Louisiana Believes

Letter Grades: Preparing for the Fall
ESSA provides Louisiana with an opportunity to collaborate with educators, parents, business leader, and community leaders to create and report on an improved K-12 education system that provides all students with equal access and opportunity to high-quality learning.

In order to provide families with information on school progress towards improving student performance and opportunities, the Department is releasing the Louisiana School Finder this fall in conjunction with the release of school performance scores.

While this year’s results will only report on the indices from the previous accountability system, the School Finder will include the student growth and interest and opportunities indices in subsequent years.
The Louisiana school finder allows families to explore schools and early childhood centers in their area, or an area where they are moving to. They will have two options when searching for schools:

- **Option 1:** Enter your address and select a grade for a broad search of all schools that match that criteria
- **Option 2:** Enter the name of the school you want to view
If the user selected Option 1, they are then directed to the map and list of schools that match their criteria.
Users can select filters and preferences to customize their search.
In this case, the user selected that they were interested in schools that offered Advanced Placement, Jumpstart Pathways and Band.

Indicates if preferences have been met
Once a user has selected a school, they will be provided with following information.

- **About Our School**: school contact information, hours of operation, principal or director name, transportation information, before and after school options, and school offerings (academic, enrichment, athletic, and extracurricular)

- **Academic Performance**: data on how well a school or center is preparing students for the next level of study, including each metric used in calculating school performance scores or early childhood performance profiles
Here is the view of the “About Our School” tab.
Here is the view of the “Academic Performance” tab.
### How Has This School Performed Over Time?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Overall Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>A 103.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>C 84.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-2015</td>
<td>B 90.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### How Does This School's Score Compare to Its School System's Score?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Overall School Performance</th>
<th>Overall District Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>A 103.5</td>
<td>85.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See this district's full report card [here](#).

### How Is This School Performing on Key Metrics?

- **Student Performance**: A 103.5
- **Student Progress**: Coming in 2018!

View full draft of report card designs [here](#).

### How Is the School Performing in Other Categories?

- **Breakdown by Student Groups**
- **Teacher Workforce**
- **Discipline & Attendance**
Activity: Reflection on School Report Cards

Take the next five minutes to review the report cards and reflect on the following questions:

• What positive impact will these new report cards have on family and community understanding of school performance and quality?

• How are these new report cards more helpful in communicating your school’s performance? In what ways are they more challenging?

• What support will school leaders need in order to have meaningful conversations about this year’s results?

• How can the Department help school leaders prepare for this release and hold conversations with families on school performance?
School Report Card Resources

The Department will release the following resources in October to support schools and schools systems in having conversations with families about the new Louisiana School Finder and report cards, and what upcoming changes are happening in the way schools are rated in our state.

- **Animated school performance score video:** video that will explain each metric currently available in the Louisiana School Finder related to school performance (a similar version will be created for early childhood performance profiles) and upcoming metrics in 2018

- **Parent Night Presentation:** customizable presentation that will explain the new Louisiana School Finder system, its purpose, the data included in it, and what information will be provided in the future through this system as it relates to school quality.

- **Printable School Report Card:** schools will be able to print a copy of their report card from the Louisiana School Finder system to send home to families or share at parent nights
# Key Dates for School Finder Reporting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Dates</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Systems preview School Overview information in school finder system and make corrections, if needed, in SponsorSite and/or BLAS.</td>
<td>Week of October 2; corrections due by October 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department engages with advocates, business and community leaders, and media across the state to build awareness of new system prior to release.</td>
<td>October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Finder released and promoted with all stakeholder groups.</td>
<td>Late Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools hold parent nights to discuss school results.</td>
<td>Fall release-December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contact Us

For questions regarding 2016-2017 reporting, please contact assessment@la.gov.

To request additional tools to support the release of the school finder, please contact ldoecommunications@la.gov.