



# News Magazine

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## **Congratulations to Louisiana's 2016 Assistant Principal of the Year Sheryl Gibbons**



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

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CONNECTING GREAT LEADERS ACROSS ALL LEVELS

# NATIONAL PRINCIPALS CONFERENCE 2017

[principalsconference.org](http://principalsconference.org)

From pre-K through high school, principals share the same goals for student success. When they come together to give life to that vision, something very powerful happens.



Join NASSP and NAESP for this first-ever joint national conference to learn from a large pool of your peers and work together to prepare students for each step of their education journey.

**Come experience the power of pre-K-12 school leaders joining together to shape the education landscape.**

**JULY 9-11, 2017**

**PHILADELPHIA, PA**



**naesp** National Association of  
Elementary School  
Principals

**NASSP**  
National Association  
of Secondary School Principals



## 2016 LOUISIANA ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR



**Mrs. Sheryl Gibbons** was named the 2016 Louisiana Assistant Principal of the Year. She is the assistant principal of Hattie A. Watts Elementary in St. Mary Parish.

Mrs. Gibbons graduated from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in 1996 with a B.S. in Psychology and with her

certification in Secondary English Education. She received her M.S.E. Educational Leadership degree in 2012 from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

Sheryl taught English at Patterson High School in Patterson, Louisiana, and Westgate High School in New Iberia, Louisiana, before becoming assistant principal at Hattie Watts. She has been serving as assistant principal for 2.5 years.

During her first year as assistant principal, she helped launch the “Leader in Me” program. This program helps educate students academically, personally, and socially by providing them with leadership roles at her school and in the community. They also used Stephen Covey’s 7 Habits of Highly Effective People to build a school culture of Leadership based on the 7 Habits. Mrs. Gibbons continued to implement the program by aligning all systems (Academics, PBIS, teacher evaluations, school-wide goals, and a safe environment) at the school to the Leader in Me program.

Another best practice used by Ms. Gibbons is the use of the “Three stars and one wish format: to give feedback to teachers during walkthroughs as it sends the

message that we all have strengths and room to grow! She believes that teachers have the greatest impact on student success and providing strategies to support teachers is crucial to a school’s growth. She believes that assistant principals must work together with their principals as instructional leaders to provide teachers with effective feedback to increase teacher effectiveness!

Their school also uses the “Begin with the end in mind” habit daily to keep everyone focused and motivated. They begin by establishing school-wide goals, followed by students creating an academic and personal goal that is tracked in a Data Notebook. Students also track daily attendance and behavior because it affects attainment of individual and school-wide goals.

During parent conferences and leadership events, students share their data notebooks with parents and community members and enjoy talking about their academic and personal journeys!

Hattie Watts Elementary also implemented a strategic plan to improve their SPS and each administrator focused on a subject area to help raise student achievement—her focus area was third and fourth grade ELA. Mrs. Gibbons collaborated weekly with ELA teachers to improve writing through the use of scoring rubrics and sharing students writing samples. The end result was a 10 point increase on the ELA index for 2015-16!

She shared that as she enters the front doors of her school the first thing that she does is to read the quote by Helen Keller painted on the wall “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much! She believes that this is a daily reminder of how important everyone’s role is in impacting student achievement.

LAP is proud to recognize Mrs. Sheryl Gibbons as the 2016 Louisiana Assistant Principal of the Year!

### *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.



**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!**



Niki Fryou

## President's Message

Happy 2017! The new year provides a time for reflection and goal setting. As we all set our personal and professional goals, make a list of steps that must be completed to reach those goals. Identify an accountability partner to help you reach your goals. Teach your staff and students goal achieving strategies.

Looking back on the past semester, I'd like to thank everyone who attended one of our three conferences. We had a great turnout for our Annual Principals conference. The evaluations were very positive. Our Assistant Principals Conference took on a new format that seemed to be a huge success. Our super powered secretaries had a good time learning and shopping at the Clerical conference. A big hand goes to those committees for all of their hard work in planning, organizing, and overseeing these events.

