, Chief Executive Officer

Progress in New Orleans

Prior to Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans was ranked last among 67 districts in Louisiana. Today, New Orleans is viewed as a national model for urban education reform and for the first time achieved a district performance score that surpassed two of the largest districts in Louisiana. The number of failing schools, as determined by Baseline SPS, has decreased from 83% in 2005 to 41% in 2012, while schools performing at the “A” and “B” levels have more than doubled during the same period.

NEW ORLEANS HAS CLOSED THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP WITH THE STATE BY 70%

In 2011, the city’s schools posted the highest student performance scores to date—and the Recovery School District (RSD) maintained its top ranking in SPS growth across the state.



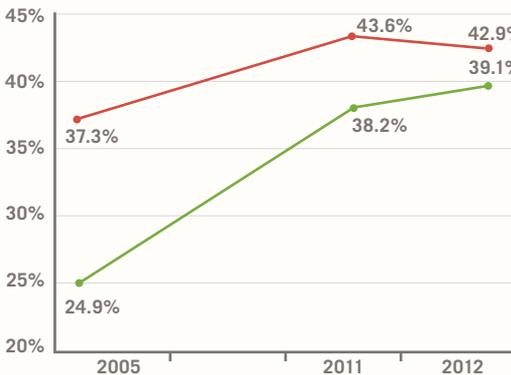
District Performance Scores for the Four Largest Districts

- State
- Jefferson
- New Orleans
- Caddo
- E Baton Rouge

+ Note: Based on All Grades, All Tests (E, M, S, SS), 2005-12 is a six-year window due to lost school year of 2005-06
 + Source: LA Department of Education Data/Analysis by EducateNow!

POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION READINESS INCREASED BY 14 PERCENTAGE POINTS

Beyond the increase in district performance scores and student test scores, the number of New Orleans students who have the opportunity to attend college continues to rise. ACT scores are improving faster than state and national averages, and as a result the percentage of New Orleans students eligible for TOPS scholarships is growing at a significant rate. In 2012, 39.1% of graduating seniors surpassed the eligibility standards for post-secondary scholarships. New Orleans is on the verge of exceeding the state average of students eligible for TOPS scholarships.



Percent of Public School Students Eligible for TOPS

- Louisiana
- New Orleans

+ Note: TOPS provides two- and four-year merit-based scholarships to Louisiana public colleges and universities
 + Source: LA Department of Education Data/Analysis by Tulane University Cowen Institute for Public Education Initiatives

Thank You to Our Donors

2012 NSNO CONTRIBUTORS

\$1,000,000–\$2,999,999

Robertson Foundation

\$250,000–\$999,999

Carnegie Corporation of New York*

Doris and Donald Fisher Fund

Michael and Susan Dell Foundation*

W.K. Kellogg Foundation*

\$100,000–\$249,999

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Booth-Bricker Fund

Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation

Emerson Collective Education Fund

Goldring Family Foundation

J.P. Morgan Chase Charitable
Giving Fund*

The Louis Calder Foundation

Patrick F. Taylor Foundation

The Reily Foundation

Tulane University Cowen Institute
for Public Education Initiatives
(facilities)

Zemurray Foundation

\$50,000–\$99,999

Baptist Community Ministries

Capital One Bank

Ella West Freeman Foundation

The Walton Family Foundation

Woldenberg Foundation

\$25,000–\$49,999

Freeport-McMoRan Copper
and Gold Foundation

The Selley Foundation

Toler Foundation

United Airlines (Official Airline
of NSNO)

\$10,000–\$24,999

Pro Bono Publico Foundation

\$9,999 and Below

The Almar Foundation

Community Benefit Rebuild

Dana and Lewis Shepard

Gustaf Westfeldt McIlhenny
Family Foundation

J. Thomas Lewis Fund

Just in Queso Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Stouse III

Richard and Sarah Newell

Stephanie Green

Weinmann Foundation

Board and Leadership

NSNO BOARD

Stephen Rosenthal
Board Chair

Hunter Pierson III
Board Vice-Chair

Stephen W. Hales, M.D.
Board Secretary & Treasurer

Members

Jodi Jacob Aamodt

Michael Brown

Christine Jordan

Neerav Kingsland

Ruth Kullman

Mary Kay Parker

David Sylvester

Sarah Newell Usdin

Members Emeritus

Ian Arnof

Anthony Recasner, Ph.D.

