



*STATE OF LOUISIANA*  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
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**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Parish/City School Superintendents

FROM: Cecil J. Picard  
State Superintendent of Education

Date: July 28, 2006

RE: School Improvement Requirements for 2006-07

**2006 Accountability Release**

Due to the required implementation of the LEAP and Louisiana Alternate Assessment, Level 2 tests, there will be no preliminary accountability release before the start of the 2006-07 school year. After several discussions with the U. S. Department of Education (US ED), the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) received guidance on how to proceed with the late release of accountability results and implementation of School Improvement (SI) sanctions. Please be advised that all schools that offered School Choice (and any other sanctions) in 2005-06 school year will have to continue to offer Choice (and any other sanctions) at the start of the 2006-07 school year. Once a school begins offering Choice for the 2006-07 school year, it must continue to offer Choice for the entire school year. Any schools newly identified as entering School Improvement (SI) at the fall release, including schools identified as failing the Subgroup Component a second consecutive year in the same subject, will begin sanctions immediately upon identification, with one exception. Schools that had a 2004-05 Baseline SPS of 60.0 or above and have a 2005-06 Baseline SPS of less than 60.0 will be labeled as being in SI, but will not have to implement sanctions associated with being in SI for the 2006-07 school year only. Schools that were identified as being in SI 2 in the fall of 2005 but received a waiver from sanctions, upon the 2006 fall release, must implement sanctions for SI 2 if their 2005-06 Baseline SPS is below 60.0 or must implement sanctions for SI 3, including Choice and, for Title I schools, Supplemental Educational Services (SES), if their 2005-06 Baseline SPS is below 60.0 and the school does not make its Growth Target.

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**Hurricane Considerations**

Schools identified as Severe Impact schools because of the hurricanes that have chosen the option to start over in accountability will receive no published results in the fall release.

Schools identified as Severe Impact schools from the hurricanes that have chosen the option to receive Dual Calculations with a Waiver, will remain at their 2005-06 SI status and continue to implement the associated sanctions unless the fall accountability results show they performed well enough to exit SI. In that case, the school would receive a new label with the fall release and be subject to the same requirements as other schools that were formerly in SI.

Schools closed more than 18 consecutive school days due to the hurricanes will be excluded from the Subgroup Component evaluation for the fall accountability results. For all other schools, the displaced students will be evaluated as a separate subgroup for the 2005-06 accountability release. Failure of only the Displaced Student subgroup, will not cause the school to enter or advance in SI.

Please refer to the *Bulletin 111* attachment.

If you have any questions, please contact Thomas Spencer at 225.342.3510 or at the department's toll free number.

CJP:TS:kms

Attachment

c: Scott Norton, Ph.D.