



**2004-05**

## **Have RSD Schools Really Improved Significantly Since 2005?**

**Charles J. Hatfield**

**Hatfield and Associates, LLC**

**Co-Founder of Research on Reforms**

**Email: [cjhatfield@cox.net](mailto:cjhatfield@cox.net)**

**4/01/2011**



**2010-11**

## SUMMARY

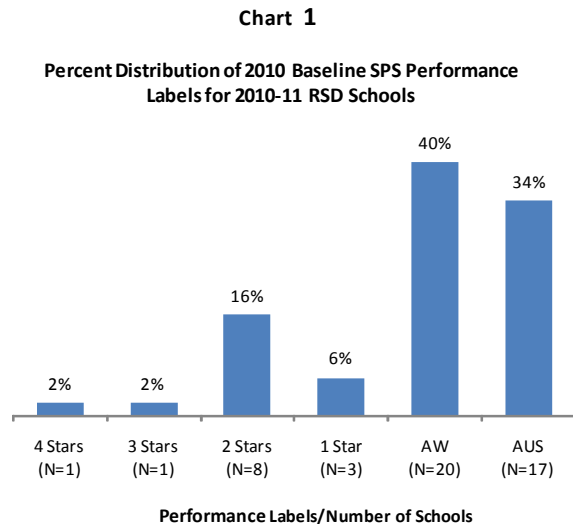
Whether assessing the 2010-11 status of the RSD schools using the current achievement performance labels or applying the new letter grade system that will be implemented this fall, it is clear that the SPS achievement status for the vast majority of the RSD schools is at best pathetic. The public continues to be fed the propaganda by the LDOE, RSD and various support advocacy groups as to the tremendous progress made by schools in the RSD. Based upon the descriptive analysis of the data in this report and the challenge of the state's accountability goal for 2014, it is extremely difficult to understand how anyone could propose that the transformation of New Orleans Public schools serve as a national model for educational reform . Yet, BESE in its infinite wisdom recently approved Superintendent Paul Pastorek's recommended criteria for the transfer of schools out of the RSD in 2012, thus guaranteeing the continued survival of an inept but politically powerfully connected governing authority. It is imperative that Louisiana legislators, particularly those from New Orleans and other areas of the state where the control of the RSD has or will spread, revisit and reassess the decisions that resulted in disenfranchisement of New Orleans citizens with respect to relinquishing the control of their schools to the RSD. The RSD has managed to successfully impact only a handful of schools over 5 years. This situation was created through political action and can only be rectified through political action.

## Current 2010-11 SPS Achievement Labels

In September 2010, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) released the 2010 baseline School Performance Scores (SPS). The “Star” performance labels were modified for the 2010 baseline SPSs ( i.e., **From** 5-Stars, 4-Stars, 3-Stars, 2-Stars, 1-Star, AUS **To** 5-Stars, 4-Stars, 3-Stars, 2-Stars, 1-Star, *Academic Watch* (AW), AUS). One-Star performance labels were changed to accommodate “raising the bar” for schools in 2011. It should be noted that 1-Star schools were previously considered low performing schools by the LDOE.<sup>1,2</sup> For the 2010-11 school year, schools with a 2010 baseline SPS between 60.0 - 74.9 are now labeled not as 1-Star but as AW. These schools are considered in danger of failing in 2011 if their SPSs don’t dramatically improve. Schools with a 2010 SPS between 65.0 - 74.9 are also considered to be in danger of failing in 2012 unless their SPSs dramatically improve.<sup>3</sup>

In 2010-11, there were approximately 74 RSD schools in Orleans that received MFP funding for the 2010-11 school year.<sup>4</sup> Of these schools approximately 50, or 68%, had 2010 baseline SPSs reported: 30 charter and 20 direct-run schools.

Chart 1 shows that using the current state performance labels, over 74% of the schools in the RSD are labeled either as failing (AUS) or in danger of failing (AW). See Appendix A for the list of schools and their current performance labels.