NSNO LEADERSHIP

Neerav Kingsland
CEO

Maggie Runyan-Shefa
Chief Schools Officer

Michael Stone
*Chief External
Relations Officer*

Beth McAlear
*Managing Director
of Finance and Compliance*

*These organizations contributed matching grants that facilitated the U.S. Department of Education's Investing in Innovation award.

NSNO Mission, Strategy, and Impact 2012

New Schools for New Orleans' mission—delivering on the promise of excellent public schools for every child in New Orleans—drives every decision we make. In the absence of a centralized school district, New Schools for New Orleans plays a vital role in proactively monitoring needs, developing innovative solutions, and, above all, maintaining a focus on academic excellence across three strategic pillars:



NEW ORLEANS
STRATEGIC
LEADERSHIP

City Leadership

Be a leading voice for academic excellence in New Orleans and influence education leaders to execute New Orleans reform model.

Landscape Monitor

Identify citywide gaps directly limiting academic excellence.

National Reform

Increase national awareness and learning of New Orleans model by capturing and sharing knowledge.



SCHOOL
DEVELOPMENT
ACCELERATOR

Expand What Works

Support the expansion of high-performing open-enrollment charter schools.

Launch and Innovate

Selectively invest in new charter management organizations (CMOs) and schools.

Turnaround and Crisis

Enable the turning around of low-performing schools and support charter school boards in times of transition, academic crisis, or strategic planning.



LANDING
PAD

Citywide Support

Facilitate the establishment of scalable and sustainable providers to drive academic excellence in New Orleans. Maintain focus on recruiting and developing human capital (school leaders, teachers, and boards).

Local Capital

Mobilize, coordinate, or provide early stage local capital to attract and support initial growth of support providers.

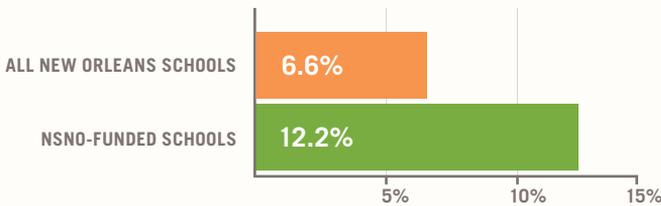
New Schools for New Orleans' mission—delivering on the promise of excellent public schools for every child in New Orleans—drives every decision we make.

Charter School Investments and Performance

In 2012, NSNO funded the launch of seven new schools in New Orleans. These schools will transform some of the lowest-performing schools in the city—schools that had on average maintained an SPS of 40 out of 200–35 points below the Louisiana Department of Education’s definition of failing.

NSNO-SUPPORTED SCHOOLS OUTPACED THE CITY

While serving the city’s highest-need students, NSNO-funded schools have demonstrated accelerated academic growth—growing at nearly twice the citywide rate. NSNO funded the launch of nearly half of the RSD schools that grew 11 or more points in 2011–12; this includes four of the top six growth scores for K-8 grade schools in the city.



