



SIG Notes...

Welcome to SIG Notes...

SIG Notes... is a new resource brought to you by the Louisiana State Improvement Grant (LaSIG) to share current examples of best practice happening throughout the state. These examples are easy to replicate and can be implemented in your school or district tomorrow! Many can be implemented with little or no up-front cost while still having a positive impact on your school or district.

Below is a real-life example of what a school and/or district is doing to improve overall results for students, families, and their community. If you have questions, would like additional information, or if you have something to share, please contact us. Call our office at (225) 578-2805 or visit us online at www.lasig2.org

Horseshoe Drive Elementary is...

Taking the Bus Home!

At Horseshoe Drive Elementary (Rapides Parish) the administration and faculty visit all of their student's homes each year. According to the principal, Denese Carter, these kinds of visits are necessary to build a connection between home and school and are generally a positive experience for all involved. Parents are supportive and the students are excited to have their teacher visit their home. Home visits also help teachers become more aware of the population they are serving and both families and the school are more willing to work collaboratively together. Teachers also report that students are more willing to follow directions and do what is asked of them.

How? School administration coordinated with the district transportation department to utilize the same six busses that were used to bring their students to and from school. The six routes were each visited once over the course of six days.

Who? Teachers got together to coordinate the visits based on the students who lived on each route. Teachers also sent home letters letting families know when they would be visiting.

When? Six days during the beginning of the school year. Visits lasted about 10 minutes.

Where? Visits occurred at the home of each student.

What? Visits were informational for families, informing them of programs and procedures, and to ask them if there was anything the family needed from the school to assist them with their child.