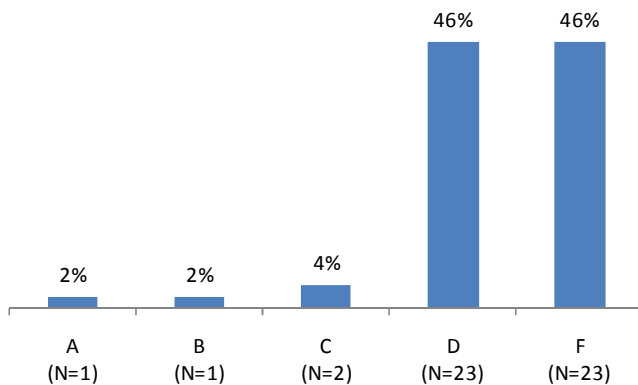


Source: <http://www.louisianaschools.net/lde/saa/3112.asp> --  
[2010 Accountability Results Detailed School-Level Table](#)

## Future 2011 and 2012 SPS Achievement Labels

In December 2010, BESE approved a new letter grade labeling system. This new labeling system was proposed by the state legislature, thus replacing the “Star” system that had been used in the Louisiana’s accountability program since 2002<sup>5</sup>. Beginning with the 2011 baseline SPS, letter grades from A to F will be assigned to schools.<sup>6</sup> Schools that have a SPS less than 65 will be labeled with an F. The failing level will be raised in 2012 when a SPS lower than 75 will be labeled as an F. See Appendix B for the relationship between the SPS and letter grades.

**Chart 2**  
**Letter Grades of 2010-11 RSD Schools Based on the 2010 Baseline SPS**



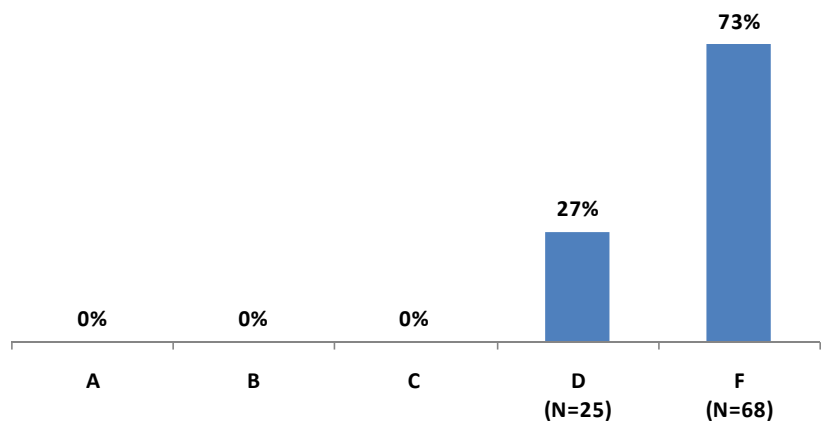
The descriptive analysis that follows provides an achievement baseline by which progress in 2011 can be compared to that of 2010. For purposes of this paper, F's and D's respectively refer to either failing schools or very poor performing schools. Chart 2 shows that if the new letter grade standards were applied to the 2010 baseline SPSs, only 4 schools (6%) would receive an A, B or C (.i.e., Kipp Central and Primary, Dr. MLK, and Berhman). However, 93% would receive a D or an F. See Appendix A for a listing of each

school and the letter grade it would receive.

For historical comparisons, Chart 3 presents the achievement baseline profile of the OPSB schools taken over in 2005 by the RSD using this new letter grade system.<sup>7</sup> How would these “failing schools” schools be labeled under the new letter grade system?

Of the 93 schools taken over, 73% would be labeled with an F and 27% would be labeled with a D. Therefore, in 2005 100% of the schools would be labeled with either an F or a D. In 2010, 92% of the schools would be labeled with either an F or a D. This represents a eight percentage point decrease. Can that really be considered significant progress over five years? See Appendix C for a listing of the 2005 schools and letter grades.

**Chart 3**  
**Letter Grades of RSD 2005 Take-Over Schools Based on Their 2005 SPS ( N=93)**



Letter grade indicators were also disaggregated to examine the effects of management type and the number of years that a school had been operating since Katrina. Although a number of schools opened for the 2005-06 school year, it was a very chaotic and disorganized period of time. Not every school opened at the same time. Students were entering school throughout the remainder of that year. Attendance, suspensions, expulsions and other student related data from many RSD schools were suspect or did not exist.<sup>8</sup> As a result, any achievement data and demographic data needed to compute an SPS would have been suspect. Thus, the first year of operation for schools in this report is set at the 2006-07 school year.

