



News Magazine

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Tonya Hills

2016 Aspiring Principal Scholarship Winner



Mission Statement: To provide quality School-based Administrative Leadership for Louisiana schools through Professional Development, Legislation and Member Services.

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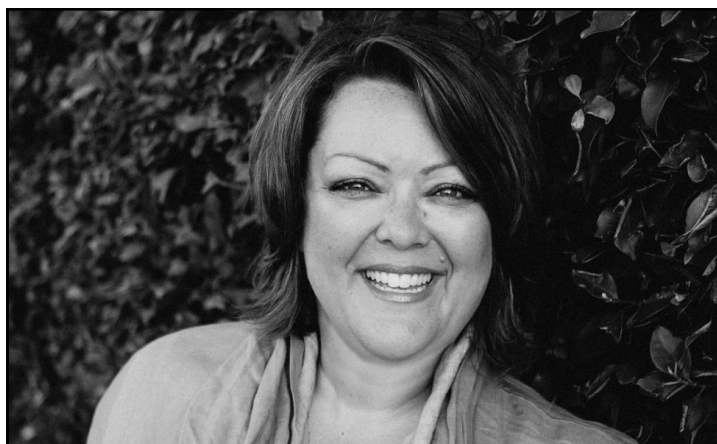
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MAKE PLANS *NOW* TO ATTEND THE

L A P 2017 ANNUAL PRINCIPALS CONFERENCE

September 10 - 12, 2017

L'auberge Casino Hotel Event Center



**LAP is proud to welcome *Jill Jackson*
back to Louisiana!**

Registration Information is on the [LAP website](#).



Tonya Hills Awarded the 2016 Horace Mann/Louisiana Association of Principals \$1,000 Aspiring Principal Scholarship

Mrs. Tonya Hills, 4th grade math, science, and social studies teacher at Hattie A. Watts Elementary in St. Mary Parish, has been awarded the 2016 Horace Mann/LAP \$1,000 Aspiring Principal Scholarship. This \$1,000 scholarship is

presented every year to a teacher, counselor, or curriculum coordinator who has an interest in becoming a principal or is currently working toward their principal certification. Applications are taken from all across Louisiana, and the applicant's principal must be a member of The Louisiana Association of Principals in order to be considered for the scholarship. The scholarship can be used to defray expenses for college tuition, continued professional growth, registration fees to state or national conferences, or textbook expenses. The recipient also receives a one-year LAP Aspiring Membership.

Tonya has been an educator for 11 years, serving at Raintree Elementary and Thomas Gibbs Elementary, in addition to Hattie A. Watts Elementary. Mrs. Hills serves as the school's facilitator of the "Leader in Me" Lighthouse Team. She efficiently trains all new school employees in the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. During the training, Mrs. Hills teaches practical classroom applications of the habits and continues to

offer guidance and support to faculty members long after the training period has ceased. She also collaborates with the principal, facilitators, and other faculty members to develop ideas for setting and tracking school-wide, grade-level, whole-class, and individual goals. Mrs. Hills strives to lead by example on a daily basis. By beginning with the end in mind and setting goals for herself professionally, she simultaneously demonstrates the importance of accountability to her students. She comes up with amazing ideas and new motivators to keep children focused and engaged in learning activities. She is continually looking for additional ways to maximize instruction time. He has developed a great rapport with teachers and parents through her professionalism and dedication. She understands the vision of Hattie Watts Elem. and works hard to get all stakeholders on board. Tonya is the head organizer of the Hattie Watts Elementary Annual School Color Run. Her entire family participates in this annual event. Mrs. Hills stands out as a leader due to her relentless perseverance and never-ending drive to lead others to achieve greatness!

Tonya and her husband Danny have been married for 5 years. They are the proud parents of DJ and Daisie.

LAP is proud to recognize Mrs. Tonya Hills as the 2016 Aspiring Principal Scholarship Winner!



