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## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 16, 2009

### **157 EBRPSS High School Students Receive ACT Student Achievement Awards**

**Baton Rouge, LA** – The Louisiana ACT Council recently recognized **157 East Baton Rouge Parish School System sophomores** with **Louisiana Student Achievement Awards**. The awards were for the students' outstanding performances on the **PLAN (pre-ACT) Assessment for 2008-2009**.

**The schools with winners were:** 120 students – Baton Rouge Magnet High School, 1 student – Belair High School, 1 student – Broadmoor High School, 23 students – McKinley High School, 3 students – Robert E. Lee High School, 2 students – Scotlandville Magnet High School, 1 student – Tara High School and 6 students – Woodlawn High School. *(A list of students per school is attached.)*

These students are on target to meet or exceed ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks by graduation. The benchmarks are empirically based and identify the level of achievement necessary in English, mathematics, reading and science to have a successful freshman experience.

The Louisiana ACT Council is made up of secondary and postsecondary educators who advise ACT Inc. on the utilization of ACT programs and services in Louisiana schools and colleges. ACT Inc. is the not-for-profit organization that provides assessment, research, information and program management services in the broad areas of education and workforce development and the publisher of the ACT Assessment.

The ACT is a standardized achievement examination for college admissions in the United States produced by ACT Inc. The ACT test has historically consisted of four tests: English, math, reading and science reasoning. In February 2005, an optional writing test was added to the ACT. Recent results are composite scores, a compilation of the scores students receive on the English, math, reading and science portions of the exam. Nationwide, the average composite score was 21.1 in 2008.

About 1,513 East Baton Rouge students took the ACT in 2008 with total average composite scores of 19.8 percent in English (as compared to 19.3 in 2007, 19.4 in 2006 and 19.3 in 2005) and 19.2 percent in math (compared to 19.1 in 2007 and 2006 and 18.9 in 2005). Reading and science scores remained even at 19.7 and 19.5 percents, respectively. **For more information, contact the ACT Southwest Regional Office at (512) 345-1949.**

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