Tables 4 and 5 present the results for direct-run and charter schools as a function of the number of

Table 4			
Percent of 2010-100 RSD CHARTER Schools with Letter Grades and Number of Years Operating Since Katrina (Total= 30)			
Letter Grade Based on 2011 Standard	No. of Years Operating Since Katrina		
	2 Yrs	3 Yrs	4+ Yrs
A		9%	
B			5%
C			11%
D		73%	67%
F	100%	18%	17%
Num Schools	1	11	18

Sources: 2006-2010 Oct 1st MFP Reports; 2006-2010 Detailed School Reports

years opened since Katrina. It should be noted that schools generally do not receive a baseline SPS until two years of data have been averaged; therefore, schools with just one year of data are not reported. In addition, the “4+ Yrs” labels in the tables reflect the fact that some of these schools were opened at some time during the 2005-06 school year.

Table 4 shows that the vast majority of the charter schools would be labeled with a D or an F, regardless of the number of years operating since

Katrina if the new standards were applied. Only 4 schools, as mentioned earlier, received an average or above average grade. Table 5 shows that all of the direct-run schools would receive either a D or an F regardless of the number of years operating since Katrina.

What do these results mean in terms of student enrollment patterns? When the state took over OPSB’s 95 “failing” schools, 53,000 students were enrolled during the 2004-05 school year.<sup>9</sup> During this 2010-11 school year, approximately 21,353 students are attending RSD schools that have a 2010 baseline

Table 5			
Percent of 2010-11 RSD DIRECT-RUN Schools with Letter Grades and Number of Years Operating Since Katrina (Total= 20)			
Letter Grade Based on 2011 Standard	No. of Years Operating Since Katrina		
	2 Yrs	3 Yrs	4+ Yrs
A			
B			
C			
D		50%	7%
F	100%	50%	93%
Num Schools	1	4	15

Sources: 2006-2010 Oct 1st MFP Reports; 2006-2010 Detailed School Reports

SPS. If the state’s new letter grade standards are applied to these schools, 91% percent of the students would be attending schools labeled as “failing or poor performing” as compared to 100% back in 2004-05. Table 6 presents this information disaggregated by management type. One hundred percent of students that are currently enrolled in direct-run schools are enrolled in schools that can be labeled with a D or an F. Eighty-six percent of students currently enrolled in charter schools are enrolled in schools that can be labeled with a D or

Table 6		
Demographic Profile of 2010 RSD Students With Respect to Letter Grades		
Management Type	Number of Students Enrolled in Schools Labeled with D or F	Percent of Students Enrolled in Schools Labeled with D or F
Direct-Run	7,223	100%
Charter	12,216	86%
Direct-Run and Charter	19,439	91%
Total	21,352	

Source: Oct. 1st 2010 MFP Report

an F.

## Conclusions

One of the primary goals of Research on Reforms (ROR) is to empirically determine whether the poor, disadvantaged, public school students of New Orleans are receiving the quality education promised as justification for the LDOE to dismantle the Orleans Public School System. It is irrelevant whether the schools are chartered or not. While there are pockets of sunshine and hope, the overall results show that significant progress has not occurred. It is unfortunate that the state uses only the SPS and its associated performance labels to judge the overall quality of a school. New Orleans schools serve parents and students with a plethora of diverse needs and ambitions and, as such, should be judged with a multitude of assessment criteria. Unfortunately, this is not the case and only the current standardized tests are primarily used to judge quality. It is within this context that the following conclusions are made.

This report is based on the main indicator used by the LDOE to reward or punish schools and staff, i.e., the SPS. In 2001, the LDOE revised its original SPS accountability goal to the following: all schools will achieve a SPS of 120 by the spring of 2014, i.e., performance label of 4 Stars or above.<sup>10</sup> Under the new letter grade system, the accountability goal now states that all schools will achieve a SPS of 120 by the spring of 2014, i.e., letter grade of A. There are only 4 years left to achieve this goal.