Tonya Hills was presented the 2016 \$1,000 LAP/Horace Mann Aspiring Principals Scholarship at the St. Mary School Board meeting on February 9. Shown (l. to r.) is Niki Fryou, principal Hattie Watts Elem.; Leonard Armato, Supt. St. Mary Schools; Tonya Hills, scholarship winner; Debbie Schum, LAP Executive Director; and Jady Guidry, Horace Mann Representative.



Debbie Schum, LAP Executive Director, and Jeanine Ford, LAP Administrative Assistant, met for lunch with representatives from LAP corporate sponsor Horace Mann Companies in Baton Rouge at Ralph & Kacoo's on Tuesday, February 14. Horace Mann representatives (pictured on the left, from left to right) are Charlotte Hopkins, Bonnie Soileau, and Jacqueline McGrail. Thank you Horace Mann for all you do for the Louisiana Association of Principals!



National Evaluation of Curriculum Effectiveness



Curriculum Matters

What math curriculum does your school use?

Each year, schools and districts spend over \$12 billion on new curriculum materials.

Please help us better understand how this investment supports teaching and learning at your school and schools across the country.

The National Evaluation of Curriculum Effectiveness is gathering information about the textbooks and instructional materials that schools use to teach fourth- and fifth-grade math in order to investigate how effective they are in supporting teachers and students.

If your school was selected to participate in our online survey, you will receive an email that includes “Harvard Research Study” in the subject line.

We have made it easy for you to help improve the use of effective curriculum materials:

- Identify someone in your school knowledgeable about fourth-/fifth-grade math curriculum
- Complete the short, online survey
- Receive a \$50 stipend for your time

For more information about the study: bit.ly/harvard-nece



Niki Fryou

President's Message

WOW! This has been a busy but quick year. I hope all of you were able to find time to rest and relax, or as we say at Hattie Watts – time to Sharpen the Saw! As the summer gets closer, we will all begin planning for the upcoming year. Be sure to stay abreast on the new ESSA plan. We will all learn together!

Our LAP board has some great plans for the upcoming year! Mark your calendar for the conferences. Be sure to encourage fellow principals to take advantage of the professional development. The AP and Clerical conferences are wonderful, and are a great opportunity for participants to come back and share with their schools! Please keep an eye out for registration!

LAP membership is so important for our voice to be heard. We are blessed to have an amazing Executive Director who helps us stay on top of things. Please share the information with your principals association and encourage new principals and assistant principals to join! The more members, the louder our voice! Also, if you would like for one of the LAP board members to speak to a group of principals in your district, please let us know, and we will do our absolute best to make arrangements to do so. We are all on the same team!

With the new Every Student Succeeds Act, I'm certain that there will be some changes that we do not agree with and others that could even hinder us in the jobs that we do. However, if we focus on what truly matters the most – STUDENT SUCCESS – we will all be fine. I wish you the best as you prepare for the 2017-2018 school year.

Niki

Niki Fryou, LAP President

Save the Dates!

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2017

Assistant Principals' Conference

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2017

Clerical Conference

SNAPSHOTS FROM LAP'S 23rd ANNUAL CLERICAL CONFERENCE **DOUBLE TREE HOTEL LAFAYETTE** **December 4-5, 2016**





Public school in Maine shipped school books and supplies for schools that were affected by the flood. Schools that sent supplies are Coastal Ridge Elementary in York, Maine; Kermit Nickerson School in Swanville, Maine; and Telstar High School in Bethel, Maine. School supplies are being unloaded at the Livingston Parish Schools warehouse.



Sheryl Gibbons, 2016 Assistant Principal of the Year, was presented a plaque from NAESP at the St. Mary School Board meeting on February 9. Pictured (l. to r.) is Niki Fryou, principal Hattie Watts Elem.; Leonard Armato, Supt. St. Mary Parish Schools; Sheryl Gibbons, and Debbie Schum, LAP Executive Director.

