



# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

February 3, 2014

Janet Dixon, President  
Rapides Parish School Board  
PO Box 1230  
Alexandria, LA 71309

Dear Board President Dixon,

Act 1 of the 2012 legislative session empowers educators to make personnel decisions based on merit and demand, in the best interest of students. To support local school boards' and Superintendents' implementation of Act 1, the Louisiana Department of Education reviews monthly board meeting minutes to determine how Act 1's requirements are reflected in current board policies and practices. Starting this month, the Department will begin notifying boards of issues that may need to be addressed in their district.

One provision that the Department monitors is the delegation of authority to the Superintendent for the hiring of all school personnel and ensuring that they are qualified for the position. Per Act 1, boards should no longer approve personnel decisions and should provide full authority to their Superintendent to make these decisions in the best interest of their district. Please refer to Section §81 of Act 1, cited below:

A.(3) Each city and parish local public school board shall delegate authority for the hiring and placement of all school personnel, including those for which state certification is required to the local school superintendent. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure that all persons have proper certification, as applicable, and are qualified for the position.

If your board does not have board minutes available on your website, a member of the Department's staff will reach out within the next week to obtain copies of September 2013 through January 2014 meeting minutes.

Additionally, if your board has hired a new Superintendent since the start of the 2012-13, please send the Department a copy of their contract to [act1@la.gov](mailto:act1@la.gov).

If you or other members of the Board have questions regarding Act 1 and its implementation, please do not hesitate to contact me at [hannah.dietsch@la.gov](mailto:hannah.dietsch@la.gov).

Sincerely,

Hannah Dietsch, Assistant Superintendent of Talent  
Louisiana Department of Education

CC:

Nason Authement, Superintendent, Rapides Parish Public Schools

**Louisiana Believes**