Using the current performance labels, 74% of the 50 schools are currently labeled as AUS or AW. Under the new letter grade system 92% of those schools would be labeled with a D or an F. It is important to again emphasize that the D and F letter grades are operationally defined in this paper as representing either failing or very low performing schools. Whether assessing the 2010-11 status of the RSD schools using the performance labels applied in September 2010, or applying the new letter grade system to the 2010 baseline SPSs, it is clear that with the exception of about 4 schools, the overall SPS achievement status of the RSD schools is at best pathetic. Thirty-three (33) of the 50 schools analyzed have operated for 4+ years in the RSD. They will complete their 5th full year at the end of the current school session. The vast majority of these schools can be labeled either as failing or in danger of failing. The vast majority of the students are attending schools that can be labeled as failing or in danger of failing.

Studies by ROR have continued to document the achievement failure of the RSD based on the expectations of Louisiana's accountability program.<sup>11,12,13,14,15</sup> Yet, the public continues to be fed the propaganda by the LDOE, RSD and various support groups as to the tremendous progress made by the schools in the RSD.<sup>16,17</sup> The RSD has not presented any summative or formative evaluative evidence that assesses the numerous variables that are related to school effectiveness. There are only SPS indices, proficiency LEAP and

iLEAP results, accolades from the only major local newspaper in New Orleans and anecdotal statements from schools and the RSD. Recently, New Schools for New Orleans (NSNO)<sup>18</sup> commissioned the Center for Research on Educational Outcomes (CREDO) of Stanford University to design and conduct an evaluation of the educational reforms for certain selected charter schools. This program is funded from a \$28 million dollar federal grant and \$5.6 million in matching funds over a five year period. The final evaluation report is expected to be released when the study is completed.<sup>19</sup> However, this will not occur for another five years.

Based on the descriptive analysis of the SPS data presented in this report and the state's 2014 goal, it is extremely difficult to understand how anyone could proclaim that the RSD has been successful in turning schools around. Even more ridiculous is to propose that the transformation of New Orleans Public Schools should serve as a "national model for educational reform."<sup>20</sup> After 4+ years of operating and being inundated with all the public relations hype about the tremendous gains that have been made, the vast majority of RSD schools can be labeled as either failing or as low performing after 5-years. Given this state of affairs, how can anyone logically justify the continued existence of this entity? Yet, BESE in its infinite wisdom, recently approved Superintendent Pastorek's recommended criteria for the transfer of schools from the RSD, thus guaranteeing the continued survival of an inept but politically powerful governing authority.<sup>21</sup>

The state takeover was once perceived as the panacea for educational reform in New Orleans by BESE and many state legislators. It has now degenerated into tragedy and despair for many citizens, particularly those whose children are enrolled in the direct-run schools. Concerns about equity, quality of education received, transportation distances, special education, transparency, attendance zones, local control, lack of empowerment, etc. are routinely voiced on talk radio and various local forums.<sup>22</sup> It is imperative that Louisiana legislators, particularly those from New Orleans and from other areas of the state where control of the RSD has or will spread, revisit and objectively reassess a decision that resulted in the disenfranchisement of the citizens of New Orleans. The RSD does not have to account to the citizens of New Orleans politically yet, has only managed to successfully impact a handful of charter schools after 5 years. This situation was created through political action and can only be rectified through political action.

