

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 20, 2024

EBR Schools celebrates three years of continuous academic performance growth

BATON ROUGE, La. – The East Baton Rouge Parish School System celebrates its 3rd consecutive year of growth - achieving its highest overall school performance score under the current accountability system. The district also grew in 7 key indices according to the annual report cards released by the Louisiana Department of Education on Wednesday, November 20.

The school system maintains a "C" letter grade but grew by a point, earning a 70.1 overall score. Performance score data provides evidence that EBR continues to narrow the achievement gap and make academic progress with 98% of district schools earning a letter grade of A, B, or C in the state's Progress Index.

"We acknowledge that there is still significant progress to be made, but I want to commend our educators and staff for their unwavering dedication to improving student outcomes," said LaMont Cole, EBR Schools Superintendent. "We will continue to actively engage with our communities to strengthen family involvement, address the identified gaps and challenges, and work tirelessly to restore public confidence in our school system's ability to deliver a world-class educational experience."

Highlights from this year's report cards include the following:

- Over half of the district's sites (45 schools) included in this release improved their numerical scores while 13 schools grew a letter grade.
- Three schools have exited Academically Unacceptable School (AUS) status: Merrydale ES, Jefferson Terrace Academy and EBR Virtual.
- Several district sites earned statewide honors with 24 schools receiving the Top Gains Award and 11 individual sites earning Opportunity Awards recognition for being in the top 10% for performance among Students with Disabilities, English Learners, or Economically Disadvantaged students.
- The following schools have earned noteworthy statewide distinctions:
 - o Mayfair Laboratory School ranks 3rd for performance for K-8 sites
 - BASIS Mid-City and Helix Aviation rank first and third respectively for one-year gains
 - Baton Rouge Magnet High School ranks sixth in academic performance amongst state high schools
 - BASIS Materra ranks eighth in the state for improvement of schools serving students in grades 9-12
 - EBR Readiness ranked 9th for improvement among statewide alternative schools
- EBR Early Childhood Community Network (171 sites) improved overall from a 5.45 rating to a 5.60 maintaining its high proficiency early childhood rating, and increased more than half of its high-proficiency centers to an excellent rating. Additionally, the majority of the partner sites in the EBR Early Childhood Community Network moved into the high proficient rating category.



EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM



While we celebrate our students and staff for their remarkable progress, the East Baton Rouge Parish School System remains steadfast in its commitment to a bold and daring approach. As the newly appointed superintendent, Cole's goal is not only to achieve greater strides within the accountability system but also to offer unique opportunities that nurture students' passions and prepare them to thrive as world-class citizens.

"As we continue our commitment to excellence, it's crucial that we acknowledge the challenges and disparities in our D and F schools," Cole said. "To foster meaningful growth, we will be implementing proven instructional tactics and leveraging partnerships with business and community organizations to uplift our students. With this collective dedication and strategic focus, we will work to provide every student with the tools and resources they need to succeed."

"We pledge to be better every day and are committed to excellence in every step forward," Cole stated.

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