

Insert  
school/district  
logo here

Dear Parents/Community Leaders:

On behalf of the faculty at <insert school name>, I am delighted to share with you some exciting news relative to improved student achievement! As you may know, our school is a participating Louisiana TAP school. TAP: The System for Teacher and Student Advancement is a nationally-proven comprehensive reform model designed to improve teacher effectiveness and thereby increase student achievement. In partnership with the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET) that manages national TAP, the Louisiana Department of Education began implementing TAP in schools across the state in 2003. This year marks our school's <insert number> year of TAP implementation.

Louisiana TAP utilizes a value-added model which provides a statistical measure for how much of an impact a school and individual teachers have on student achievement. On an annual basis schools receive a value-added score ranging from 1 to 5. The meaning of each score is as follows:

Value-added score of 1 = achieved significantly less than 1 year of academic growth

Value-added score of 2 = achieved less than 1 year of academic growth

Value-added score of 3 = achieved 1 year of academic growth

Value-added score of 4 = achieved more than 1 year of academic growth

Value-added score of 5 = achieved significantly more than 1 year of academic growth

We are pleased to share with you that our school's value-added score for <insert school year> is <insert number>. [Expand this area to re-emphasize the meaning of your value-added score. Note challenges overcome—i.e., student population, or include information that might provide context for the significance of the success that was achieved. Also, list any recent events recognizing the school's success].

We appreciate your continued support of our TAP efforts as we strive to build a stronger community through improved student achievement and increased teacher effectiveness. We welcome the opportunity for you to visit <name of school> to broaden your understanding of TAP and the numerous ways in which it is benefitting our teachers and students. [Note: If there is an event scheduled to celebrate school's success to which they are invited, mention in this paragraph].

Sincerely,

<Name of Principal or School Leader>

<Title>

<Name of School or District Office>