

## **Richland Parish School Board Receives 2021 School Performance Scores**

The Richland Parish School Board received a 2021 District Performance Score (DPS) of 65/C. The United States Department of Education waived the requirement to assign letter grades for the 2020-2021 School Year under the condition that schools would maintain the letter grades released for the 2018-2019 school year for the third consecutive year. These letter grades as well as other data on individual school's performance can be found online at Louisiana School Finder (<https://louisianaschools.com>).

Richland Parish also received a 2021 Simulated DPS of C19-62.7. The C19 designation of the simulated score reflects the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the day-to-day operations of our schools. The Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) stated, "Simulated SPS provides an unofficial calculation of what SPS would have been for informational and planning purposes. 2020-2021 was a year unlike any other, and results are not recommended for use in district and school accountability. By not producing official school performance scores, the department and BESE honor their commitments to not use these data for evaluative purposes." The LDE identified three key differences/distortions as reasons for not using simulated scores for school or district accountability. Higher than usual rates of non-participation impacted assessment results. Waivers of certain graduation requirements during the pandemic impacted graduation measures, a significant component of high school SPS. Methodology for calculating the Progress Index was modified in order to be able to measure growth when there were no LEAP 2025 test scores for the 2019-2020 academic year. A skip year model uses 2019 scores to predict results for 2021. The 2021 Louisiana State Performance Score is 77.1/B. The 2021 Simulated State Performance Score is C19-75.3.

Richland Parish showed several areas of growth during this tumultuous time. Of the eleven schools in the district, five showed growth when comparing 2021 SPS to 2021 Simulated SPS. The 2020-2021 school year was an unprecedented year for teachers as they tried to accelerate learning while recovering from learning lost the last 9 weeks of the 2019-2020 school year. Students in Richland Parish had the options of virtual or face-to-face instruction. Those attending face-to-face instruction started the year on the A/B hybrid schedule and transitioned to the current 4 and 1 schedule. Additionally, some school attendance zones were affected more than others as several students and teachers faced the challenge of multiple self-quarantines. Challenges were problematic in the classroom when planning for group work, hands-on projects, and group discussions.

Due to the impact of COVID-19, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education also adopted flexibilities in publishing performance scores and ratings for early childhood sites. The LDE has published performance scores based on 2020-2021 data when scores were higher than those published in Fall 2020. The preschool sites at Mangham Elementary School, Rayville Elementary School, and Start Elementary School improved their scores and maintained ratings of High Proficient. A preschool site was created at Delhi Elementary School to begin the 2020-2021 school year; the site received a rating of Proficient. In August 2021, a preschool site was implemented at Holly Ridge Elementary in order to serve more students in the parish. This site will receive its first rating in 2022.

Richland Parish welcomes the release of this accountability data. This data will be used for identifying areas for improvement to address learning loss due to the pandemic. Areas of improvement identified in school improvement plans will support recovery and acceleration efforts.

Name of School	2021 School Performance Score	2021 Simulated School Performance Score
Delhi High School	63.8/C	C19-66.9
Delhi Middle School	45.8/F	C19-47.5
Delhi Elementary School	41.0/F	C19-34.5
Holly Ridge Elementary School	66.8/C	C19-61.8
Mangham Elementary School	81.1/B	C19-70.8
Mangham High School	89.2/B	C19-90.0
Mangham Junior High School	58.3/D	C19-62.7
Rayville High School	69.9/C	C19-62.8
Rayville Junior High School	47.6/F	C19-34.0
Rayville Elementary School	37.0/F	C19-38.0
Start Elementary School	58.9/D	C19-53.5