

2018 First Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Sabine Parish school system for its many outstanding accomplishments in the 2016-2017 school year.

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish school system received a "B" rating from the state Department of Education for the 2016-2017 school year, improving by more than fifteen points from the previous year; and

WHEREAS, with this improvement, the Sabine Parish school system ranks as the eighteenth highest performing school system in the state; and

WHEREAS, all Sabine Parish schools improved academically and earned progress points while improving or maintaining their letter grade standing and increasing their annual school performance score; and

WHEREAS, these accomplishments include:

(1) Six schools earned a higher letter grade.

(a) Converse High School received a "B" with an increase of slightly more than seventeen points overall and a score of 97.5.

(b) Pleasant Hill High School received a "B" with an increase of sixteen and one-half points and a score of 90.8.

(c) Ebarb High School received a "B" with a six and one-half point increase and a score of 89.1.

(d) Florien High School received an "A" with an increase of nearly fourteen points and a score of 105.3.

(e) Many High School received an "A" with a seven-point improvement and a score of 101.1.

(f) Zwolle High School received an "A" with an increase of more than five and one-half points and a score of 100.1.

(2) Four schools maintained their letter grades from the previous year while also improving academically.

(a) Negreet High School maintained an "A" and improved by more than eighteen points receiving a score of 120.8.

(b) Zwolle Elementary School improved by six and one-half points and Many Junior High School improved by slightly more than six points followed by Many Elementary School.

(3) Four Sabine Parish high schools were recognized by the state Department of Education as "Top Gains" schools - Converse, Florien, Negreet, and Pleasant Hill; and

WHEREAS, in addition to these outstanding accomplishments, the Sabine Parish school system continues to have no schools labeled as "Academically Unacceptable" and no schools with a letter grade of "F"; and

WHEREAS, the school system also experienced significant gains in the ACT/WorkKeys school performance score component as follows:

- (1) Pleasant Hill High School improved by more than forty-one points.
- (2) Many High School and Negreet High School each improved by thirty-one points.
- (3) Converse High School improved by nearly twenty-eight points.
- (4) Zwolle High School improved by twenty-three and one-half points.
- (5) Florien High School improved by twenty-three points.
- (6) Ebarb High School improved by more than six and one-half points; and

WHEREAS, high schools with increased ACT composite scores were Ebarb with a score of 18.8, Negreet with a score of 19.5, and Zwolle with a score of 18.5; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the school system had an overall gain of more than twenty-six points in the ACT school performance score component; and

WHEREAS, the school system's largest growth, nearly twenty-nine points, was in the assessment component made up of LEAP, End-of-Course, and ACT/WorkKeys scores; and

WHEREAS, since 2015, the Sabine Parish school system has seen a seven percent increase in the number of students performing at the Mastery level and above and is one of eight school systems in the state recognized by the state Department of Education for having made "accelerated progress" in English Language Arts, math, and science; and

WHEREAS, another area of success for the school system is its high school graduation rates, which increased with the class of 2016 posting the overall highest rate on record at more than ninety-two percent; and

WHEREAS, other improvements, by school, include:

(1) Pleasant Hill High School's graduation rate increased by more than twenty-seven points.

(2) Negreet High School's graduation rate increased by eighteen and one-half points.

(3) Three high schools – Pleasant Hill, Negreet, and Ebarb had a one hundred percent graduation rate.

(4) Converse and Negreet high schools each earned the maximum, ten, progress points, followed by Pleasant Hill, Florien, and Zwolle high schools, Many Junior High School, Zwolle Elementary School, Many Elementary School, Ebarb High School, and Many High School; and

WHEREAS, for the first time, one hundred percent of Sabine Parish schools were awarded progress points for demonstrating significant growth for struggling students; and

WHEREAS, the success and accomplishments of the school system are due in large part to the dedication and leadership of the superintendent of schools, Dr. Sara Ebarb, who, in recognizing the value of the educators, families, and the community working together to improve academic outcomes for all students, stated that "This is exactly the type of progress we knew our students, families, educators, and principals were capable of achieving and we look forward to continued improvement"; and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish school system merits a special measure of commendation for the pride and honor it brings to the Sabine Parish community and to the state of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Sabine Parish school system for its many

outstanding accomplishments in the 2016-2017 school year and for the pride and honor that it brings to the Sabine Parish community and to the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Sara Ebarb, the superintendent of the Sabine Parish school system.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES