



## **RAPIDES PARISH SCHOOLS | PRE-EDUCATOR PATHWAY**

**BELIEVE TO  
ACHIEVE PRIORITY**

Develop and retain a  
diverse, highly-effective  
educator workforce.

### **THE INITIATIVE**

Under the Department's guidance, **pre-educator pathways** were designed to cultivate highly skilled educators by guiding young people on a path to becoming accomplished teachers, beginning in high school and extending through college and into the profession.

### **FUNDING**

Funding for the curriculum for the pre-educator pathway was provided by Rapides Parish Career and Technical Education (CTE) program.

### **ENROLLMENT**

Forty junior and senior students at four high schools are enrolled in the program. Enrichment clubs for future educators are also offered to sixth grade through sophomore students at fourteen schools.

### **STAFFING**

A school system-level position was created for implementing and growing the pre-educator pathway program. There are four teacher leaders currently serving in the program.

### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

Through a partnership with Louisiana State University at Alexandria (LSUA), the students are offered dual enrollment and will receive six hours of college credit. The students enrolled in the pre-educator pathway will receive enough credentials and micro-credentials to begin working as a paraprofessional following high school graduation.

### **STRUCTURE**

Throughout the courses, students participate in field and clinical experiences. For the first field experience, students attended an event to learn what it means to be a teacher in Rapides Parish Schools. Speakers included Superintendent Powell, human resources representatives, grant writers, and curriculum specialists. Students also conduct observations and have the opportunity to be involved in the teaching process.

### **IN CONCLUSION**

Rapides Parish Schools was named a Model of Excellence for their school system-level strategy for implementing a pre-educator pathway, collaboration between schools and LSUA, and for their clinical experiences for future educators. While this is the first year that the pre-educator pathway has been offered in Rapides Parish Schools, the school system is dedicated to seeing the program grow.

For questions, contact [modelsofexcellence@la.gov](mailto:modelsofexcellence@la.gov), or visit our [website](#).