



# PROMISE POSTING

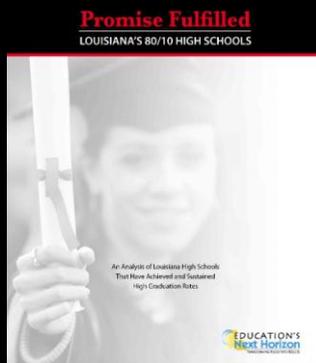
A PUBLICATION OF EDUCATION'S NEXT HORIZON



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## Education's Next Horizon Partners With Communities in Schools

Since 2008, Education's Next Horizon has been a strong voice in Louisiana's efforts to increase graduation rates. Through *Louisiana's Promise*, our statewide dropout prevention initiative, we help to drive the dropout prevention efforts of school districts by assisting in community engagement and action planning and by advancing research on dropout prevention best practices.

In addition to holding a statewide conference and conducting regional meetings with school districts across the state, Louisiana's Promise has directly assisted eleven (11) school districts. The first two districts assisted, Assumption Parish and Iberville Parish, currently rank 1 and 2 in the state in the percentage increase of cohort graduation rates from 2009 to 2011.

In November 2011, we began a new phase of Louisiana's Promise by entering into a formal partnership with **Communities in Schools (CIS)**, one of the nation's leading dropout prevention organizations. The CIS-Education's Next Horizon Partnership was established to implement the *Diplomas Now* dropout prevention model in the **East Baton Rouge (EBR) School System**.

*Diplomas Now* is an innovative school transformation model designed to work with the nation's most challenged middle and high schools to help students graduate and succeed in post-secondary education. In addition to Communities in Schools, lead partners of the *Diplomas Now* model include **City Year** and **Talent Development of Johns Hopkins University**. Together the partners make dropout prevention services and resources available to the entire school population, while providing coordinated, intensive supports to students who are most at-risk of dropping out.

The CIS-Education's Next Horizon Partnership extends *Diplomas Now* to three schools in East Baton Rouge: Belaire High School, Capitol Middle School and Broadmoor Middle School. Education's Next Horizon has

hired a Program Director and four Site Coordinators to work closely with school administrators and teachers to develop and sustain support strategies designed for at-risk students.