CONNECTING GREAT LEADERS ACROSS ALL LEVELS

2017 NATIONAL PRINCIPALS CONFERENCE

It's time for school leaders to unite with peers across the Pre-K–12 continuum.

At the 2017 National Principals Conference, you will connect with great leaders from all levels, learn from your collective experiences, and make new connections that will last well beyond the conference. Come to Philadelphia this summer and experience what it means to connect, innovate, and grow.

Register Today!

JULY 9–11, 2017

PHILADELPHIA, PA

principalsconference.org #NPC17





From The Desk of The

*Executive
Director*

Debra Schum

Hi all,

Happy Spring! I know that many of you are in the midst of testing and I hope that you had some time to rest and relax during Spring Break! We wish you all the best during this “testing season”!

In my last blog (which can be found on the LAP website www.lapprincipals.org) I shared the letter that I had sent to BESE members and to Superintendent White regarding concerns about the ESSA plan that Superintendent White wanted to submit in April. During the special BESE meeting held on March 29th, 61 out of 69 District Superintendents asked that BESE delay submission to September 2017 and I shared that 96% of principals surveyed also felt the plan needed more work and that we should submit in September to allow for feedback from site-based administrators. Sadly, BESE members and Superintendent White passed a motion to submit in April, despite the requests from Principals, Superintendents, Teachers and School Boards to submit in September. I would like to thank BESE members **Doris Voitier, Kathy Edmonston, Thomas Roque and Dr. Lurie Thomason** who did vote against the motion to submit the plan in April!

BESE further directed State Superintendent of Education John White, upon conclusion of the 30-day public comment period and in response to the public comments received, to incorporate the following into the draft plan:

Starting in 2018, school scores will be calculated using the system of points the plan currently establishes for 2025, except that “basic” on the LEAP, 18 on the ACT, and Silver on the WorkKeys should earn schools “C” level points, rather than “D” level points.

There should be no curve or forced distribution for letter grades starting in 2018.

The plan should establish a threshold lower than 100 out of 150 to attain a “A” grade in 2017-2018 and should include modest escalations of that threshold in 2022 and finally again 2025. Corresponding adjustments should be made at “B” and “C” levels.

Subgroup performance should be reported by percentile rankings in addition to academic performance; the plan should include a system of identifying low subgroup performance levels,

including performance levels equivalent to D and F grades for that subgroup, as requiring “urgent intervention.”

For reporting purposes, the plan should include a commitment to reporting letter-grade equivalents for the achievement indices and growth indices within the school rating system.

Three percent of Title I funding should not be set aside for Direct Student Services but should be allocated to every district per the traditional Title I formula, provided that funds are spent in line with requirements for the supplemental course allocation. Furthermore, the LDE should study access to courses for students in low-income, rural, or struggling schools and may make recommendations in future years for intervention in schools failing to provide course access to students.

The LDE should study and consider the effect on student learning of no longer requiring Biology and U.S. History end-of-course examinations, presenting findings no later than the June 20-21, 2017, BESE Committee and Board meetings.

The Interests and Opportunities indicator should include a menu of means by which schools could demonstrate success; the LDE should convene school system administrators to develop the measures necessary to create this indicator.

Prior to submission of the final state plan for federal review, the LDE shall convene a discussion with diverse stakeholders, including representatives of civil rights, business and professional organizations representing educators, school boards and charter schools.

It is a shame that Superintendent White and a majority of the BESE members show so little value for the leaders of our districts, our schools and our students, that they would totally ignore the request to have more feedback and buy in from the people who will be required to implement the plan. Even with the BESE directive listed in the last bullet above, Superintendent White still submitted the plan on April 15th without meeting with all of the groups listed, so even the motion that directed him to do so was not honored.

I would also like to point out that the Subgroup performance bullet will identify approximately 1000

out of a total of 1400 schools as needing urgent intervention (this will be designated on the school report card)—however the plan does not stipulate any support from the State for schools that receive that label or any details about what urgent intervention means for schools that receive that label.