**APPENDIX A**

<b>Management Type</b>	<b>Schools Operating in 2009-10</b>	<b>No. Years</b>	<b>2009-2010 SPS</b>	<b>2009-2010 Performance Label</b>	<b>Letter Grade Based on 2010 Baseline SPS</b>
Direct-Run	A.P. Tureaud Elementary	4	76.3	1 Star	D
Direct-Run	Benjamin Banneker	5*	60.9	AW*	F
Direct-Run	Carver Elementary	4	41.1	AUS	F
Direct-Run	Dr. Charles Richard Drew	4	46.5	AUS	F
Direct-Run	F.W. Gregory Elementary	3	43.8	AUS	F
Direct-Run	Fannie C. Williams	4	62.1	AW	F
Direct-Run	G.W. Carver High	3	31.9	AUS	F
Direct-Run	Gentilly Terrace Elementary	3	61.3	AW	F
Direct-Run	H.C. Schaumburg Elementary	3	70.6	AW	F
Direct-Run	James Weldon Johnson	4	58.5	AUS	F
Direct-Run	John McDonogh Senior High	4	32.2	AUS	F
Direct-Run	Joseph A. Craig	5	45.2	AUS	F
Direct-Run	Joseph S. Clark Senior High	5	22.8	AUS	F
Direct-Run	Mary D. Coghill Elementary	3	65.5	AW	D
Direct-Run	Murray Henderson	4	63.4	AW	D
Direct-Run	Paul B. Habans Elementary	4	62.2	AW	D
Direct-Run	Rabouin Career Magnet High	4	19.8	AUS	F
Direct-Run	Sarah Towles Reed Elementary	4	50.7	AUS	F
Direct-Run	Sarah Towles Reed Senior	4	34.9	AUS	F
Direct-Run	Walter L. Cohen High	4	28.2	AUS	F
Charter	Abramson Science &	3	78	1 Star	D
Charter	Andrew H. Wilson Charter	3	59	AUS	F
Charter	Arthur Ashe Charter	4	83.8	2 Stars	D
Charter	Crocker Arts & Technology	3	67.2	AW	D
Charter	Dr. M.L.K. Charter School for	4	90.1	2 Stars	C
Charter	James M. Singleton Charter	5	70.1	AW	D
Charter	KIPP Believe College Prep	4	106.5	3 Stars	B
Charter	KIPP Central City Academy	4	85.2	2 Stars	D
Charter	KIPP Central City Primary	3	120	4 Stars	A
Charter	KIPP McDonogh 15 School for	4	87.7	2 Stars	D
Charter	Lafayette Academy of New	4	77.3	1 Star	D
Charter	Langston Hughes Academy	3	83	AW	D
Charter	McDonogh #28 City Park	4	70.5	AW	F
Charter	McDonogh #42 Elementary	3	65.3	AW	F
Charter	Miller-McCoy Academy	2	73.1	AW	F
Charter	Nelson Elementary	4	65.2	AW	F
Charter	New Orleans Charter Science and Math Academy	3	89.2	2 Stars	D
Charter	NOLA College Prep Charter	3	73.4	AW	F
Charter	P. A. Capdau	5	71.2	AW	D
Charter	Samuel J. Green Charter	5	73.6	AW	F



**APPENDIX A (Con't)**

Charter	Sojourner Truth Academy	2	53.5	AUS	<b>F</b>
Charter	Sophie B. Wright Inst.of	5	83	2 Stars	<b>D</b>
Charter	The Intercultural Charter	3	66.7	AW	<b>D</b>
Charter	Algiers Technology Academy	3	52.9	AUS	<b>F</b>
Charter	Dwight D. Eisenhower	5	79.4	2 Stars	<b>D</b>
Charter	Harriet Tubman Elementary	4	55.4	AUS	<b>F</b>
Charter	Martin Behrman Elementary	5	99.3	2 Stars	<b>C</b>
Charter	McDonogh #32 Elementary	5	58.8	AUS	<b>F</b>
Charter	O.P. Walker Senior High	5	68.4	AW	<b>D</b>
Charter	William J. Fischer Elementary	4	62.6	AW	<b>F</b>
<p><b>*Academic Watch (AW) : Label</b> indicates that school is in danger of failing in 2010 or 2011 unless significant improvement in SPS occurs</p> <p>Mrs. Karen Royal has previously presented more extensive elaborations of assigned letter grades in Excel Charts to various forums</p>					

## Appendix B

Table B1	
2010-11 Achievement Labeling System	
Modified 2010 Baseline Performance Labels	
Performance Labels	SPS Ranges
5 Stars	140.0 and Above
4 Stars	120.0-139.9
3 Stars	100.0-119.9
2 Stars	80.0-99.9
1 Star	75.0-79.9
AW (Previously 1-Star)	60.0-74.9
AUS	Less than 60.0

**Source:** Academic Watch List, LDOE Press Release, 7/27/2010

Table B2		
Revised Performance Labels for 2011 and 2012		
Letter Grades Schools will be Given in 2011 and 2012 Based on Their SPS		
Performance Labels	SPS Range (2010-11)	SPS Range (2011-12)
A	120.0-200.0	120.0-200.0
B	105.0-119.9	105.0-119.9
C	90.0-104.9	90.0-104.9
D	65.0-89.9	75.0-89.9
F (Academically Unacceptable)	0-64.9	0-74.9

