

CC3394 11.28.22 Monday

**November 18 the New Orleans Tribune: “How Many More Years of a Failed Reform Must Orleans Parish Endure?”**

17 years ago privatizers used the Katrina Hurricane disaster as a ploy to replace the public school system with charter schools. Privatizers in the past have heralded the charterization of New Orleans as a miracle. As related in the Tribune article, it is a mirage.

Currently in Ohio, privatizers are, via HB290 (the universal voucher bill), trying to replace the constitutionally-required public common school system with tax-funded private ventures.

The EdChoice voucher scheme is a real threat to the very existence of public education. The voucher promoters know not what they do.

Thanks to Diane Ravitch for calling our attention to the Tribune article.

**How Many More Years of a Failed Reform Must Orleans Parish Endure?**

by THE NEW ORLEANS TRIBUNE

NOVEMBER 18, 2022

It has been said that the definition of insanity is to do the same thing over and over again and expect different results.

Well, NOLA Public Schools must be certifiably insane; because here we are — 17 years deep into a so-called education reform movement; and this year’s recently released school performance scores continue to reveal the what we have long known — this reform was and is a farce and a failure.

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, laws were rewritten to make the takeover of public schools in Orleans Parish easier. The minimum school performance score needed to escape being considered a failing school was raised from 60 to 87.4 so that more public schools in New Orleans could be taken over by the Recovery School District. Veteran teachers were summarily fired without cause. School buildings and resources were turned over to quasi-private charter management organizations. Our children were and still are bussed all over the city.

Then in 2019, the reformers really dug in, and the Orleans Parish School Board got out of the business of operating schools all together, turning over every campus to a charter operator and an unelected and unaccountable board.

And all of this for what?

If any of this maneuvering would have resulted in success, we would have nothing to say.

But there are 65 charter schools loosely operating under the cavalier control of the Orleans Parish School Board, and based on the 2022 school performance scores released in November by the Louisiana Department of Education, more than half of them are D and F schools. In other words, they are failing or

CC3394 11.28.22 Monday

close to it. In fact, if the SPS of 87.4 that was purposefully raised to take over public schools in 2005 were applied right now all but four of the 65 NOLA public schools could be taken over TODAY!

Let's say it again, another way — if the same standard that was intentionally changed to takeover and destroy public education in Orleans Parish in 2005 were applied to the 65 public charter schools operating under NOLA Public Schools today, a full 61 of those schools would be considered failing by the state RIGHT NOW!

All of the teachers and administrators should be fired without cause; their buildings and resources should be turned over to the RSD; their students and the money that follows them should be scattered to the wind.

Of course, that's not going to happen. In order to mask the failure of this corporate takeover of public education masquerading as a reform movement, the minimum SPS has been lowered over the last decade and half, indicative of the fact that this so-called reform has never been about improving educational outcomes for our children.

And the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education has refused to revisit its accountability policy.

That is because this reform is and has always been about power and control over resources, contracts, assets and the dollars that follow every student. It was never about the students.

It is time to stop playing with the children of Orleans Parish. Nearly 54 percent of the schools in the all-charter NOLA Public Schools earned D or F ratings in the 2022 School Performance Scores. Another 26.4 percent are barely getting by with C ratings. Only nine campuses, less than 24 percent of NOLA Public Schools earned an A or B letter grade.

So we ask: Where's the reform . . . the change . . . the miracle results touted as the public school system in Orleans Parish was pillaged and plundered in the wake of Hurricane Katrina?

We know the truth. The miracle was a mirage. The narrative has been and is still being muddied today as folks dare to talk about modest gains in academic success in Louisiana while more than half of the public charter schools in this city, the most populous city in the entire state, are D and F schools.

Those of you looking for some folk to recall, ought to start with BESE and then work your way to the Orleans Parish School Board. It's time to recall this reform! It is time to return public education in New Orleans to real local control so that another generation of children are not left by the wayside.

We have literally been repeating the same thing for at least 15 years! We don't know what else to say.