Finally, I'd like to recognize the amazing leadership that our Executive Director Debra Schum provides our organization. She has been very busy serving on numerous committees with the department of education. She provides the voice of site-based administrators. We are here to support each other in these challenging and exciting times. Please let her know how much she is appreciated.

Best wishes for a safe, happy, and successful 2017.

*Niki*

Niki Fryou, LAP President

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# Save the Dates!

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2017**

**Assistant Principals' Conference**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2017**

**Clerical Conference**



# **SNAPSHOTS FROM LAP'S 33rd ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS' CONFERENCE** **LAP EDCAMP** **L'AUBERGE HOTEL EVENT CENTER** **November 7, 2016**



**Jimmy Casas** introduced a new format of professional development called **EdCamp**.

Pictured on the right are new LAP members that attended the conference. They were recognized during the Assistant Principal of the Year Recognition Banquet.







Picture on the left: **Kevin Ebarb**, representative from **EdGear, LLC** presented **Sheryl Gibbons**, Assistant Principal of the Year, a check in the amount of \$500.





From The Desk of The

*Executive  
Director*

Debra Schum

Hi all,

Happy New Year! We are off to a running start in 2017 with several key issues that are of critical importance to Principals:

**February 8<sup>th</sup> Accountability Commission Meeting (LDOE—Thomas Jefferson Meeting Room at Noon)**

The Accountability Commission has met several times over the last few months to attempt to determine the new formula for accountability that includes a Growth factor (Based on ESSA guidelines). The meeting on Feb 8<sup>th</sup> will discuss final recommendations for K-8 Growth Component and will also discuss the use of a growth component in High School Accountability. The new formula will no longer have “bonus” points and instead will have a growth component that will be a part of the formula. Models being considered will change Assessment in K-8 to 65% of the score and the Growth factor as 25%, DCAI as 5% and a leading indicator as 5%. The LDOE is bringing a variety of models to this meeting that will show the growth factor as anywhere from 10% to 50%. The commission will be asked to make a recommendation at this meeting that will be brought to the March BESE meeting. We will also discuss the growth component for High Schools and how it will be included in the SPS. We encourage principals to attend this meeting, if possible, as this may be the last meeting with discussion regarding what the new formula will look like. If you have comments or questions you would like answered please feel free to email me prior to the meeting with any concerns!

**Governors Advisory Council on ESSA**

The Governor’s Advisory Council on ESSA has made several recommendations that are being provided to Governor John Bel Edwards in an initial draft. (The draft recommendations can be found on the LAP website ([www.lapprincipals.org](http://www.lapprincipals.org))) The Council has asked to have a joint meeting with the Accountability Commission so that we can discuss recommendations and incorporate them into the state plan if appropriate. The Advisory Council will meet on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss final recommendations. Please feel free to review the initial recommendations and email me at

[debra.schum@lapprincipals.org](mailto:debra.schum@lapprincipals.org) if you have any suggestions or comments, prior to the meeting.

**2017 Legislative Session**

The MFP has become a concern for both this fiscal year and next year’s budget. Representative Lance Harris from Alexandria is proposing a cut to the MFP for this fiscal year due to the midyear budget shortfall. A special session is being planned this month to address the midyear budget crisis. **We are asking everyone to contact their legislators and ask them to use the “Rainy Day Fund” during this special session to avert any cuts to the MFP.** Funding will continue to be an issue during the 2017 Regular Session and we plan to continue to advocate for full funding of the MFP for the next fiscal year. On February 1, 2017, Governor Edwards convened a meeting of education stakeholders to hear our concerns regarding funding and ESSA implementation. We are fortunate that we have a Governor who is willing to hear our point of view and to listen to the concerns of site based administrators-- but we have many legislators that need to hear us too! **Please call your legislators and let them know how critical MFP funding is to our students, schools and communities (and ask them to commit to using the Rainy Day Fund to save cutting the MFP)!** Our legislative committee will meet on March 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss any proposed bills that may affect site-based administrators and public school education. Please let us know if you have any concerns or suggestions for the upcoming session.

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!

