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# School System Relations

## Louisiana Models of Excellence

### 2023-2024

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# Agenda

- Introduction to Models of Excellence
- Meet Past Models of Excellence Recipients
- Timeline
- Nomination Process
- Models of Excellence Awards Ceremony
- Questions



# Introduction to Models of Excellence





# Louisiana Models of Excellence Overview

The Louisiana Models of Excellence initiative was created in an effort to acknowledge, honor, and spotlight schools serving as exemplary models for implementing the Department's Believe to Achieve educational priorities that leads to the advancement of student success. This initiative has three main goals.

- To celebrate excellence in Louisiana schools
- To share stories of success and provide models for others to see
- To create high-impact partnerships across school systems





# Criteria

What does it take to be recognized as a Model of Excellence?



- An exemplar for outstanding or innovative strategies
- Addressing a Believe to Achieve priority focus area
- Advancement of student learning
- Rapid Improvement



## **Meet Past Models of Excellence Recipients**





## Phillis Wheatley Community Schools (FirstLine Schools)

- Phillis Wheatley Community School's leadership team and staff are improving literacy outcomes through dedicating an instructional coach to literacy, tracking student data, and a commitment to professional growth through their Early Literacy initiative.
- Learn more about the [Early Literacy initiative](#).



## East Feliciana Public Schools

- East Feliciana Public Schools is committed to accelerating learning recovery by providing students with additional opportunities for learning and growing through the summer months. Their summer learning program, EF Accelerate, focused on providing deeply engaging experiences, strong academics, and a balance of enrichment activities and field trips.
- [Learn more about EF Accelerate.](#)



## Rapides Parish Schools

- Rapides Parish Schools is guiding young people on a path to becoming accomplished teachers through a district level strategy for implementing a pre-educator pathway, collaborating with a university to offer dual enrollment classes and providing clinical experiences for future educators.
- Learn more about their [Pre-Educator Pathway](#).



## Mansfield Elementary School (DeSoto Parish)

- Mansfield Elementary School is making great gains in literacy with their initiative for literacy interventions, Strategic Literacy Focus. Along with incorporating a "Whatever I Need (WIN)" literacy program, the leadership team and staff ensure all students receive intervention and extensions based on individual student needs.
- Learn more about [Strategic Literacy Focus](#).



## Lafourche Parish School District

- Lafourche was named as a Models of Excellence recipient for the success of their innovative science initiative, Making the Impossible Possible Through Science, and their perseverance through Hurricane Ida. Their approach to science includes strong instruction and engagement that's even adaptable for emergency shifts to virtual instruction.
- Learn more about [Making the Impossible Possible Through Science](#).



## Calcasieu Parish School Board

- Calcasieu Parish School Board is ensuring students at every high school have access to challenging courses taught by highly qualified teachers. Their Virtual Instruction Program (VIP) provides students at all high schools with access to high quality courses such as STEM, Dual Enrollment, and Advanced Placement.
- Learn more about their [Virtual Instruction Program](#).





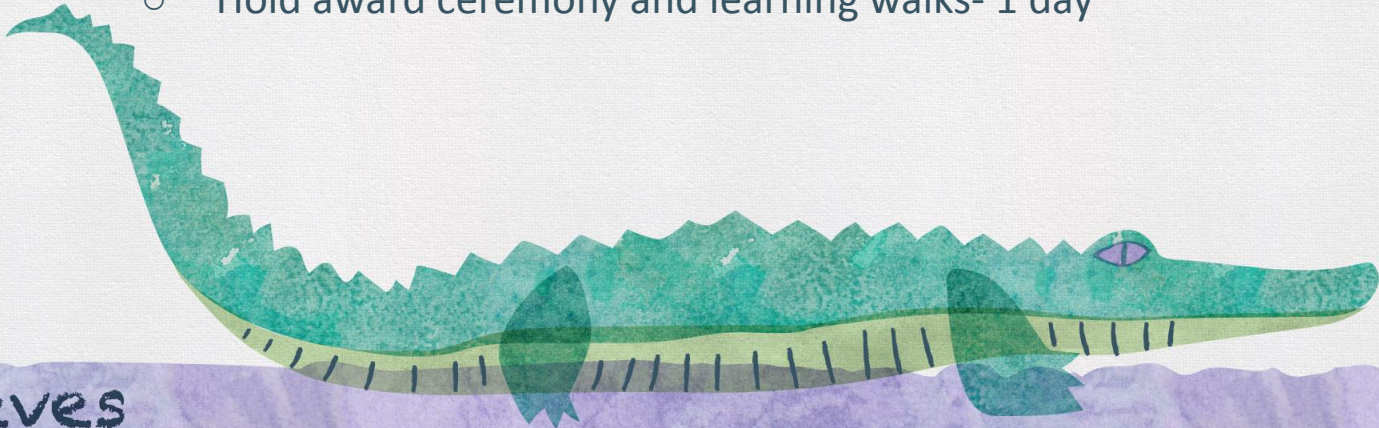
# Timeline





# Timeline

- August- Begin accepting nominations
  - While the portal will remain open, nominations need to be submitted by February 1, 2024 to be considered for the 2023-2024 school year
- September-May
  - Interviews on Zoom may be held with schools/school systems
  - Selected schools/school systems will be notified
  - Assembly planning call(s) with recipient will be conducted- 3 weeks
  - Hold award ceremony and learning walks- 1 day







## Nomination Process





## Step One

### Preview the Portal Questions

Note:

- You may use this preview document to prepare your responses





## Step Two

### Nomination Portal

Note:

- Copy and paste your responses from the preview document into the portal or respond directly in the portal.







# **Models of Excellence Award Ceremony**



## School Celebrations: What to expect?



- Educational stakeholders, dignitaries, neighboring districts, and aspiring leaders will be invited to attend.
- School assembly will be convened.
- Assembly includes performances by students and introductions/acknowledgements.
- A representative from the Louisiana Department of Education will present the award.
- Learning walks to see the initiative in action will take place on the day of the ceremony.
- Photos and videos will be taken throughout the day.



# Models of Excellence Celebrations



East Feliciana Public Schools



Rapides Parish Schools



Mansfield Elementary School  
DeSoto Parish Schools





# Models of Excellence Celebrations



Lafourche Parish School District



Calcasieu Parish School Board





## Questions and Next Steps





## Next Steps:

### [Nomination Form](#)

Nominations need to be submitted by **February 1, 2024** to be considered for the 2023-2024 school year.



# Questions

Questions may be submitted to [modelsofexcellence@la.gov](mailto:modelsofexcellence@la.gov).

