Provide the school's mission statement. What process was used to create the mission statement? Describe how the school engaged its stakeholders to parents and community members in the development and fulfillment of the mission statement. Describe the community in which your school is located. What are the unique features and special challenges of your school community? Briefly provide demographic information with regards to both students and staff and the community at large

Louisiana State University Laboratory School's mission statement is summarized in the statement "Total Effort in Every Endeavor." The Lab School community aspires towards total effort in every endeavor for maximum student achievement through the development, implementation, and demonstration of exemplary programs and instructional practices.

The mission statement is reviewed annually. This is done during the summer when all stakeholder groups are emailed and asked to review the mission statement and submit any suggestions for revisions. During the last reaccreditation visit, the QAR team recommended that the mission statement (originally developed in conjunction with the College of Education) be condensed to a single statement. Recommendations submitted by the faculty were used to draft a new statement which included all of the components of the original mission statement. Since then, no stakeholders have submitted any suggestions for revision. In 2010-11, representatives from the Lab School met with representatives from the departments of the College of Education and were assigned the task of creating a mission statement that included our original mission, was student centered, and defined the school's role within the College of Education. The mission statement was revised by the administrative team to reflect those charges and presented to the Dean of the College of Education, Lab School faculty and parents. The final version of the present mission statement reflects the suggestions and recommendations for revisions from those three stakeholder groups. Each year, learning, behavioral, parental engagement, and professional expectations which reflect the tenants of the mission statement are communicated to stakeholders in various ways. Examples of the methods of communication include Moodle sites; Criterion Referenced Learning Guides (CRLGs); PowerSchool (the student information system); the school website; The Cub Roar (Lab School Foundation quarterly publication); The Cub Club (PTO) newsletter, the student newspaper, informative parent meetings, discussion groups, and student assemblies.

Louisiana State University Laboratory School was established by the LSU College of Education and has operated under its auspices for nearly 100 years. This coeducational school exists as an independent system to provide training opportunities for pre- and in-service teachers and to serve as a demonstration and educational research center. Since the school is part of the LSU system, students are required to pay tuition. The school is located on the main campus of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The city is a major industrial, petrochemical, medical, and research center of the American South. The Port of Baton Rouge is the ninth largest in the United States in terms of tonnage shipped, and is the farthest upstream Mississippi River port capable of handling Panamax ships. Baton Rouge is the capital of Louisiana with a population of over 280,000.
The Lab School has unique features including significant opportunities for Dual Enrollment college course credit, accessibility to LSU’s library resource, campus facilities and the expertise of LSU professors and Lab School instructors, 99% of whom have advanced degrees. Additionally, the Lab School was the first school in the state of Louisiana to offer the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program. Enrollment numbers in the IB Diploma and Certificate Programs either maintain or increase annually.

Demographic Information for the school, staff, and community at large:
College preparatory public school (K - 12)
Enrollment:  1360
2012 Graduating Class:  102
Teacher /Student Ratio: 1:23
Minority Population: 14%
ACT average student score: 25.1
IB Diploma student pass rate: Top 10% in the world
Dual Enrollment 2010-11 (Junior and Senior class participation): approximately 60%
Graduation rate: 100%

Section 2: Student Performance

Give a brief description of your school’s vision about students and their performance. Provide a brief summary of student performance in your school. What are your goals and how will you know you have achieved them? Describe the variety of your school’s student performance assessments. How does your staff engage in meaningful analysis of student work in order to modify instruction? Describe the school’s student support programs and services. In what ways does your school ensure community/parent involvement in the life of the school?

To maximize potential for student achievement, the LSU Laboratory School aspires to represent the highest standards of effective instructional delivery and assessment and serve as a demonstration school in the Greater Baton Rouge area, the State of Louisiana, and throughout the nation and world. Furthermore, LSU Lab School seeks to offer a unique environment conducive to academic research and professional development outreach to other school systems and pre-service teachers.

LSU Lab School values opportunities for all students and community members to continue to grow and learn through the

• implementation of exemplary, research based teaching practices.
• provision of a safe environment that promotes teaching and learning.
• provision of a rigorous curriculum rich in the liberal arts and sciences.
• promotion of a diverse community of learners and teaching professionals.
We are extremely proud of exceptional student performance at our school. Examples include:

- recognition as a school of Academic Distinction by the Louisiana State Department of Education
- ranking in the top 200 schools in the nation by Newsweek
- ACT student average score of 25.1
- annually exceeding the state average scores in English/Language Arts, math, science, and social studies as measured by the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program and End of Course (EOC) tests.
- exceptional student success rates in Dual Enrollment and International Baccalaureate Program courses
- an overwhelming majority participation in extracurricular activities including athletics, visual and performing arts, clubs, honor societies, and community service based projects.
- 100% annual graduation rate.

