

## LINCOLN PREPARATORY SCHOOL MAKES GAINS ON ANNUAL STATE REPORT CARD

### *School Earns 'B' Letter Grade for Helping Students Grow*

GRAMBLING, La. – Lincoln Preparatory School received its annual report card today from the Louisiana Department of Education, which showed marked academic gains in the 2017-2018 school year. The school system improved two letter grades to a “C” letter grade for overall school performance, even as the state raised the bar for what it takes to earn that grade, and it achieved a “B” letter grade for helping students grow year-over-year.

“This is an exciting day for Lincoln Prep School,” said Executive Director, Gordan Ford. “Our achievements recognize the amazing efforts at every level, from students and teachers to school leaders and board members to families and community partners.”

Every year, schools and school systems in Louisiana receive report cards with school performance scores and corresponding A-F letter grades. The report cards, which can be viewed on the online [Louisiana School Finder](#), communicate how well schools are preparing students for the next grade level by examining student performance measures, like how students score on state assessments, how many students are graduating each year or how many students are earning early college credit. Over time, the state has raised the bar for each of these measurements, and for the first time this year, the report card also details how well schools are helping students, regardless of where they start at the beginning of the year, progress toward mastering key concepts and skills.

Among the highlights from this year’s report card:

- **Lincoln Prep achieved an “B” for student growth.** Nearly half of all testers received scores in the highest two growth categories, with 30% of students in the highest category.
- **Lincoln Prep achieved a high school letter grade component of “B”.** Students improved in every School Performance Score category. State End-of-Course exam scores were up 22%. ACT index scores improved more than 50%, nearly equaling the state average.
- **Lincoln Prep K-8 performance score improved by over 50%.** While some of the gain is attributed to the inclusion of the Dropout Accumulator Index this year, LEAP scores were improved in nearly every grade level, with K-8 math scores improving by over 27%.
- **Lincoln Prep students achieving Mastery increased.** Percentage of students achieving Mastery on LEAP math assessments was up 70% and LEAP English Mastery was up 35%.

“Despite the gains, there is considerable work to do,” Ford said, noting the school received an ‘F’ letter grade on state assessments last year. “We must continue to improve our LEAP and EOC scores, especially the number of students achieving mastery. This will require us to work to push our Performance Index up to an “A”. To reach these goals, administrators are working closely with teachers and families to make additional improvements and initiate new programs, like our arts integration, welding, barbering and CNA programs, so that all of our students can be successful.”

**Additional Talking Points:**

1. Lincoln Prep is only school to improve from F in 2016-17 to C in 2017-18. Only nine schools that were F in 2016-17 improved by one or more letter grades in 2017-18. The eight other schools all improved to a D.
2. Lincoln Prep increased School Performance Score 24.4 points (from 36.1 to 60.5) tied for the highest score increase in the state.
3. Lincoln Prep's 67.6% increase in School Performance Score was the 10<sup>th</sup> highest percentage gain in the state. Every other school in the top 20 for percentage gain are still rated F.
4. Lincoln Prep was best in the region for Economically Disadvantaged students and Student of Color. (includes Lincoln, Bienville, Claiborne, Union, Jackson, Ouachita and Monroe City)
  - a. First in ACT scores  
(Highest average scores and highest percentage of students with scores 21 or above)
  - b. First in Industry-Based Credentials earned
  - c. Second in graduation rates for Students of Color  
(Third for Economically Disadvantaged students)
  - d. First in college enrollment rate for Economically Disadvantaged students  
(Second for Students of Color)
5. The 2017-18 graduating class, which will be included in the 2018-19 score had a much higher graduation rate and strength of diploma due to adding additional Industry Based Credentials.