So we are going to just sit the 2022 school performance scores for NOLA Public Schools right here. You can look at them for yourselves.

To access the school performance scores for NOLA public schools please follow the [link](#).

2021-2022 SCHOOL PERFORMANCE SCORES FOR NOLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CC3394 11.28.22 Monday

SCHOOL, LETTER GRADE, SCHOOL PERFORMANCE SCORE:

Mary Bethune Elementary Literature/Technology	C	63.1
Benjamin Franklin Elem. Math and Science	D	57.7
Elan Academy Charter School	D	59.6
Harriet Tubman Charter School	D	54.7
Paul Habans Charter School	D	51.8
Fannie C. Williams Charter School	F	45.3
Morris Jeff Community School	C	66.8
ReNEW SciTech Academy at Laurel	C	61.9
ReNEW Dolores T. Aaron Elementary	C	61.9
ReNEW Schaumburg Elementary	D	56.6
Mildred Osborne Charter School	F	46.8
Success @ Thurgood Marshall	D	53.8
Akili Academy of New Orleans	D	51.9
Abramson Sci Academy	C	70
G W Carver High School	C	68.5
Livingston Collegiate Academy	D	59.4
Walter L. Cohen College Prep	F	48.6
Martin Behrman Charter Acad of Creative Arts & Sci	D	51.3
Lord Beaconsfield Landry High School	D	50.7
Sophie B. Wright Institute of Academic Excellence	C	73.9
KIPP Believe	D	57.1
KIPP Morial	D	59.8
KIPP Central City	D	55.6
Frederick A. Douglass High School	B	85.5

CC3394 11.28.22 Monday

KIPP Leadership	D	56.1
KIPP East	D	55.6
Booker T. Washington High School	C	67.9
John F. Kennedy High School	D	55.9
Samuel J. Green Charter School	C	62.1
Arthur Ashe Charter School	C	62.9
Phillis Wheatley Community School	D	51.9
Langston Hughes Charter Academy	D	58.8
Edward Hynes Charter School – Lakeview	A	96.1
Hynes Parkview	T	52.1
Foundation Preparatory Academy	F	43.3
Lafayette Academy Charter School	T	48.4
Esperanza Charter School	F	47.6
Homer Plessy Community School	C	61.4
Rooted School	C	65.3
YACS at Lawrence D. Crocker	T	45.9
Dr. Martin Luther King Charter School for Sci Tech	D	52.8
Audubon Charter School	B	84.2
Einstein Charter School at Village De L’Est	D	52.5
Benjamin Franklin High School	A	132.4
Alice M Harte Elementary Charter School	B	77.5
Edna Karr High School	B	78.9
Lusher Charter School	A	120.1
Eleanor McMMain Secondary School	C	74
Robert Russa Moton Charter School	F	37.8

CC3394 11.28.22 Monday

Lake Forest Elementary Charter School	A	111.7
New Orleans Charter Science and Mathematics HS	B	75.8
ENCORE Academy	F	48.6
Bricolage Academy	C	67.2
Wilson Charter School	D	59
Sarah Towles Reed High School	C	61
Einstein Charter Middle Sch at Sarah Towles Reed	D	56.8
Einstein Charter at Sherwood Forest	D	56.9
McDonogh 42 Charter School	F	44.3
Audubon Charter School – Gentilly	F	49.8
Rosenwald Collegiate Academy	F	44.8
Dwight D. Eisenhower Charter School	D	58.8
Living School	C	60.1
McDonogh 35 Senior High School	C	69.5
Warren Easton Charter High School	C	74.7
Pierre A. Capdau Charter School	F	47.2

THE NEW ORLEANS TRIBUNE

We Are Proud to Have Served Our Community for 38 Years. Standing Up, Speaking Out, and Providing a Trusted Voice. We Look Forward to 38 More! More by The New Orleans Tribune

[How Many More Years of a Failed Reform Must Orleans Parish Endure? \(theneworleanstribune.com\)](https://www.theneworleanstribune.com)