

East Baton Rouge Public School System, LA (Implementation)
Project SEED (School Empowerment through Economic Diversity)

Approved by the Board, this project aims to increase socioeconomic and racial diversity in these schools by replicating and expanding the successful Baton Rouge High cluster program. Grant funds will be used to address the socioeconomic isolation currently experienced by these schools. Project SEED is backed by three comprehensive studies indicating the current state of schools within the district and providing evidence that the grant can increase socioeconomic diversity parish-wide. The grant application includes within-school data and analysis on course enrollment, academic achievement, school climate, staffing, and other measures to attract diverse students. The comprehensive plan to increase socioeconomic diversity is based on rigorous engagement with families, students, communities, and educators. EBRPSS is committed to achieving ambitious yet achievable goals for creating socioeconomically and racially diverse schools. EBRPSS is committed to achieving ambitious yet achievable goals for creating socioeconomically and racially diverse schools. Over ten years, EBRPSS has demonstrated that a high-need school system with 77% of students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch can foster socioeconomic diversity from preschool to grade 12. Strategic initiatives ensured the recruitment of students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds, guaranteeing that economic circumstances do not limit educational opportunities. The cluster program emphasizes a holistic education, incorporating arts, music, physical education, and extracurricular activities to support overall student development. Significant investments have been made in improving school facilities to provide safe and conducive learning environments.