**Note:** In 2011-2012 and beyond, the F range will be 0-74.9 and the D range will be 75.0-89.9

**Source:** *Accountability At A Glance*, Louisiana State Department of Education, December, 2010

## Appendix C

### 2005 OPSB Schools Taken Over by RSD

Site ID	School Name	2005 Performance Label	2005 Baseline	Letter Grade Based on 2011 Standards
036020	Joseph S. Clark Senior High School	AUS	14.6	F
036102	Fredrick A. Douglass High School	AUS	15.0	F
036132	Youth Study Center	AUS	15.9	F
036042	Alcee Fortier High School	AUS	17.0	F
036106	Israel Meyer Augustine Middle School	AUS	21.3	F
036022	Walter L. Cohen High School	AUS	21.4	F
036095	John McDonogh Senior High School	AUS	25.1	F
036065	John F. Kennedy Senior High School	AUS	26.1	F
036016	Carver Middle School	AUS	26.4	F
036023	Charles J. Colton Middle School	AUS	26.5	F
036172	G. W. Carver High School	AUS	26.5	F
036077	Livingston Middle School	AUS	29.2	F
036072	Lawless High School	AUS	30.0	F
036002	Marion Abramson Senior High School	AUS	31.2	F
036125	Phillis Wheatley Elementary School	AUS	33.8	F
036024	A.P. Tureaud Elementary School	AUS	35.5	F
036018	Florence J. Chester Elementary School	AUS	35.9	F
036069	L.B. Landry High School	AUS	36.2	F
036123	Dr. Charles Richard Drew Elementary School	AUS	37.7	F
036058	Murray Henderson Middle School	AUS	38.7	F
036083	Louis Armstrong Elementary School	AUS	38.9	F
036108	Vorice Jackson Waters Elementary School	AUS	40.0	F
036087	McDonogh #32 Elementary School	AUS	40.1	F
036063	Valena C. Jones Elementary School	AUS	40.3	F
036086	Morris F.X. Jeff Elementary School	AUS	40.8	F
036127	Albert Wicker Elementary School	AUS	40.8	F
036173	O. P. Walker Senior High School	AUS	41.1	F
036174	Martin L. King Middle School	AUS	41.3	F
036062	James Weldon Johnson School	AUS	41.9	F
036169	James M. Singleton Charter Middle School	AUS	42.4	F
036152	Sarah Towles Reed Senior High School	AUS	42.7	F
036138	Fannie C. Williams Middle School	AUS	43.5	F
036093	McDonogh #42 Elementary School	AUS	43.8	F
036067	Lafayette Elementary School	AUS	44.4	F
036116	John A. Shaw Elementary School	AUS	44.4	F
036070	Laurel Elementary School	AUS	44.5	F
036051	F.W. Gregory Junior High School	AUS	44.6	F
036029	Mary Church Terrell Elementary School	AUS	46.0	F