We are at a critical time in the education field! We have constantly changing rules and a diminishing workforce—it is more important than ever to have the

*(Continued on page 10)*



## LAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Front: (l.-r.) Robin Tucker, Minden High; Jemi Carlone, Belle Chasse High; Debbie Schum, LAP executive director; Niki Fryou, Hattie A. Watts Elementary; Joseph David, LeBlanc Middle. Middle row: (l.-r.) Martin Guillory, Oak Park Middle; Dedra Bailey, Smith Elementary; Barbara Stainback, retired; Karen Triche, Tara High; Joanne Hood, A. E. Phillips Lab; Ragan Lorraine, Galliano Elementary. Back row: (l.-r.) Rob Schlicher, New Iberia Sr. High; Ray Simon, Catholic High; Patrick Mackin, Slidell Jr. High; Bob Stevens, Poland Jr. High; and Curtis Melancon, retired. Not shown: Bridget Bridges, Carolyn Bosley, Shannon Alford, Sam Clay, Diane Smith, Jane Griffin, and Ken Friedlander



LAP held its annual January meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 25, at Tara High School in Baton Rouge. On the left, Executive Director Debbie Schum and President Niki Fryou discuss agenda items before the meeting.

Picture below: Tara High School students in the school's ProStart Program served the Board a delicious lunch.



### La. House GOP leader unveils plan to wipe out state's \$304M budget deficit

Associated Press - Jan. 19, 2017

The leader of Louisiana's House Republican delegation offered his proposal Thursday for slashing \$304 million in state spending, to close a midyear deficit without needing the special legislative session Democratic Gov. John Bel Edwards intends to call.

Alexandria Rep. Lance Harris' plan would levy the deepest reduction of \$147 million on the health department. Public colleges, the state's social services department and the veterans affairs agency would be protected from hits.

*(Continued on page 10)*

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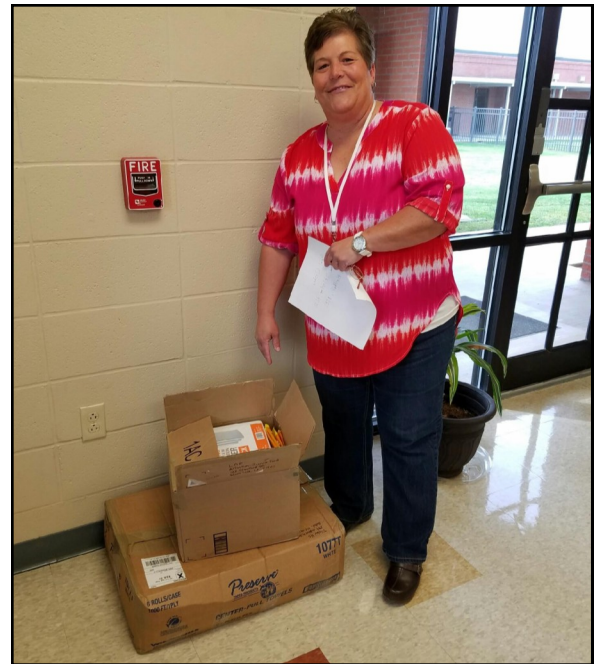
Principal's voice heard on key education issues. Please encourage your co-workers to become members of LAP-- the more members we have the more our voice is heard! We are the only organization that is affiliated with the national principal's organizations (NAESP and NASSP) and we advocate for principals/site-based administrators at the national level also!

Thanks for all that you do!

Sincerely,

**Debbie**

Debbie Schum, LAP Executive Director



**Joan Romero**, principal at North Vermilion Middle School, is shown with the school supplies received from Telstar High School. Telstar High School is located in Bethel, Maine. The school sent supplies to aid schools that were damaged by the flood.

