Louisiana Believes

Beyond the Parent-Teacher Conference:Keeping Parents Engaged Throughout the
School Year



Agenda

PARENT ENGAGEMENT:

What is good practice?

What is required?

What tools and resources are available to support schools?

What is a school that families love?



COMMITTED

It is fully focused on understanding and helping families achieve their goals for their children; it embraces these goals as its own.



COLLABORATIVE

It actively and authentically engages families as full partners, not service recipients.



RESPONSIVE

It anticipates
families' priorities
and needs, responds
quickly to their
concerns, and
communicates
effectively.



RESPECTFUL

It treats every family as worthy and important, acknowledging diverse perspectives and varying abilities.

Being Committed Means...

- Taking time to understand what families and students want
- Effectively communicating student expectations and performance
- Responding urgently to signs that a student is struggling
- Creating a school culture where kids feel safe, are respected, and can be themselves
- Thinking about student success holistically, not just in terms of academics



IN PRACTICE

Give parents report cards they can easily understand.

Track whether course grades match test scores.

Ask families about their long-term goals for their children and tell them honestly whether students are on track to meet them.

The Challenge: Parents' perception is not always reality.

Parents' perception of how kids are performing in school lags behind national data.



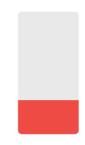
90%

Parents who believe their child is performing at or above grade level in reading



85%

Parents who say their child is on track to meet learning goals and grade level expectations



34%

at or above grade level, according to national data

Reading performance data from the National Assessment of Educational Progress 2015

Source: Learning Heroes, 2016

Problems Ed Navigators see:

- Test results are not interpreted or explained to parents
- Parents trust teachers more than test scores
- Teachers sometimes use soft language that fails to convey level of student struggle
- All parents want to believe their children are doing well and hear selectively

Being Collaborative Means...

- Treating families like allies and welcome guests
- Providing families with the information and supports they need to engage in their child's education
- Understanding how a decision will affect parents before making it (e.g., start times, calendar, etc.)
- Asking parents about how the school can help them, not just explaining how they can help the school
- Approaching problems and challenges as issues to be addressed together



IN PRACTICE

Having family service standards for front office team

Offering alternative ways to participate in conferences

Tell families *how* to help with homework.

The Challenge: Parents want more information about student performance and progress.

"What information are you most interested in receiving from your child's teacher?"	Elementary	Secondary
Updates about how my child is doing in school and how I can help him/her do better.	83%	74%
Timely notices when my child's performance is slipping.	67%	76%
Information about my child's behavior and how he/she gets along with other students.	61%	37%
Information about what my child is expected to learn during the school year.	55%	43%
Homework and grading policies.	38%	48%
Classroom events calendar.	39%	33%
Best ways for communicating with the teacher (e-mail, phone, meetings, etc.).	27%	43%
Descriptions of daily instructional activities and how they meet the needs of my child.	36%	26%
Opportunities for parents to volunteer or be involved in the classroom or grade-level activities (field trips, special programs, etc.)	30%	16%

Source: National School Public Relations Association, Communications Survey. July 2011.

Being Responsive Means...

- Communicating with families regularly
- Making it easy for families to find contact information for teachers and staff
- Taking families' concerns seriously and addressing them quickly
- Publishing a clear calendar before the year begins and sticking to it
- Giving families regular opportunities to provide input and feedback



IN PRACTICE

Adopt a 24 hour responsiveness standard

Call with good news, not just bad.

Conduct an annual student and family survey

The Challenge: Parent and school interactions can be difficult.

- When do parents hear from school? Are teachers sharing the good news? Or do most phone calls home concern bad news?
- What happens when they walk in? Who greets families? How long are they typically asked to wait? What look do they have on their faces when they walk back out?
- What happens when they call or email? Is it common for families to ask for the same thing more than once before it happens?
- What happens when there's a problem? When a student is struggling, are educators reaching out to families to work toward solutions, or do educators wait for families to raise the alarm themselves?
- What happens after a meeting? How do families know whether next steps have been taken and are yielding positive results?

Being Respectful Means...