## Appendix C (Con't)

036055	Harney Elementary School	AUS	46.3	F
036041	Fisk-Howard Elementary School	AUS	46.4	F
036044	William Frantz Elementary School	AUS	47.0	F
036047	Oretha Castle Haley Elementary School	AUS	47.3	F
036037	Helen S. Edwards Elementary School	AUS	47.8	F
036105	Lorraine Hansberry Elementary School	AUS	49.0	F
036036	Thomas Alva Edison Elementary School	AUS	49.3	F
036148	Frances Gaudet Elementary School	AUS	49.4	F
036177	New Orleans High School Signature Centers	AUS	49.4	F
036033	Paul L. Dunbar Elementary School	AUS	49.5	F
036085	McDonogh #28 Middle School	AUS	49.5	F
036129	Andrew H. Wilson Elementary School	AUS	49.5	F
036008	Martin Behrman Elementary School	AUS	49.9	F
036130	Carter G. Woodson Middle School	AUS	50.4	F
036128	Sylvanie F. Williams School	AUS	51.5	F
036025	Joseph A. Craig School	AUS	52.9	F
036026	Lawrence D. Crocker Elementary School	AUS	54.6	F
036126	Langston Hughes Elementary School	AUS	54.8	F
036013	Village de l'Est Elementary School	AUS	54.9	F
036001	Ray Abrams Elementary School	AUS	55.2	F
036061	Andrew Jackson Elementary School	AUS	56.0	F
036006	Agnes L. Bauduit Elementary School	AUS	56.1	F
036112	Julius Rosenwald Accelerated School	AUS	56.4	F
036012	Bienville Elementary School	AUS	57.0	F
036075	Little Woods Elementary School	AUS	57.0	F
036030	Ernest N. "Dutch" Morial School	AUS	57.5	F
036091	Avery Alexander School	AUS	57.8	F
036092	Barbara Jordan Elementary School	AUS	58.0	F
036084	Benjamin Banneker Elementary School	AUS	58.9	F
036027	A.D. Crossman Elementary School	AUS	59.6	F
036110	Rabouin Career Magnet High School	1 Star	61.1	D
036068	Thomy Lafon School	1 Star	61.5	D
036104	Mildred Osborne School	1 Star	62.6	D
036135	New Orleans Free School	1 Star	63.6	D
036053	Paul B. Habans Elementary School	1 Star	64.2	D
036117	Sherwood Forest Elementary School	1 Star	64.5	D
036094	McDonogh #07 Elementary School	1 Star	64.6	D
036048	Gentilly Terrace Elementary School	1 Star	65.5	D
036003	Henry W. Allen Elementary School	1 Star	65.6	D
036032	John Dibert Elementary School	1 Star	65.8	D
036052	William J. Guste Elementary School	1 Star	66.2	D
036082	McDonogh #15 Creative Arts Magnet School	1 Star	66.2	D
036073	Ronald G. McNair Elementary School	1 Star	66.4	D
036038	Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary School	1 Star	67.6	D
036114	H.C. Schaumburg Elementary School	1 Star	72.1	D
036097	Harriet Tubman Elementary School	1 Star	73.3	D
036040	William J. Fischer Elementary School	1 Star	73.8	D
036021	Mary D. Coghill Elementary School	1 Star	76.6	D
036007	Thurgood Marshall School	1 Star	77.6	D
036014	Stuart R. Bradley Elementary School	1 Star	78.5	D
036167	New Orleans Charter Middle School	1-Star	70.5	D

### Appendix C (Con't)

036164	Dr. M.L.K. Elem. School for Science & Tech.	2 Stars	81.8	D
036099	New Orleans Center for Creative Arts Academy	2 Stars	83.1	D
036049	Jean Gordon School	2 Stars	85.6	D
036019	Parkview Fundamental Magnet School	2 Stars	85.7	D
036050	S.J. Green Middle School (RSD)		RSD*	
036098	Medard H. Nelson Elementary School (RSD)		RSD*	
036107	Edward Phillips Middle School (RSD)		RSD*	
036131	Sophie B. Wright Middle School (RSD)		RSD*	
* No SPS Reported				
Source: Detailed School Level Tables 2004-05				