We must continue to ask BESE members and Superintendent White to revise the plan, even though it was submitted to the USDOE, there is still an opportunity to amend prior to it becoming policy in Louisiana. The BESE board has set the June 20-21st BESE meetings as the meeting to approve policy (specifically accountability changes) and we will be sending some specific suggested changes for your consideration prior to that meeting. I will be providing you with more information during the next month on areas that we think need revision, and we encourage you to attend the June meeting if at all possible.

We are at a critical time in Louisiana! We have constantly changing rules and a diminishing workforce--and the most recent action by Superintendent White and a majority of the BESE board signify that it is more important than ever to have the Principal's voice heard on key education issues. **Please encourage your co-workers to become members of LAP**--the more members we have the more our voice is heard! We are the only organization that is affiliated with the national principal's organizations (NAESP and NASSP) and we advocate for principals/site-based administrators at the national level also!

In addition to the concerns regarding the Louisiana ESSA plan, the 2017 Legislative Session

began this past week and LAP will be busy making sure your voice is heard! We will have legislative updates on our website and we encourage you to check out the information on upcoming bills and legislation that will affect schools and their leaders.

We would also like to commend the following LAP Board members—Niki Fryou, Martin Guillory, Joanne Hood, Jemi Carlone, Jane Griffin and Karen Triche who attended meetings in March or will be attending meetings this week in Washington DC with our US Senators and Representatives to share our concerns on several key issues affecting principals--primarily funding, vouchers and evaluations. Please take some time to visit the NASSP or NAESP website to find information on current issues in Congress that will affect principals, our schools and our students!

We also want to remind you to check out the information in this newsletter on the National Principals Conference which will be held July 9-11 in Philadelphia. This will mark the first time that NASSP and NAESP have held a joint conference—it should be a great professional development opportunity for all principals. Also, please check out the information in the newsletter on our Fall Annual Principals Conference---we are excited to have Jill Jackson back as our keynote speaker this year!

Thanks for all that you do! Please feel free to contact me at debra.schum@lapprincipals.org if you have any questions or concerns!

Sincerely,
Debbie Schum

Principals,

Don't keep it a secret any longer!!!
Let everyone know what a GREAT
assistant principal you have!

Nominate your assistant principal for
the 2017 Louisiana Assistant Principal of
the Year Recognition Program.

Don't delay!

Nomination Deadline: May 31, 2017

Go to the LAP website to download a
nomination form.



LAP Board Members Attend NAESP National Leaders Meeting in Washington DC

NAESP held its annual National Leaders Meeting in Washington DC March 26-29, 2017. LAP Board Members advocated for Louisiana education with various representatives. Board Members that attended the conference are Niki Fryou, LAP President; Martin Guillory, LAP Federal & State Relations Coordinator; Joanne Hood, NAESP State Representative; and Debbie Schum, LAP Executive Director.



Pictured (l. to r.) Martin Guillory, Joanne Hood, David Coffield, Legislative Assistant to Congressman Steve Scalise, and Niki Fryou.



Pictured (l. to r.) Congressman Clay Higgins and Martin Guillory



LAP Board Members with Pamela Davidson, Senior Policy Maker for Senator Bill Cassidy.



"Remember, Bob, statistics of student achievement are in the eye of the manipulator."

©T. McCracken mchumor.com

Save The Date

CECIL J. PICARD EDUCATOR EXCELLENCE AWARDS GALA
“Starry, Starry Night: An Evening of Distinction”
July 28, 2017 - 5:30 to 10:00 PM | Crowne Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge

The Louisiana Department of Education and Dream Teachers, in cooperation with the Louisiana Association of Principals, will honor Louisiana educators to celebrate their outstanding achievements for 2017 at a black-tie event in Baton Rouge.

