

GOLDEN APPLE AWARD

CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF OUR PARTNER SCHOOLS

AVOYELLES PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL MANSURA, LOUISIANA

"I wanted a school where children could learn...where children could be happy and when visitors walk in the door they know what our mission is here" These words describe the five year dream of Julie Durand, founder of Avoyelles Public Charter School in Mansura, Louisiana. And in 2,000 after extensive preparation, APCS opened its doors and began its first year of operation. With 250 students in K-4, a new staff, and a brand new building, the vision had become a reality. Each year, a new section of classes was added and today 10 years later, the school consists of a complete K-12 population of 685 students housed on a mini campus style complex of four separate facilities. The campus now includes not only the original building housing Elementary - Middle school, but a new High School facility, a Fine Arts complex with a state of the art auditorium/theater and art and music suites. The campus is complete with a new athletic complex where all physical education classes as well as sports events are conducted in the large gymnasium.

The student population comes from the many families in this rural farming parish in Louisiana. APCS is a Type II Charter School and is accountable directly to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education of Louisiana (BESE). The make up of the student population is varied with a minority population of 35%. Avoyelles was recently awarded the state's highest rating of all the charter schools in Louisiana on the states school performance criteria (LEAP, GEE, and Attendance).

Since its beginning, Avoyelles has continued its commitment to the Direct Instruction family of programs, on-going training and supportive supervision coupled with a data driven set of criteria for student achievement. Educational Resources, Inc. has been a proud partner for the last 5 years and recently awarded it's Golden Apple Award for Avoyelles' outstanding academic achievement. Avoyelles Public Charter School was recently recognized by BESE as the number one charter school in the state in student achievement data.