- Making every family feel like they belong
- Being attentive to basic priorities that can have a big impact on families, like bus scheduling and dependability, meal service, afterschool care
- Minimizing added costs for extracurricular activities, school uniforms, etc.
- Valuing and respecting parents' time by scheduling school events that are adaptive to their schedules
- Reducing the burden on parents whenever possible (e.g., pre-filling forms, making sure they know what paperwork they may need well in advance)
- Taking into consideration cultural and educational diversity of parents when designing communications and events



IN PRACTICE

Allowing families to bring children to meetings after hours.

Translating key documents into the language parents speak.

Scheduling meetings that don't require parents to miss work, if possible.

Summary/Questions

There are plenty of schools that parents **like**, but it takes true, deep engagement to create a school that parents **love**.

- Are there practices your school is not using today that you would like to see it adopt?
- What barriers exist to implementing some of these practices in your school(s)?

Agenda

PARENT ENGAGEMENT:

What is good practice?

What is required?

What tools and resources are available to support schools?

Parent and Family Engagement in ESSA

Parental involvement always has been a centerpiece of Title I, however ESSA provides greater clarity and direction to school systems on what meaningful parent engagement should look like, particularly around:

- conducting ongoing parent outreach;
- developing parent and family engagement policies that are grounded in evidencebased strategies;
- coordinating and integrating parent services and resources; and
- removing language, learning, or other parent involvement barriers.

Parent and Family Engagement: LDOE Responsibilities

State Education Agencies (SEA) are responsible for the following parent and family engagement activities:

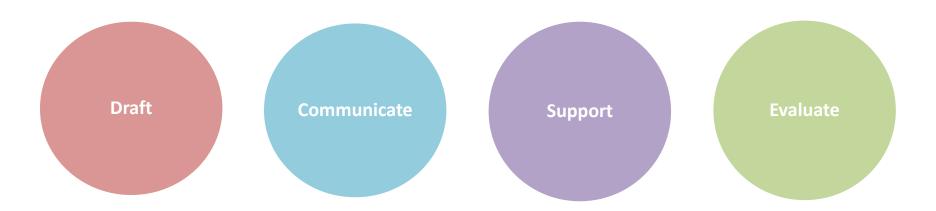
- Support the collection and dissemination of effective parent and family engagement practices to its LEAs and schools (section 1111(g)(2)(F)).
- Notify LEAs, Indian tribes and tribal organizations, schools, teachers, parents, and the
 public of the challenging state academic standards, academic assessments, and the
 state accountability system (section 1111(g)(2)(B)).
- Provide individual student reports to parents that allow parents to understand and address the specific academic needs of their student and that include information regarding their student's achievement on State assessments (section 1111(b)(2)(B)(x)).
- Review each LEA's Title I plan to determine if the LEA's parental involvement activities meet the requirements of section 1116 (section 1116(h)).

Parent and Family Engagement: School System Responsibilities

Title I school systems and schools must:

- 1. Conduct outreach to parents and family members and implement programs for involving parents and family members in Title I programs in consultation with parents.
- 2. Create a written parent and family engagement policy that shall be incorporated into the school system improvement plan under section 1112. The plan must identify expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement.

The law identifies four key steps in developing this policy:



Developing the Parent and Family Engagement Policy: Draft

Draft

Section 1116 (a)(2)

School systems **shall** develop a written parent and family engagement policy jointly with families that establish expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement. The policy shall be incorporated into the local educational agency's plan developed under section 1112, and shared with families.





Section 1116 (a)(1)

A school system may only receive funds if their plan is developed and implemented with the inclusion of ALL families and reaches beyond barriers of culture, language, disabilities, and poverty.



Section 1116 (a)(2)(C) and Section 1116 (e)(4)

School systems should coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies, programs and activities, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.

Developing the Parent and Family Engagement Policy: Communicate

Communicate

Section 1116 (c)(4)

Requires school systems to provide parents with:

- timely information about parental involvement policies and programs;
- a description and explanation of each school's curriculum and assessments, and the achievement levels of the state academic standards; and
- opportunities for regular meetings (when requested) to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

Section 1116 (d)(2)(D)

Ensuring regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language or format that family members can understand.









Developing the Parent and Family Engagement Policy: Support

Support

Section 1116 (a)(2)(B)

School systems should provide the support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.





School systems **shall** provide materials and training to help parents support student learning at home and foster parental involvement such as literacy and technology training.

Developing the Parent and Family Engagement Policy: Evaluate

Evaluate

Section 1116 (a)(2)(D)

Conduct, with the **meaningful** involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of **all** schools served under this part.



