

THE RECOVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEWIDE

The RSD serves as the final intervention in a ladder of interventions for schools that are considered persistently struggling. The RSD will work with these schools and school systems to implement the improvement plans required by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

The RSD will intervene in instances where school systems do not submit necessary improvement plans, submit unacceptable plans, or do not implement those plans. Schools that have been F-rated for four consecutive years remain eligible for placement in the RSD upon approval by BESE.

THE RECOVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT IN BATON ROUGE

The RSD is part of a collaborative partnership along with the Louisiana Department of Education, New Schools for Baton Rouge and community, business and civic leaders across the parish to create the Baton Rouge Achievement Zone (BRAZ).

BRAZ is a system of autonomous public charter schools serving more than 4,000 students in Louisiana's Capital City. The goal of BRAZ is to create a system of high-performing schools designed around the needs of children that prepare them for college and careers and engages local citizens in the push for quality educational outcomes for all Baton Rouge communities. BRAZ Schools are focused on creating high expectations, inspiring innovation and imagination, and preparing students for the opportunities of the future.

THE RECOVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT IN NEW ORLEANS

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina and the subsequent flooding, the Louisiana Legislature took action to hand over the majority of Orleans Parish public schools to the state Recovery School District (RSD). The RSD was created as the entity to intervene in and turnaround low-performing schools.

This action led to the RSD directly operating dozens of schools and overseeing many Type 5 charter schools from November 2005 through June 2018, when the [legislatively-approved unification](#) of schools with the Orleans Parish School Board became effective.

During that time, public education in New Orleans saw unprecedented growth in student achievement and served as a national model for state recovery districts and innovative practices such as centralized enrollment.

- The city's graduation rate rose from 54% pre-Katrina to 72.8% by 2017, a gain of over 18%.
- New Orleans' ACT Composite increased from 17.0 in 2005 to 18.9 in 2017, a gain of 1.9 points.
- In 2005, only 37% of New Orleans students attended a non-failing school. As of the 2017-2018 school year, 88% of New Orleans students attended a non-failing school, and 61% of students attended an A, B, or C school.
- In 2005, only one-third of New Orleans students scored Basic or above on state assessments for elementary and middle school. As of 2017, that percentage has risen to 53%, reducing the performance gap between New Orleans and the state from 24% in 2005 to 9% in 2017.
- Since 2005, New Orleans has increased the percentage of high school graduates enrolling in college the fall after their graduation by 24%, from 37% up to 61% in 2017. New Orleans' graduates now enroll in college the fall after their graduation at a higher rate than the statewide average of 58%.
- The RSD developed and implemented [OneApp](#), a centralized student enrollment system that insured fairness and transparency for families in a citywide system of choice.
- The centralized student expulsion process ensured due process for students and decreased the students expelled to an alternative setting to 0.32%, leading to one of the lowest expulsion rates for an urban area nationwide.
- The RSD is responsible for administering the largest school disaster recovery program in US history, the \$2B School Facility Master Plan for Orleans Parish, providing every student access to a new, renovated, or refurbished facility.

Currently, the RSD's role in New Orleans consists of fulfilling its continued responsibility for the completion of the [School Facilities Master Plan](#), a more than \$2 Billion program to rebuild the school facilities damaged during Hurricane Katrina.

For More Information about the RSD in New Orleans

- [10 Years After Hurricane Katrina: A Review of the Data](#)
- [EnrollNOLA](#)
- [The New Orleans School Facilities Master Plan](#)
- [The Orleans Parish School Board](#)
- [The 2018 Cowen Institute State of Public Education in New Orleans](#)

