



# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**DATE:** December 11, 2012

**CIRCULAR:** 1152

**TO:** City/Parish and other Local School District Superintendents  
Charter School Board Presidents  
Executive Director, LA School for Math, Science and the Arts (LSMSA)  
Dean, College of Education of Louisiana State University  
Deputy Secretary, Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ)

**FROM:** John White *JW*  
State Superintendent of Education

**SUBJECT:** December 2012 (Rewards for Student Progress)

Per the Minimum foundation Program (MFP) Formula defined in Senate Concurrent Resolution 99 (SCR 99) of the 2012 Regular Session of the Legislature the annual reduction in the Hold Harmless funding is repurposed in FY2012-2013 and utilized as rewards to Top Gains schools identified by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE).

#### **Allocation Methodology**

Per the attached allocation schedule four hundred, forty (440) schools were identified as Top Gains schools and will receive monetary rewards for meeting or exceeding growth targets during the 2011-2012 school year. Top Gains schools are schools that improved their School Performance Score by or beyond a pre-determined growth target. Top Gains schools will receive \$8,453.85 each for educational purposes within the school. These awards align with *Louisiana Believes*, the state's comprehensive plan for continued improvement, which starts with the idea that we have to give decision making power to the adults closest to children if students are to achieve at higher levels.

#### **Expenditures for Educational Purposes within the school**

Reward dollars are to be spent for educational purposes within the school. Expenditures for educational purposes are those expenditures related to the operational and instructional activities of a school to include: instructional programs, pupil support programs, instructional staff programs, school administration, general administration, business services, operations and maintenance of plant services, student transportation services, food services operations, enterprise operations, community services operations, facility acquisition and construction services and debt services as defined by Louisiana Accounting and Uniform Governmental Handbook, Bulletin 1929. (This includes supplemental pay to teachers.)

#### **When will the city/parish school districts and other school systems receive funding?**

Payments will be made as a separate transfer at the same time as the December MFP payment which is due to LEA's by December 18, 2012.

#### **When will individual schools receive the reward?**

City/parish school districts shall transfer these rewards to the individual schools by no later than Friday, January 18, 2013.

*Louisiana Believes.*

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If you have any questions regarding this information, contact Charlotte Stevens at (225) 342-4989 or via e-mail at [charlotte.stevens@la.gov](mailto:charlotte.stevens@la.gov). You may also call the Department's toll-free number at 1-877-453-2721.

JW/BS/cs  
Attachments

- c: Local School System Business Managers/Directors of Finance  
Elizabeth "Beth" Scioneaux, Deputy Superintendent for Mgt and Finance, LDoE  
Charlotte Stevens, Director, Education Finance, LDoE  
Leslie Jewell, Director, Appropriation Control, LDoE

**Louisiana Believes.**