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### **Louisiana Legislative Youth Advisory Council: Opportunities for Louisiana Students**

**LYAC Membership Applications:** The Louisiana Legislative Youth Advisory Council (LYAC) is now accepting membership applications from high school students who have an interest in representing the voices of other young people around the state. The purpose of the youth council is to facilitate the communication between youth and the legislature; to give students a unique opportunity to be involved in the workings of state government; and to address issues of importance to young people, including education, community service, strategies to increase youth participation in government, safe environments for youth, underage drinking, youth health and physical fitness, and other teen issues. LYAC is a 31-member youth council composed entirely of students, including three student members from each of the congressional districts and additional at-large members. Applicants must be enrolled in a public or nonpublic high school, a home school, or participating in a GED skills program during the **2017-2018 school year**. Students may complete the PDF application and mail to the address listed on the application or email the completed application to [normandn@legis.la.gov](mailto:normandn@legis.la.gov), or fax to 225-377-2284. Applications may be accessed at <http://civiced.louisiana.gov> or [www.laprinincipals.org](http://www.laprinincipals.org). **Deadline is March 22, 2017.**

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(Continued from page 9) *Budget deficit*

Cuts would fall on roadwork, state prisons, **K-12 education**, agriculture and the state tourism agency, among others. Spending on state-financed construction projects would be reduced. Louisiana wouldn't use its "rainy day" fund under the plan — and it could be enacted without calling the full Legislature back to Baton Rouge.

For the full report, go to [http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2017/01/state\\_rep\\_lance\\_harris\\_offers.html](http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2017/01/state_rep_lance_harris_offers.html)

Melinda Deslatte, Associated Press

**Principals:** The governor is planning a special session to address the midyear budget cuts and we need to call our legislators and ask them to vote to use the Rainy Day Fund to offset the proposed cuts by Representative Harris to the MFP for this year. The Rainy Day fund will offset 119 million of the estimated 304 million midyear deficit. It is important to ask them to apply the entire 119 million to the deficit to prevent any attempts to cut the MFP this fiscal year. Contact Rep. Lance Harris if you are able--**Lance Harris:** [harrisl@legis.la.gov](mailto:harrisl@legis.la.gov); 318-767-6085



# Welcome New Members!

## LAP/NAESP

### **Tangipahoa Parish**

Jason Oller, Hammond Westside Montessori

## LAP

### **Calcasieu Parish**

Michael Fultz, W.W. Lewis Middle School

**East Baton Rouge Parish**  
**Central Community School District**  
Susan Watts, Central Middle School

**Jefferson Parish**  
Gloria Rimawi, Joshua Butler Elementary

**Lafayette Parish**  
Jada Singleton, Plantation Elementary

### **Lafourche Parish**

Janet Conrad, Bayou Blue Elementary  
Natalie Fonseca, South Thibodaux Elementary  
Dana Gros, Galliano Elementary  
Kelly Young, Golden Meadow Middle

### **Orleans Parish**

**Archdiocese of New Orleans**  
Laura DeLaneuville, Sacred Heart of Jesus School

### **St. Landry Parish**

Clentrice Charles, Lawtell Elementary

### **West Carroll Parish**

Penny Hale, Epps High School

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## **2017 Louisiana Public Broadcasting's Young Heroes Award**

Applications are being accepted for the 2017 LPB's Young Heroes Award. To be eligible, a nominee must be a Louisiana resident who is no more than 19 years old and currently attends a Louisiana public or private school. Only previous winners are ineligible for nomination. The child's parent or guardian must give permission for the nomination, along with permission for **Louisiana Public Broadcasting** to use the child's name or likeness on the air in the event they are selected as a winner.

A letter from the nominator explaining why the nominee would be a worthy recipient of the award must accompany every entry form. The nomination may also include supporting materials such as copies of other awards, certificates, newspaper articles, etc. Supporting materials will not be returned.

All entry forms must be received by **February 10, 2017**.

Winners will be announced on the air on LPB, and on LPB's website and Facebook page on **February 17, 2017**.

**April 3, 2017** will be Louisiana Young Heroes Day in the state of Louisiana. Winners and their families will be honored at an awards ceremony in Baton Rouge.

**The Rotary Club of Baton Rouge** is a co-presenter of the awards.

Nomination forms can be [downloaded in pdf format \(click here\)](#), obtained from public libraries, public and private schools, by calling Louisiana Public Broadcasting at (800) 272-8161 (767-5660 in Baton Rouge) or by filling out our [online form](#).



## Horace Mann finds another way to partner with you

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