



# Annual Report

24 Louisiana

# "Great Place to Work"

·IDEA has been recognized as a "Great Place to Work" and received national rankings on *U.S. News & World Report*'s Top High Schools lists and Jay Mathews Challenge Index High School Rankings formerly known as America's Most Challenging High Schools published in *The Washington Post*.

# **IDEA Louisiana**

# **Dear Team & Family,**

Looking back on 2024, we are filled with gratitude and pride in the progress made and the milestones achieved throughout our organization. The year was transformative, pushing us to adapt, innovate, and strengthen our commitment to providing every student with access to a college-ready education.

As we reflect on this journey, we celebrate the successes, big and small, that have defined this year. Together, we have created moments of joy, inspiration, and achievement that remind us of our purpose and fuel our aspirations for the future. Here are some of the highlights that made this year unforgettable:

- IDEA welcomed over 87,000 students and more than 11,000 staff for the first day of school across 11 regions in 4 states
- The class of 2024 included 2,218 seniors earning 14,264 acceptances to colleges and universities.
- 73.2% of 2024 seniors were first-generation college students
- 88 IDEA Elementary & Middle Schools Ranked in the top 25% in all of Texas by U.S. News & World Report.
- 27 IDEA high schools ranked among the most challenging in the nation by the Jay Matthew's Challenge Index.
- IDEA was recognized as a Top Performing District by the Educational Results Partnership. In addition, 21 of our campuses made the prestigious honor roll list.

- 133 IDEA schools network-wide earned a spot on the Alliance for a Healthier Generation's 2024 list of "America's Healthiest Schools."
- IDEA has achieved over 13,000 alumni.
- IDEA announced new leadership: Dolores Gonzalez, Deputy Superintendent, Kathleen Zimmerman, Chief Financial Officer, Adam Miller, National Executive Director of IPS, Dr. Colleen Stearns, Chief Academic Officer, Matthew Robinson, Executive Director for IDEA Cincinnati, and Dr. Annette Macias, Executive Director for Permian Basin.

Looking ahead, we are filled with joy and optimism and remain deeply committed to our mission, vision, and values. As a Team & Family, we will continue to build upon our academic successes, student achievements, and innovative learning experiences while nurturing a collaborative and thriving community working toward a single mission of college for all.

Let us embrace the possibilities that lie ahead. Thank you for being a vital part of this community.

Sincerely,

Teff Cottrill

CEO & Superintendent





**IDEA Innovation**Founded 2018. K-12



**IDEA Bridge**Founded 2018, K-12

### **REGIONAL UPDATES**

- IDEA named Adam Miller as the new National Executive Director of IPS. Adam's passion for serving families and his dedication to ensuring every child has equal opportunity for an excellent education are truly inspiring. With a proven track record of leadership and a steadfast commitment to excellence, Miller is poised to drive our IPS regions to new heights.
- IDEA made the decision to consolidate operations in the Southern Louisiana region, which allowed us to re-allocate our resources and strengthen our academic product to our families in the Baton Rouge community. As part of the consolidation, IDEA University Prep closed at the end of the 2023-2024 school year and students attending University Prep were offered a transfer to another IDEA campus in the region at IDEA Bridge or IDEA Innovation.



IDEA is a goal-oriented and datadriven family of public charter schools, open to all students in grades K-12. The district prioritizes achieving 100% college acceptance and matriculation for its students.



IDEA is held to the same academic standards as traditional public schools and prioritizes the development of the whole child, including character, emotional and physical health, and wellness.



IDEA teachers partner with students and families every step of the way to ensure students are prepared for success in college and life.



IDEA is proud to announce that **133 of our campuses** across all regions have been honored on the *Alliance for a Healthier Generation*'s 2024 list of "America's Healthiest Schools." This recognition celebrates our commitment to fostering environments where quality nutrition, regular physical activity, and robust wellness policies thrive.

We're especially thrilled to share that 15 of our schools have achieved the prestigious All-Star Award, a testament to their excellence in promoting health and wellness.

#### Congratulations to our All-Star Award Schools:

- IDEA Burke Academy
- IDEA Ewing Halsell Academy
- IDEA South Flores College Preparatory
- IDEA Frontier Academy
- IDEA Riverview College Preparatory
- IDEA Robindale College Preparatory
- IDEA Kyle Academy & College Preparatory
- IDEA College Preparatory Donna
- IDEA Los Encinos College Preparatory
- IDEA College Prep North Mission
- IDEA Owassa College Preparatory
- IDEA Palmview College Preparatory
- IDEA College Preparatory Weslaco Pike
- IDEA Achieve Academy

This recognition marks a new milestone for **IDEA's Healthy Kids Here program**, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. Launched in 2014, Healthy Kids Here aims to make IDEA one of the healthiest school districts in the country. The program focuses on three key areas: providing nutritious food, promoting physical fitness, and instilling lifelong healthy habits.

**Chief Financial Officer Profile** 

# Kathleen Zimmerman

"I am excited to contribute to IDEA's mission of empowering students and transforming education. I am passionate about leveraging financial strategies to ensure IDEA's long-term growth and sustainability. My vision for the future includes expanding opportunities for students while enhancing operational efficiency, ensuring that IDEA continues to provide an exceptional education to more communities across the country. I am committed to driving innovation and fostering partnerships that align with IDEA's core values and goals."

Kathleen brings extensive leadership and financial expertise to IDEA Public Schools. As Executive Director of NYOS Charter School, INC., she achieved financial success, cultivated an inclusive workplace, and championed charter school funding with the state legislature. Previously, she served as Finance Director at Harvard Business School, overseeing financial operations and analytics for Executive Education. Kathleen holds a B.S. in Marketing and International Business from Georgetown University and an MBA from Harvard Business School. She also serves as Board Treasurer for the Texas Public Charter Schools Association.

## **IDEA Louisiana Financial Highlights**

### **Statement of Financial Position**

Assets	
Current Assets	\$13,012,472
Property & Equipment, Net	\$145,512
Right of use Assets-Operating Net	\$25,473,911

Total	\$38,631,895

### **Liabilities & Net Assets**

**Total Liabilites** 

Total Net Assets	\$10,306,085
Total	\$38,631,895

### **Statement of Activities**

Revenues	
State Funding	\$36,110,070
Federal Funding	\$5,350,694
Other	2,238,781
Total	\$43,699,545
Expenses	
Program Services	\$19,960,400
Administration	\$17,462,581
Total	\$37,422,981

**ANNUAL REPORT 2023**