



NEW BEGINNINGS

SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

October 19, 2016

Dear Gentilly Terrace Families,

New Beginnings' overarching goal is to maximize opportunities for your student(s) to excel and succeed. As I approach my first 100 days as New Beginnings Schools Foundation (NBSF) CEO, I have had many opportunities to visit our schools, meet with parents, assess the needs of our organization and align academic goals to assure the future success of every NBSF student. It is our priority to provide students with learning environments and resources to achieve our goals. Effective and efficient education of all children requires deliberate actions to support creative, nurturing, and inspiring learning conditions.

Your child's education is priority #1! A healthy building fosters a healthy learning environment. We are dedicated to advancing the possibilities and futures for our students. To this end, I have placed an emphasis on making certain that basic infrastructure necessities are available for Gentilly Terrace students. After careful review of each NBSF school campus, it is clear that the aging Gentilly Terrace is not conducive to best facilitate 21st Century learning.

New Beginnings Schools Foundation Board is considering a consolidation of schools, whereby Gentilly Terrace Elementary and Capdau Elementary students will come together in one school located in a Gentilly neighborhood. If successful, current NBSF students, specifically Gentilly Terrace students, will have the opportunity to attend school at our new school building opening in August 2017, located at the Avery Alexander site, 5800 St. Roch Avenue, which is 1.2 miles from the Gentilly Terrace School building. This will allow more students to benefit from an education in the new school located in the heart of Gentilly.

A new school is an investment like no other – it is an investment in the future of our children and our community. Seven hundred pre-K through 8th grade New Beginnings students will have access to a state-of-the-art learning environment with:

- A circular drive to assure safe and convenient carpool logistics.
- Central HVAC (Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning).
- Technologically rich classrooms with high speed wireless throughout the building.
- Full accessibility to people with disabilities.

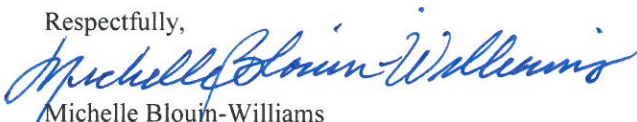
The new school will also feature art and music rooms, outdoor recreational spaces, a media center (library), expansive cafeteria, gymnasium and a science lab that encourages hands-on learning.

This proposed action is intended to directly enhance, improve, and benefit our student experiences by providing a high-quality learning environment and increased support services to include STEM-based learning, foreign language and accelerated learning opportunities. Having our students from both schools under one roof will further allow effective use of financial resources for our students. If the proposed consolidation is successful, no enrollment action (EnrollNOLA) will be necessary as your student will automatically re-enroll to our new campus for the 2017-2018 school year.

While no NBSF Board decision or action has been made as of the date of this letter, I assure you that I will continue to communicate with you in a clear and transparent manner. Including parent voice into my decision making is something I value. Our Board will discuss this matter on Thursday, October 20th at 5:30 PM at Lake Area. As we explore this possibility, I welcome your questions, comments and ideas. Please feel free to contact me via email through askNBSF@newbeginningsnola.net.

Bringing our students together in a new learning environment supports our mission to innovatively prepare every child, every day for success in life, college and career.

Respectfully,


Michelle Blouin-Williams
NBSF CEO