

## **Beauregard Maintains “B”, Increases Point Total in State Accountability**

The State Department of Education released the 2017 District Performance Scores (DPS) and School Performance Scores (SPS) for K-12 schools showing Beauregard Parish maintained a letter grade of “B” and increased its total points to 89.3 for the District Performance Score.

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) assesses students annually in the *Louisiana Believes* accountability program for grades 3-12. The spring 2017 assessments marked the fourth year for the 150-point scoring system.

“Beauregard Parish continues to maintain a strong District Performance Score in the state accountability system, and we are proud that we show an increase in total points over the previous year, especially considering that the spring 2017 began the mandatory transition to online testing for all students in fifth grade and above,” stated Superintendent Timothy Cooley.

Eleven schools in the parish increased or maintained their letter grade over last year, and seven schools increased their total earned points from last year. Nine schools earned a “B,” and three schools earned a “C.” No schools received a “D” or “F” letter grade.

One school, DeRidder Junior High School, was named a “Top Gains” school by the Department of Education. The school increased its SPS over 11 points and gained a letter grade while also receiving 10 progress points.

Beauregard Parish overall increased in two of the seven categories which make up the District Performance Score, including a 15.9 point increase in the ACT Index Assessment and a 3.4 point increase in the Dropout Credit Accumulation Index. The district dropped by less than a point in the Grade 3-8 Assessment Index and scored within five points of last year’s scores in the remaining categories – End-of-Course Exams Assessment Index, Strength of Diploma Index, Cohort Graduation Rate Index, and Cohort Graduation Rate Actual.

Progress points (formerly called ‘Bonus Points’) are awarded if students did not earn “Basic” but showed significant progress on LEAP tests or who struggled on state assessments but demonstrated significant progress on the ACT. The district overall did not earn progress points, but seven schools in the district did.

“Our dramatic increase in the ACT Index Assessment stands out in our scores this year,” explained Cooley. “We attribute the increase in part to the success that our students showed on the WorkKeys exam offered in our schools for the first time last school year.”

In the *Louisiana Believes* program, all elementary schools are evaluated on 100 percent test scores. If an elementary school does not have a tested grade, then that school shares the School Performance Score (SPS) of the closest related school in the district with a tested grade. In Beauregard Parish, K.R. Hanchey Elementary shares an SPS with Carver Elementary.

All middle schools are evaluated on 95 percent test scores and 5 percent high school credits earned by the end of the freshman year. DeRidder Junior High School is the only school classified as a middle school by the LDOE in Beauregard Parish.

All high schools are evaluated based on 25 percent ACT composite scores, 25 percent End-of-Course test scores, 25 percent graduation rates, and 25 percent quality of

diploma. DeRidder High School is the only school in Beauregard Parish classified as a high school by the LDOE.

All combination schools are evaluated on the average K-8 School Performance Score times the number of students plus 9-12 School Performance Score times the number of students.

Under the 150 point scale, districts and school scores designate the following: 100-150=A; 85-99.9=B; 70-84.9=C; 50-69.9=D; and 0-49.9=F. School scores and letter grades include: Carver Elementary, 74.6 - C; DeRidder High School 97.9 - B; DeRidder Junior High School, 89.5 - B; East Beauregard Elementary, 96.8 - B; East Beauregard High School, 95.2 - B; K.R. Hanchey Elementary, 74.6 - C; Merryville High School, 96.5 - B; Pine Wood Elementary, 82.5 - C; Singer High School, 87.3 - B; South Beauregard Elementary, 94.1 - B; South Beauregard Upper Elementary, 85.2 - B; and South Beauregard High School, 96 - B.