

April 26, 2004

Dear Superintendent Picard, Dr. Jarvis, and Ms. DeVille,

Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to meet with us this past Thursday. We are appreciative of your shared commitment to excellence in education and look forward to working together in the future.

This letter is a re-cap of our discussion and agreed upon actions.

- The home study page on the Louisiana Department of Education web site will be modified so that home schools not seeking approval with LA DOE will no longer be classified as “non-approved home study programs” and the “Non-Approved Home Study Registration Form” will no longer be utilized.
- Mr. Scott Norton, the DOE responsible party for communicating with Riverside Publishing concerning the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, will ask that one form of the test be made available to private school and home study students in Louisiana some time this fall.
- Although the DOE has no jurisdiction over the TOPS Scholarship Program, as discussed House Bill 1503 has been introduced in the House by Rep. Beard and Rep. Scalise, which would make the minimum ACT scores required for home study students’ eligibility for TOPS the same as for public school students. Ms. Polly Broussard of the BESE Board will contact Mr. Jack Guinn about this item.

We anxiously anticipate your feedback in each of these matters and will maintain contact with your office until a satisfactory resolution is achieved. Thank you again for all your efforts to provide excellence in education and a bright future for all Louisiana children.

With warmest regards,

Beryl Amedée, CHEF of Louisiana
Kathryn Goppelt, home educator