During the 2010-2011 school year, in preparation for the reaccreditation visit for the university, the Lab School was charged by the LSU College of Education with developing a Strategic Plan which supported the Lab School mission and vision as well as its role within the College. The Strategic Plan can be found on our school website and includes school goals, strategies for how those goals will be accomplished, and what evidence we will gather as documentation.

LSU Lab School’s student performance assessments include formative classroom assessments to guide instruction and summative classroom assessments, used as evaluative instruments to determine the level of student understanding and performance. Standardized tests are also used including the LEAP, iLEAP, PLAN, Explore, PSAT, ACT, and SAT.

Our K-12 faculty reviews all test data to guide instruction, measure student understanding and performance, and determine the effectiveness of instructional programs and strategies. In the elementary school, we follow and study scores for a class as it progresses from 3rd through 5th grades and use the results to determine trends and patterns of strengths and weaknesses for the class. That information is used to adjust instruction accordingly for the next year. We also study scores for the same grade level over several years and use the results to determine if there are holes or gaps in our grade level instruction. Additionally, K-12th grade horizontal and vertical curriculum alignment is reviewed annually. Finally, the 6-12 social studies faculty articulated the research curriculum and the science department did the same with science lab reporting.

LSU Laboratory School has a robust k-12 resource program to assist with 504 accommodations, including three guidance counselors, one speech therapist, two literacy specialists, and three resource teachers. In 2009; we also implemented a Response to Intervention (RTI) program in grades k – 9, which is staffed by instructional interventionists including associates, instructors, and resource personnel. Our RTI plan documents how students qualify and what services they receive as a result of their qualification. Additionally, nine weeks report cards document and celebrate student growth as a result of RTI support and intervention.
LSU Lab School ensures community/parent involvement in the life of the school by fostering effective communication and relationships with and among its stakeholders in varied ways. School personnel seek opportunities for collaboration and shared leadership among stakeholders to help students learn and advance improvement efforts. Students, parents, faculty, administration, and community members all have access to the school website, traditional publications and face-to-face meetings which ensure that information is available to all stakeholders. The Cub Club, Grandparents Club, U-Club and our Foundation form the nucleus of community involvement. More detailed information regarding community/parent involvement may be found in the standard 6 narrative.

Section 3: Challenges and Opportunities
What are the major challenges your school has faced in the last 3 years and how have you addressed those challenges?
The major challenges we have faced the last three years involved working around progress. In the last three years, we have completed the renovation of our auditorium, built a new gym, and covered a ditch, transforming it into a turf field for K-12 physical education, football and soccer. We are now challenged for space as we renovate the band and choir rooms. We have addressed those challenges through creative scheduling, the use of temporary buildings, and cooperation and flexibility of students, parents, faculty, staff and administration.

Section 4: Conclusion

What is your school most proud of and why? Is there any other information you would like to share with the public and the school community?
We are extremely proud of several of our accomplishments. University Laboratory School prides itself on
  1. the rigorous academic environment and extracurricular involvement that facilitate student achievement. Examples include:
     • recognition as a school of Academic Distinction by the Louisiana State Department of Education
     • ranking in the top 200 schools in the nation by Newsweek
     • ACT student average score of 25.1
     • annually exceeding the state average scores in English/Language Arts, math, science, and social studies as measured by the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program and End of Course (EOC) tests.
     • exceptional student success rates in Dual Enrollment and International Baccalaureate Program courses
     • an overwhelming majority participation in extracurricular activities including athletics, visual and performing arts, clubs, honor societies, and community service based projects.
     • 100% annual graduation rate.
2. our state of the art technology program which includes approximately 800 computers including PC and MAC wireless mobile laptop carts (which contain 24 computers each). Currently, our computer-to-student ratio is approximately 1 to 1.7. We have an assortment of digital cameras as well as digital video cameras to be used by students and faculty. Our school is networked and everyone is given an e-mail account as well as storage space on our server. Wireless network is available across the Lab School campus. Our teachers use Moodle as well as other technological tools and programs to reinforce what is taught in their classes. Our website is created and maintained by students and faculty at the Lab School. Many classrooms, (all in elementary) are equipped with active boards.

3. our outstanding faculty, staff, and administration. All instructors and administrators at the Lab School have advanced degrees and many hold certificates in their fields of expertise, and/or are National Board and student teacher supervisor certified. Many faculty members have received top local and national awards and honors, such as the Presidential Teaching Awards in Math and Science and Louisiana Teacher of the Year. All are talented and caring people who work diligently to ensure our students achieve personal success, develop strong moral character, and become dynamic citizens through innovative learning experiences. The faculty, staff, and administration, with the help of student teachers and service workers, create a model educational environment worthy of observation by visitors, LSU student observers, and other schools. All are proficient in the use of technology in classrooms and continuously participate in professional development opportunities allowing us to continue to serve as a center for educational innovation and research.

4. our exceptional student body, parents, and the community at large who support the mission of the school and are always eager to be actively engaged in academic and extracurricular school endeavors.