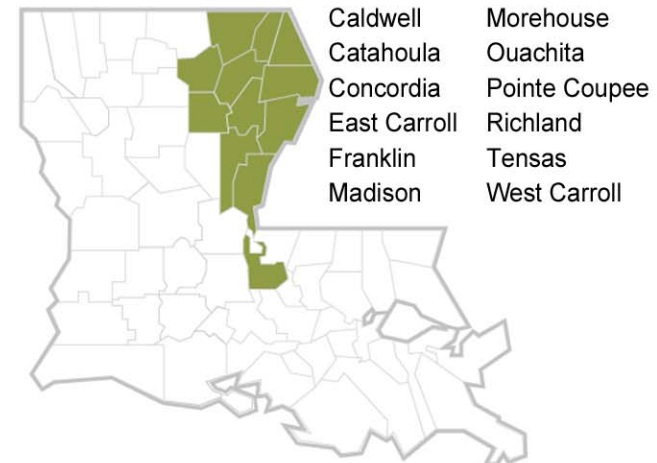


Education Committee Plan

Mary Ann Newton
President,
West Monroe-West Ouachita
Chamber of Commerce



SHORT TERM GOALS:

Organize and Coordinate an Educational Regional Symposium

- Evaluate delivery of existing GED programs
- Identify where programs are currently being delivered
- Explore the factors explaining regional high school dropout rate
- Increase public awareness about how/why educational attainment contributes to earning employment
- Conduct educational media forums for parents



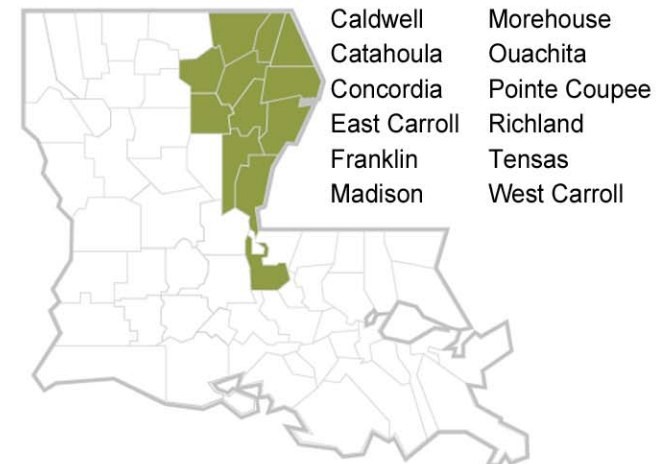
SHORT TERM GOALS:

Advocate for Full Implementation of Louisiana Promise Recommendations

- Support 5 point Louisiana Promise Plan
- Complement state initiative to reduce regional high school dropout rate

Advocate for Funding Support for a Stronger Truancy Program

Recruit additional committee members at symposium



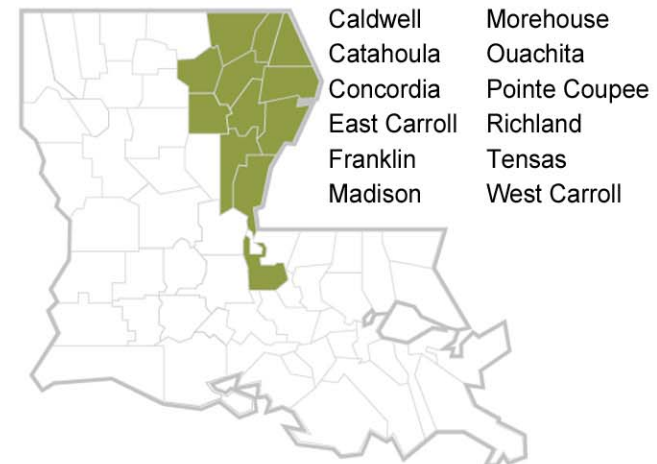
MEDIUM TERM GOALS:

Develop a regional educational “best practices” achievement plan in partnership with

- High Schools
- Technical colleges
- Colleges

Advocate for educational policy change to reduce the number of high school dropouts

- Increase the incentive to obtain high school graduation or GED certificate; implement a drivers license penalty



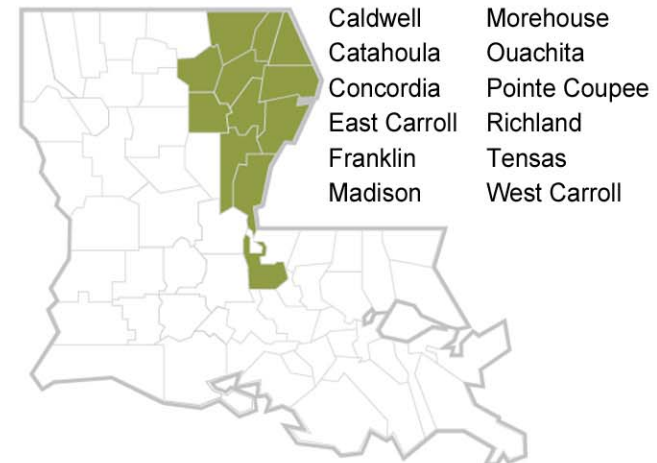
MEDIUM TERM GOALS:

Advocate for positive youth development educational programs

- 4-H
- Leadership
- Boys' and girls' clubs
- Big Brothers and Big Sisters
- Business mentoring programs
- Other

Identify a system to track access to pre-GED and GED education in the region

Develop tracking system for students who change schools



LONG TERM GOALS

Develop career pathways of relevance and adopt policy changes

Compile a regional list and map of higher education opportunities available in the region

Advocate for curriculum change to require every high school to add a personal finance class

Provide career and educational opportunities to improve the quality of available workforce

