

Office of the Superintendent, Louisiana Department of Education
P.O. Box 94064
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064

December 11, 2015

RE: Letter of Introduction - 2016 Sunshine Foundation Book Reading Program

Dear Parish Superintendents of Education:

As you may know, the Louisiana National Guard, in partnership with the Sunshine Foundation, handles the annual distribution and reading of the “You are Sunshine” books written by Mrs. Shirley Porter. This past year the Guard read to kindergarten students all over the state and distributed over 25,000 free books in support of this literacy project designed to increase children’s self-esteem, exercise, and eat sensibly as well as encourage adults to read to their children.

The Sunshine Foundation is again working with the Louisiana National Guard to distribute and read the “You are Sunshine” books throughout the state. To that end, I ask that you share this letter of introduction with your K-level school principals, inviting all public schools in Louisiana to participate in the free program. I hope that you will support this annual initiative, further endorsing the program to our school officials and allowing the Sunshine Foundation to continue to distribute to our kindergarten students.

To request a reading and/or distribution, schools are asked to fill out the online request form before January 31, 2016.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016SunshineBookReadings>

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. You may also contact LTC Thomas “Mark” Turner of the Louisiana National Guard at mark.turner@la.gov if you have specific questions about the readings or Ms. Kandace Walls at kandace.walls@gmail.com regarding the Sunshine Foundation and their initiatives. Thank you for all you do for the children of Louisiana and your support of the Sunshine Foundation and the Louisiana National Guard.

Sincerely,

John White
State Superintendent of Education