Section (a)(2)(D)(i)

Evaluation method and tools need to identify the type and frequency of family interactions and the needs families have to better support and assist their child's learning at home. This includes ensuring that barriers to family engagement activities are removed from the evaluation process.



Section 1116 (a)(2)(E)

School systems should use the findings from the evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and revise, if necessary, their existing parent and family engagement policy.





Funding Parent and Family Engagement

Parental and Family Involvement:

Section 1116 (a)(3)(B): Parents and family members of children receiving services under Title I A shall be involved in the decisions regarding how funds are allotted for parental involvement activities.

Reservation of Funds:

- Section 1116 (a)(3): School systems must set aside at least 1% of its funds for parent and family engagement when they receive \$500,000 or more in Title I Part A funding.
- Section 1116 (a)(3)(B): Schools systems may not retain more than 10% of the 1% set-aside for administrative costs.

Use of Funds:

Section 1116 (a)(3)(D): Reserved funds shall be used to carry out at least one of the following parent and family engagement activities:

- 1. PD on effective parental involvement strategies
- 2. programs to reach families at home, in the community or at school
- 3. Dissemination of information on parent and family engagement best practices
- 4. Collaboration with community or other organizations to increase parent and family engagement (or providing grants to)
- 5. Engagement in any other activities the school system deems appropriate to execute its parent and family engagement policy.

Summary/Questions

ESSA requires and funds parent and family engagement polices that create opportunities for meaningful engagement with all parents and family members throughout the school year.

- How will these new requirements change the way you draft or revise your parent and family engagement policy?
- What will be the biggest barriers in engaging all families in this process?
- What tools could the Department create to support you in this process?

Agenda

PARENT ENGAGEMENT:

What is good practice?

What is required?

What tools and resources are available to support schools?

Supporting Parent and Family Engagement

In order to support schools and school systems in establishing meaningful parent and family engagement, the Department will release an **annual Parent and Family Engagement Calendar** that will include:

- key engagement opportunities between families and schools throughout the school year;
- resources that coincide with each parent and family engagement opportunity; and
- key questions both parents and educators should be asking each other during these engagement opportunities.

Parent Engagement Calendar

Month	Engagement Topic	Resources	ESSA Parent Engagement		
			Support		
August September	 Back-to-School Parent-Teacher Conferences (focused on 2017 LEAP results and academic focus for the year) 	 Questions to Ask in Parent/Teacher Conferences Parent and Teacher Guides to LEAP Results Parent Guide to Louisiana Student Standards 2017-2018 Back-to-School Guide for Educators 	 Section 1116 (c)(4) Section 1116 (e)(2) Section 1111(b)(2)(B)(x) 		
Fall	School Performance Scores	 School Finder/School Report Cards Parent Guide to School Report Cards video 	Section 1116 (c)(4)Section 1111(g)(2)(B)		
December	Parent Engagement Policy	 Guide to Meaningful Parent Engagement Practices 	 Section 1116 (a)(2) & (h) 		
February	Preparing for the LEAP	 Parent Guide to LEAP Tests Practice Tests Sample and Released Test items 	• Section 1116 (e)(2)		
May	17-18 CloseoutPreparing for Summer	Academic Progress Snapshot	 Section 1116 (d)(2)(D) 		