The stars will shine as the Teacher and Principal of the Year semi-finalists and finalists are honored, as well as the finalists for the prestigious H. Norman Saurage III Service Award. Two Milken Educator Award winners and the winning school for the national TAP Founder's Award will add sparkle to a star-filled evening that concludes with the announcement of the 2018 Louisiana Teacher of the Year, the 2018 Principal of the Year, and the winner of the H. Norman Saurage III Service Award for 2017.

You are cordially invited to attend the elegant cocktail reception and dinner in support of these extraordinary educators. Individual or Group tickets may be purchased online at www.dreamteachers.org.

REGISTRATION

Opens May 1 and closes July 15.

Ticket price is \$65 and includes the Cocktail Reception and Awards Dinner.

ALL SEATING RESERVED.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DISCOUNT

May 1 through June 1

20% off regular ticket price of \$65

SCHOOL DISCOUNT BULK PURCHASE

25% off a table for 10 (\$650) when reserved and billed by schools or districts

For more information about the Teacher of the Year and Principal of the Year programs, contact ExcellentEducators@la.gov.

For more information about the event and registration, contact Kay@dreamteachers.org.



Welcome New Members!

LAP/NAESP

Ascension Parish

Latatia Johnson, G.W. Carver Primary

Caddo Parish

Marvin Rainey, Midway Prof. Dev. Center

St. John the Baptist Parish

Stacy Bradford, East St. John Elementary

Orleans Parish

Michelle Douglas, Edward Hynes Charter School

Ouachita Parish

Harrington Watson, Robinson Elementary

LAP

Avoyelles Parish

Dexter Compton, LaSAS

Beauregard Parish

Pamela March, G. W. Carver Elementary School

Caddo Parish

Robin DeBusk, Caddo Middle Magnet School

Calcasieu Parish

Nina Jones, Brentwood Elementary

DeSoto Parish

Brittany Anderson, Mansfield Middle School

East Baton Rouge Parish

Jeremy Couvillion, Westdale Middle School

Cindy A. Perret, Lee High School

Jefferson Parish

Karla Russo, Haynes Academy for Adv. Studies

Ouachita Parish

D'Anne Bennett, Swartz Upper Elementary School

Alvin Fields, Richwood High School

Sharilynn Loche, Richwood High School

Rebekah Oaks, West Ouachita High School

Joshua Spikes, Richwood High School

Lisa Vige, Lenwil Elementary

Donald Winn, Richwood High School

Monroe City School System

Jerry Mayhall, Jr., Martin Luther King Jr. High

Michael Price, Martin Luther King Jr. High

Rapides Parish

Allison Byrnes, Pineville High School

Bonnie White, Pineville High School

St. Martin Parish

Edward Boyd, St. Martinville Jr. High School

St. Tammany Parish

Raymond Morris, Bayou LaCombe Middle School

Vernon Parish

Jennifer Wilbanks, Hicks High School

West Feliciana Parish

Georgia Dudley, West Feliciana High School

Karolyn Jones, West Feliciana High School

LAP/NASSP

Caddo Parish

Marvin Alexander, Green Oaks Performing Arts

Terrebonne Parish

Mark Torbert, South Terrebonne High School

Union Parish

David Gray, Union Parish High School



Principals Breakfast After the Bell Toolkit

This toolkit provides guidance to principals in how to effectively partner with their school nutrition department to bring "grab & go" breakfast, second-chance breakfast, or breakfast in the classroom programs to their schools. [Click for website.](#)



How We Help Educators

Horace Mann offers superior solutions for Louisiana Association of Principals Members

Getting school employees on the path to financial success helps districts **increase teacher retention, improve productivity and morale, and lower benefit costs**. We help educators identify savings in their current monthly budget to redirect to their retirement, so they have more confidence in their financial strategy and are more likely to retire on time.

We partner with you for:

- Student Loan Solutions
- State Teachers' Retirement System workshops
- DonorsChoose.org workshops and funding
- Financial Success workshops

To learn more about

our solutions for financial success or to schedule a workshop, contact your local agent or visit horacemann.com/workshops.

STRS workshop is not available in Utah