**Academic Facts: East Baton Rouge School District**

The State education system as a whole has made **real progress** in the past 15 years (more students at basic grade level, fewer dropouts, better school performance) with the implementation of the top-rated School & District Accountability System and other major state policies. But, significant gaps in student achievement remain. While many local school districts have made improvements, we have a long way to go in others. **What remains is a state with a quarter-million kids below minimum basic grade skills (standards which are actually lower than national proficiency), yearly dropouts still in the thousands, and many graduates underprepared for careers or college.** While the State continues to pursue more recent programs that support instructional quality and school choice for at-risk kids, it’s clear that local education officials and educators make the difference in student learning. **Below is a snapshot of some key district academic indicators.**

- **“C” District Performance Grade (2011-12)**
  92.9 DPS compared to 100.5 State Performance Score (0-200 point scale); based on state LEAP, iLEAP, dropouts and graduation index. The district ranked #55 out of 69 local school districts.

- **59%** of the district’s 3rd graders at or above Basic grade level in reading/language arts knowledge and skills (iLEAP 2012)

- **66%** of the districts 4th graders at or above Basic grade level in reading/language arts knowledge and skills; and **68%** at or above Basic grade level in math (LEAP 2012)

- **59%** of the districts 8th graders at or above Basic grade skills and knowledge in English/language arts; **56%** at or above Basic grade level in math; and **51%** at or above Basic grade skills and knowledge in science (LEAP 2012)

- **53%** of high school students scored at or above Basic skills and knowledge in science on (Graduate Exit Exam, all initial test takers 2012).

- **National Percentile Ranks (2010-11):** 43rd for third graders, 47th for fifth graders, and 47th for seventh graders.

- **7,537 students dropped out** (7-12th graders) in the past five years on record (2006-2010)

- For 9th grade freshmen, **62.3%** graduated four years later (2011).

- **33%** of college freshmen who graduated from this district’s high schools had to take non-credit remedial courses (2010)

- **19.6 Average ACT score** compared to 20.3 State Average and 21.1 National Average (2012)

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**Note on State LEAP/iLEAP tests:** Grade-level skills and knowledge students achieve on these tests are rated as **Advanced, Mastery, Basic (minimum needed), Approaching Basic, and Unsatisfactory.** The State’s goal has been to educate all students to at least the minimum Basic grade level - not a mastery of skills and knowledge, just Basic. **How many kids in your district have not been educated to this minimum level?** In addition, LA’s Basic level is considered a lower standard than national levels of Proficiency. The good news is that LA is raising standards and transitioning from LEAP to “Common Core” tests (consortium of 45 states) in

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**Additional district information:**
- 80.2% of students were eligible for free and reduced lunch (2011)
- $12,193 was spent per pupil in this district compared to the $10,622 state average (2010)
- 42,723 students were enrolled in 2010-11 compared to 49,891 in 2005-06