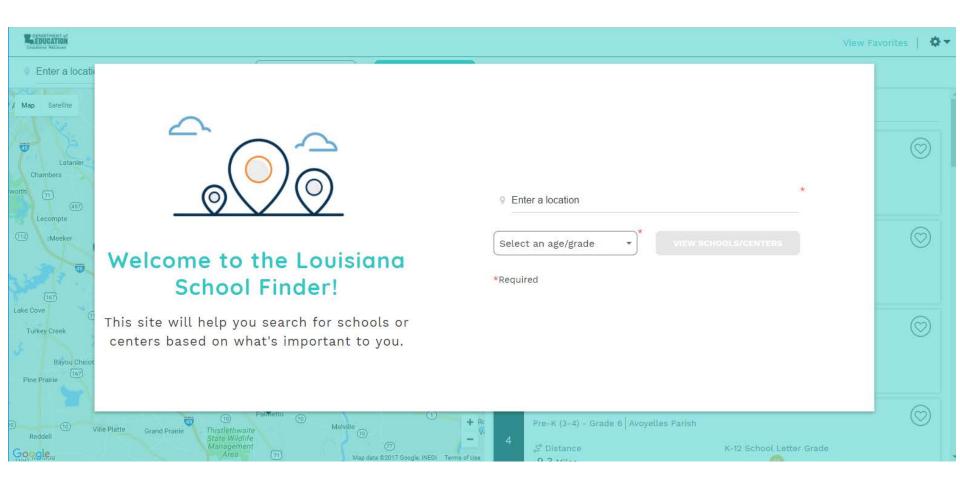
Louisiana School Finder

The Department is in the process of developing an interactive school finder that allows families to explore schools in their area or an area where they are moving to.

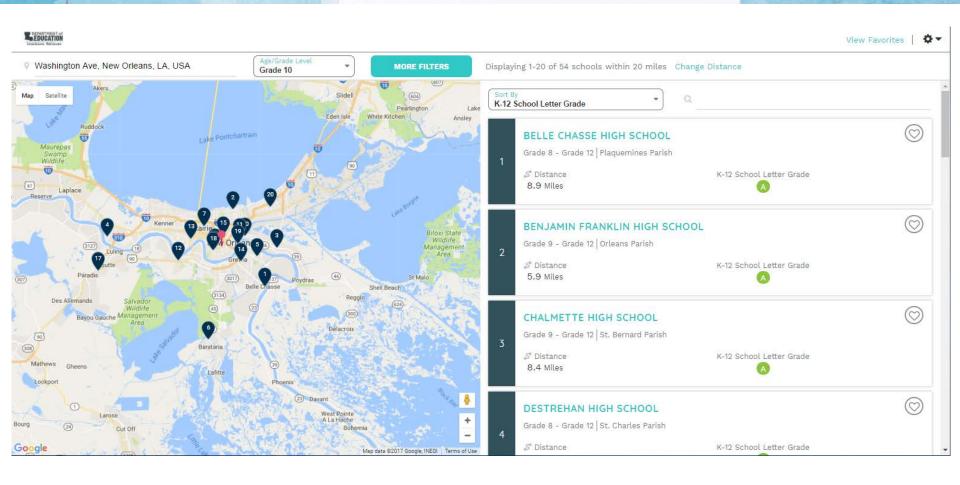
This new system will provide families with the following information on the state's public or publicly funded schools and early childhood centers:

- Overview: school contact information, hours of operation, principal or director name, transportation information, before and after school options
- School Offerings: academic, enrichment, athletic, and extra-curricular offerings
- Academic Performance: data on how well a school is preparing students for the next level of study, including each metric used in calculating school performance scores

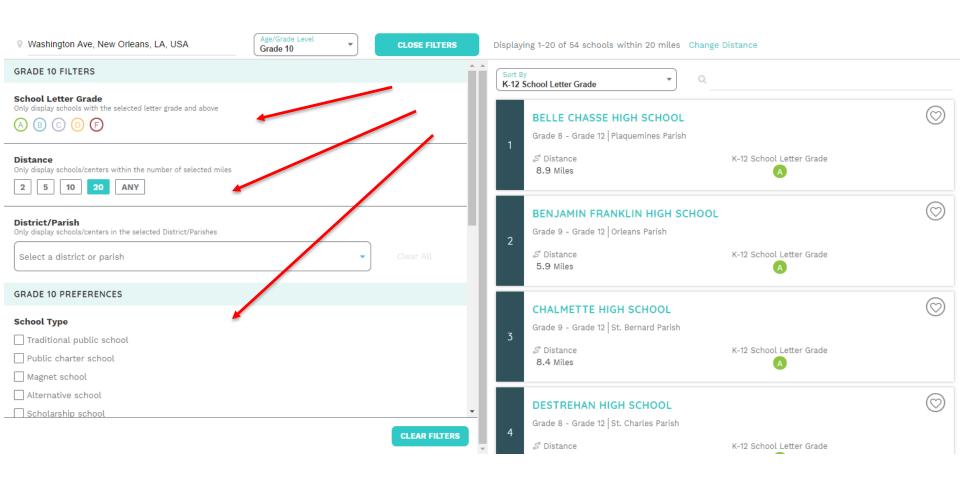
User begins by entering in an address, city, or zip code and the grade level or age of the child



