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Bogalusa City Schools

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Parents/Guardians of Bogalusa High School Students,

On August 28, 2009, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) issued its Preliminary Accountability release of schools in School Improvement. According to *Bulletin 111: The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System*, schools shall enter School Improvement by two methods of identification: any school with a baseline School Performance Score (SPS) below 60.0 shall be Academically Unacceptable Schools (AUS), and any school that fails the subgroup component in the same subject for two consecutive years shall be Subgroup Component Failure (SCF). Bogalusa High School was identified as Academically Unacceptable receiving a SPS score of 58.5.

This status label requires BHS to offer School Choice to parents/students of this school. Our district configuration does not allow for school choice within our district. The NCLB guidance **§ 200.44 Public school choice** states that if there are no eligible schools within the LEA, then the LEA "Must, to the extent practicable, establish a cooperative agreement for a transfer with one or more other LEAs in the area." Both neighboring districts, St. Tammany Parish Schools and Washington Parish Schools, declined entering a School Choice Agreement with Bogalusa City Schools. The funds these districts would receive from the Louisiana Department of Education for our students would only partially cover the cost of educating our students. Accepting our students would cause these districts to use their local revenue to fund students outside of their tax base.

Bogalusa City Schools will begin offering Supplemental Education Services (SES) on October 5, 2009. Supplemental educational services are defined by the United States Department of Education as "tutoring or extra help provided to students in reading, language arts/English, and math. This extra help can be provided before or after school, on weekends, or in the summer." The No Child Left Behind Act states that these services must be of high quality, research-based, and specifically designed to increase the academic achievement of eligible children. Parents will receive a letter/registration form via US Mail identifying the SES providers, their ratings, and a brief description of their services by September 15, 2009. Parents can also access this information on the Bogalusa City School Website www.bogalusaschools.org. There will not be a deadline to enroll your student in SES.

Bogalusa High School will be implementing several initiatives to improve the education your child receives. BHS will be participating in a new high school literacy program, utilizing TARGETed assistance during the school day, offering a credit recovery programs, offering tutoring in conjunction with the 21st Century Learning Program, and utilizing site based curriculum teams to assist teachers in improving the delivery of the Louisiana Comprehensive Curriculum.

Bogalusa City Schools is committed to improving the academic achievement of our students. We appreciate your parental concern for and involvement in your child's educational experience. Please feel free to contact Bogalusa High School or the Bogalusa School Board Office at any time. In efforts to keep you informed Bogalusa High School will be sending home monthly newsletters and conducting quarterly parent meetings. We look forward to becoming more involved with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Ruth A. Horne

Superintendent Bogalusa City Schools