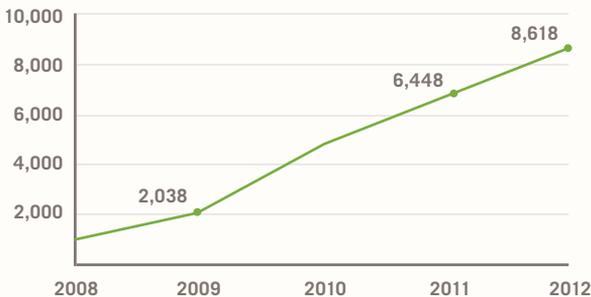
Percentage SPS Growth 2011-2012

+ Note : Based on Transition Baseline SPS 2010-2011 and Growth SPS 2011-2012

+ Source : LA Department of Education Data/Analysis by NSNO

NSNO INVESTMENTS CONTINUE TO PROVIDE MORE HIGH-QUALITY OPTIONS TO NEW ORLEANS FAMILIES

NSNO has invested in the launch or expansion of 23 schools since 2007. At the start of the 2012–13 school year, NSNO-funded schools comprised nearly one in four public schools in New Orleans; these schools serve more than 8,600 students throughout the city.



Enrollment at NSNO-Funded Schools 2008–2012

+ Note : Estimate based on October 2012 Enrollment Data

+ Source : LA Department of Education Data/Analysis by NSNO

SIGNIFICANT RESULTS IN FIRST WAVE OF TURNAROUND WORK

Awarded in 2010 to NSNO in partnership with the RSD and the Achievement School District, the \$33.6 million Investing in Innovation (i3) grant—\$28 million (83.3%) from the U.S. Department of Education and \$5.6 million (16.7%) in private matching funds—targets the turnaround of the lowest-performing schools in New Orleans and Tennessee.

The results from the initial cohort of four NSNO-funded school turnarounds are showing the impact of school transformation as i3 schools continue on an upward trajectory. In two years, these four schools have grown, on average, more than 18 SPS points—an increase of just over 35%.

Human Capital Investments and Performance

NSNO works to recruit successful human capital organizations to the city to ensure that New Orleans public schools can advance academically. NSNO's human capital investments reach nearly all of the charter schools in New Orleans—helping to build the skills of teachers and leaders across the city.

2012 NSNO HUMAN CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

95%

95% of **teachNOLA** Fellows (in the first year of evaluation) either passed or received an extension on the organization's new Assessment of Classroom Effectiveness, surpassing teachNOLA's goal. To be certified by teachNOLA, teachers must demonstrate student achievement gains in the classroom in addition to completing all required coursework.

Instructional coaches at five New Orleans CMOs received real-time teacher coaching training through the **Center for Transformative Teacher Training**. Real-time teacher coaching is a cutting-edge technique where teachers receive feedback and tips from coaches via headsets during actual instruction.

5

2x

Achievement Network schools in New Orleans increased the percentage of students performing at basic level or above by more than two times the state average growth in math and in English Language Arts (ELA).

Teachers participating in **MATCH Teacher Coaching** scored 0.28 standard deviations higher than a control group on surveys that measured teachers' ability to challenge students with rigorous work. This result provides initial evidence that the MATCH coaching is significantly improving the teaching ability of participants.

.28σ

98%

98% of 2011-2012 **Leading Educators** participants continued to serve as leaders in high-need, urban schools.

The innovative **Relay Graduate School of Education** plans to bring its teacher training school to the Crescent City, launching a New Orleans campus in 2013.

2013



School Development Accelerator

FRIENDS OF KING

Dr. King Charter is consistently among the city's highest-performing charter schools, earning a 2012 baseline SPS of 98.5.



Dr. Martin Luther King Charter School for Science and Technology Principal Dr. Doris Roché-Hicks, a long-time leader in the New Orleans education community, is a charter pioneer—one of many veteran principals who rebuilt and reopened her school as a charter in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Dr. King Charter has consistently been one of the city's highest-performing open-enrollment charter schools, with School Performance Scores (SPS) growing by more than 10% since 2008. In 2012, NSNO funded Dr. Hicks' effort to turn around Joseph Craig Elementary School, one of the lowest-performing elementary schools in Louisiana. Friends of King, the CMO that is led by Dr. Hicks and which oversees both schools, now serves 1,100 New Orleans children—including 379 at Craig Elementary—with a rigorous college preparatory program that emphasizes balance in academics, arts, and athletics.

COLLEGIATE ACADEMIES

97% of Sci Academy's first class of graduating seniors were accepted into a four-year college.

Sci Academy was launched in 2008 and by 2012 was the highest-performing open-enrollment high school in New Orleans. In 2012, Sci Academy graduated its first class with 97% of students accepted into a four-year college; 90% will be the first in their family to attend college. Recognizing the overwhelming success of the school's model, NSNO funded the launch of Collegiate Academies, a new CMO based on the Sci Academy model. Collegiate Academies launched two new high schools at the start of the 2012 year: George Washington Carver Collegiate Academy and George Washington Carver Preparatory Academy. Both schools will begin serving 9th grade scholars, with plans to add a grade each subsequent year. Collegiate Academies' three schools currently serve over 600 scholars in New Orleans and emphasize rigorous academics, data-driven instruction, and a culture of consistently high expectations to prepare students for college success.



CHOICE FOUNDATION

Choice's ability to successfully turn around failing schools has led to better educational opportunities for more than 1,800 students.



Choice Foundation opened Lafayette Academy in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2006. Since Choice proved its ability to increase SPS and create a strong culture at Lafayette, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education approved the foundation's application to assume operation of Esperanza Charter School in 2010 and McDonogh 42 in 2012. NSNO supported the CMO as they began serving over 500 students in grades K-8 at McDonogh 42. Choice Foundation's ability to successfully turn around failing schools has created better educational opportunities for more than 1,800 students in grades K-8 throughout the city.

2012 Financials in Review

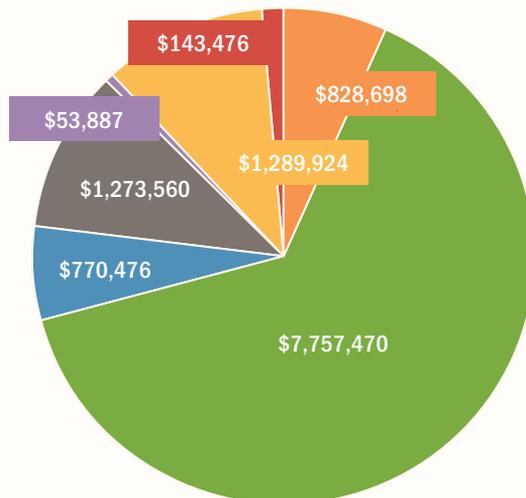
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended September 30, 2012

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
REVENUE AND SUPPORT			
Grants and Contributions	\$9,768,879	\$986,774	\$10,755,653
Donated Use of Facilities	140,000	-	140,000
Interest Income	14,808	-	14,808
Other Revenues	49,995	-	49,995
Total Revenue and Support	9,973,682	986,774	10,960,456
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS	1,634,942	(1,634,942)	-
Total Revenue, Support and Net Assets Released from Restrictions	11,608,624	(648,168)	10,960,456
EXPENSES			
Program Services			
School Development Accelerator	8,586,168	-	8,586,168
Strategic Leadership	53,887	-	53,887
Landing Pad	2,044,036	-	2,044,036
Supporting Services			
Management and General	1,289,924	-	1,289,924
Fundraising	143,476	-	143,476
Total Expenses	12,117,491	-	12,117,491
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(508,867)	(648,168)	(1,157,035)
NET ASSETS			
Beginning of Year	5,579,930	5,842,948	11,422,878
End of Year	\$5,071,063	\$5,194,780	\$10,265,843

2012 FISCAL YEAR EXPENSES

- School Development Accelerator
- i3
- Landing Pad
- TIF
- Strategic Leadership
- Management and General
- Fundraising



New Schools for
New Orleans'
mission—delivering
on the promise of
excellent public
schools for every
child in New
Orleans—drives
every decision
we make.