The user is then directed to the map and school results list

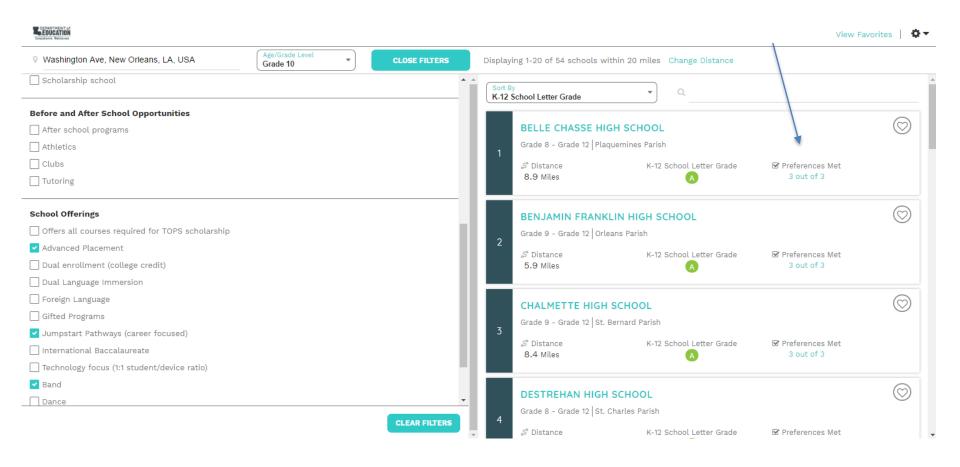


User can select filters and preferences to customize their search



In this case, the user selected that they were interested in Advanced Placement, Jumpstart Pathways and Band.

Indicates if preferences have been met





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ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

SCHOOL OFFERINGS

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE (COMING SOON)



- ¶ 1100 East Judge Perez Dr. Chalmette, LA 70043 View on Google Maps>
- **504-301-2600**
- information coming soon!
- O Information coming soon!

OVERVIEW

GRADES SERVED Grade 9-Grade 12

DISTRICT/PARISH St. Bernard Parish

FEEDER SCHOOL Not applicable

SCHOOL TYPE Traditional public school

PRINCIPAL

Wayne Warner

EARLIEST DROP-OFF Information coming soon!

LATEST PICK-UP Information coming soon!



STUDENT POPULATION

TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT NUMBER OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN TECHNOLOGY 1732 Students

Gifted Programs INFORMATION COMING SOON! Jump Start Pathways INFORMATION COMING SOON!

Student to Device Ratio 2.59

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT GROUPS



ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED



ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS



MINORITY



STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

CHALMETTE HIGH SCHOOL



K-12 Report Card Grade



ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

SCHOOL OFFERINGS

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE (COMING SOON



COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP POTENTIAL

Does not offer all courses required for TOPS scholarship



ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

- Advanced Placement Details >
- Foreign Language Details >
- Jumpstart Pathways (career focused)



MUSIC/ART

- Band Details >
- Dance
- Music
- Visual Arts
- X Theatre



BEFORE & AFTER-SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

Information coming soon!



CLUBS

Information coming soon!

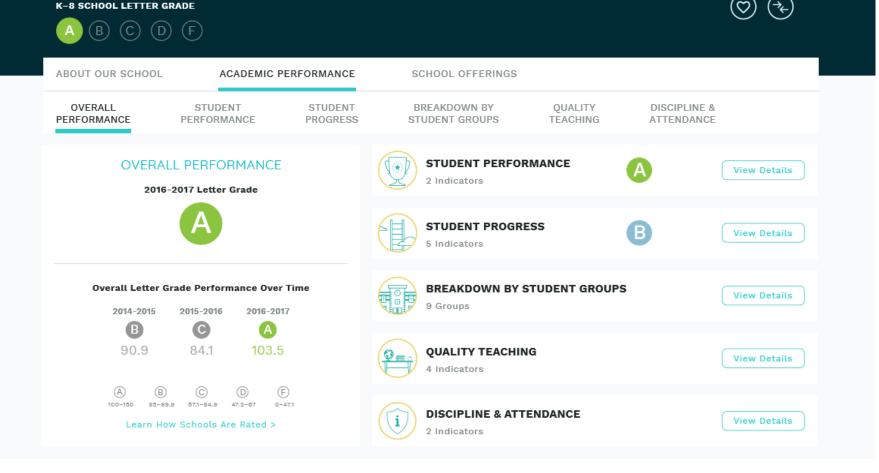


SPORTS

Information coming soon!