## ENDNOTES

- 
- <sup>1</sup> Louisiana State Education Progress Reports, 2005-06;2006-07;-2007-08; Section on School Reform: "...For purposes of analysis, schools have been grouped as 'higher performing' or 'lower performing' based on their Performance Label..." ( p. 50, 2007-08). [www.doe.state.la.us/offices/infomanagement/state\\_progress\\_reports.html](http://www.doe.state.la.us/offices/infomanagement/state_progress_reports.html)
- <sup>2</sup> Hatfield, Charles, *The Recovery School District is a "District in Academic Crisis"*, 9/30.2010, [www.researchonreforms.org](http://www.researchonreforms.org)
- <sup>3</sup> LDOE Press Release, 7/27/2010, *List of Academically Unacceptable Schools Continues to Decline*, 7/27/2010, [www.doe.state.la.us/lde/comm./pressrelease.aspx?PR=1442](http://www.doe.state.la.us/lde/comm./pressrelease.aspx?PR=1442)
- <sup>4</sup> Minimum Foundation Report: Multi-Stats October 1, 2009- by Site-Funded Membership
- <sup>5</sup> Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook for State Grants under Title IX, Part C, Section 9302 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (Public Law 107-110), 2003. Amended 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008. This application and subsequent revisions brought the original Louisiana Accountability System into conformity with NCLB's strategies, goals and timelines with respect to school and students goals, strategies and timelines.
- <sup>6</sup> "... The letter grades policy was enacted by lawmakers in the 2010 Legislative Session. The legislation was sponsored by the House Education Chairman, Austin Badon, with the express intent to give parents and others a clearer measure of how a school is performing. The legislation was signed by Governor Bobby Jindal and became Act 718."  
LDOE – *Letter Grades for Schools*, 2010, [www.doe.state.la.us/topics/lettergrades.html](http://www.doe.state.la.us/topics/lettergrades.html)
- <sup>7</sup>ACT 35: Amended Recovery School District Law, Act No. 35, First Extraordinary Session, 2005, House Bill No. 121. All schools in Orleans Parish with a School Performance Score below the state's average of 87.4 were classified as failing and taken over. Schools with an SPS of less than 60 (AUS) and schools with an SPS greater than 60 (1 and 2 Star schools were classified as failing and taken over by the state and given to the Recover School District(RSD). It should also be noted that Orleans Parish was the only parish where the criterion for failing was below the state's average. Schools in all other parishes were deemed failing only if they had an SPS of below 60.
- <sup>8</sup> Personal correspondence with RSD and LDOE staff
- <sup>9</sup> LDOE's Minimum Foundation Report (MFP): Multi-Stats October 1, 2004- By Site-Funded Membership
- <sup>10</sup> Bulletin 111- *The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System*, [www.doe.state.la.us/lde/saa/2343.html](http://www.doe.state.la.us/lde/saa/2343.html)
- <sup>11</sup>Ferguson, Barbara, *New Orleans Schools Decline Following State's 'Double Standard Takeover*, February 20, 2010, [www.researchonreforms.org](http://www.researchonreforms.org)
- <sup>12</sup> Ferguson, Barbara, *RSD High School Test Results Show Alarming Trend*, May 20, 2010, [www.researchonreforms.org](http://www.researchonreforms.org)
- <sup>13</sup> Hatfield, Charles, *Recovery School District's Myth of Educational Turnaround in New Orleans*, June, 2010. [www.researchonreforms.org](http://www.researchonreforms.org)
- <sup>14</sup>Hatfield, Charles, *RSD and NOPS after 4 Years*, October 13, 2009. [www.researchonreforms.org](http://www.researchonreforms.org)
- <sup>15</sup> Hatfield, Charles, *The Recovery School District is a "District in Academic Crisis"*, 9/30.2010, [www.researchonreforms.org](http://www.researchonreforms.org)
- <sup>16</sup> Leslie's Notebook: Edition 3, May 2009, Analysis of the Spring 2009 Test Scores, [www.educatenow.net](http://www.educatenow.net); [http://www.educatenow.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=232%3Aleslies-notebook-spring-2009-test-scores&catid=1%3Acurrent-news&Itemid=55](http://www.educatenow.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=232%3Aleslies-notebook-spring-2009-test-scores&catid=1%3Acurrent-news&Itemid=55)

---

<sup>17</sup> RSD Press Release 10/14/2009 “Collective Scores for New Orleans Schools Improve Dramatically Over Four Year Period” [www.rsdla.net/Media/Press/Release.aspx?PR=1340](http://www.rsdla.net/Media/Press/Release.aspx?PR=1340)

<sup>18</sup> New Schools for New Orleans is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to achieving excellent public schools for every child in New Orleans <http://newschoolsforneworleans.org/aboutus.php>

<sup>19</sup> NSNO and RSD Joint Press Release, 1/7/2011, *NSNO and RSD Announce Evaluator Selection as Critical First Step in Investing in Innovation(I3) Grant Implementation*, [http://newschoolsforneworleans.org/documents/1.7.11NSNOandRSDANNOUNCE\\_EVALUATOR\\_SELECTION\\_000.pdf](http://newschoolsforneworleans.org/documents/1.7.11NSNOandRSDANNOUNCE_EVALUATOR_SELECTION_000.pdf)

<sup>20</sup> LDOE Press Release, 3/10/2011, Sen. Mary Landrieu Calls for N.O. Schools to Serve as Model for National Reform, [http://www.louisianaschools.net/offices/publicaffairs/press\\_release.aspx?PR=1514](http://www.louisianaschools.net/offices/publicaffairs/press_release.aspx?PR=1514)

<sup>21</sup> LDOE Press Release, 12/9/2010, *BESE Votes to Signal Strong Reform Agenda*, [www.louisianaschools.net/offices/publicaffairs/press\\_release.aspx?PR=1495](http://www.louisianaschools.net/offices/publicaffairs/press_release.aspx?PR=1495)

<sup>22</sup> The New Orleans Imperative on WBOK and various BESE subcommittee in Baton Rouge and New Orleans