< Back to Finder

WHALE COAST PUBLIC SCHOOL



^{*}Note: this is a fictional K-8 public school

WHALE COAST PUBLIC SCHOOL

K-8 SCHOOL LETTER GRADE















ABOUT OUR SCHOOL	ACADEMIC	ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE	
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	STUDENT PERFORMANCE	STUDENT PROGRESS	

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

2016-2017 Letter Grade



This rating is based on students achieving mastery of key content. For schools that have an 8th grade, the rating also incorporates the degree to which middle schools have prepared students to be successful in high school based on middle school students' success in 9th grade.

INDICATORS

Why is this important?

STUDENTS SCORING AT MASTERY

SCHOOL OFFERINGS

BREAKDOWN BY

STUDENT GROUPS



DISCIPLINE &

ATTENDANCE

View Details

STUDENTS ON TRACK AT END OF 9TH GRADE

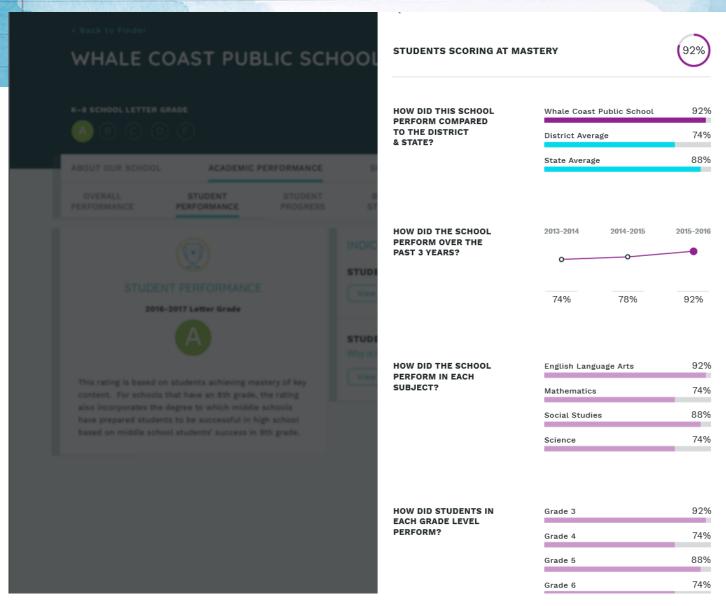
QUALITY

TEACHING



View Details

*Note: this is a fictional K-8 public school



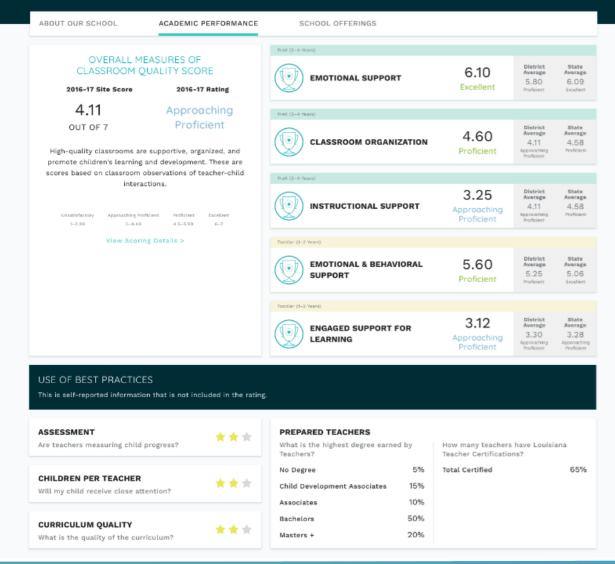
^{*}Note: this is a fictional K-8 public school

WHALE COAST EARLY EDUCATION ACADEMY

EARLY EDUCATION PERFORMANCE
Approaching Proficient







Feedback

The Department is committed to providing schools and school systems with the tools they need to develop and implement quality parent and family engagement policies.

- Will the new calendar better support schools in establishing meaningful parent and family engagement practices?
- Will the LDOE resources be helpful in accomplishing the parent and family engagement activities outlined in this presentation?
- What additional tools are needed?
- How helpful wit the new school finder be in providing families with information about your schools?

Contacts

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