



*St Landry Parish School System*

August 24, 2011

Re: NEF CyberLearning Academy

The QZAB (Quality Zone Academic Bond) program is one of the few federal programs that provide grants targeted on the truly disadvantaged communities in the nation. It allows high poverty school districts such as ours to borrow money for vital needs, such as damage repairs to school buildings, while working together to form a long term partnership with the private sector that enables everyone to benefit. A funding match of 10% for academic courses is offered through this grant with Cyberlearning Academy. The National Education Foundation worked with us to set up a state-of-the-art QZAB CyberLearning Academy.

During the 2007-2008 school year, our students achieved a 40 % improvement gain in Math using the CyberLearning courses and motivational rewards such as iPods for students. In 2009, Dr. Kuttan, NEF Chairman graciously gave us a full grant to continue the CyberLearning Academy program. Our students have made 40% + progress in Math consistently every year. We are grateful that Dr. Kuttan has recently offered to extend the grant for CyberLearning Total Solution Academy for 2011 – 2012. This program consist of differentiated learning customized for each student using the top-rated (by the US Education Department) Pearson Success Maker, Stipend and Bonus for the Academy Director, a state-of-the-art Learning Management System (LMS) capable of tracking of student activities, student progress and real time reports, mentoring, motivational rewards for students, teachers and parents, teacher training, professional development, tech support, and the help line (available twenty hours, seven days a week).

In all my years as Academic Technology Facilitator, I have never come across a visionary educational leader as Dr. Kuttan, who cares deeply about the education of students, and provides all the resources needed. Without Dr. Kuttan's dedicated commitment and NEF grants, our students would not have been able to make the significant progress they have achieved. Their grants made a difference in the lives of our students. I have no doubt the NEF and Dr. Kuttan will achieve their commitment made at the recent Clinton Global Initiative of training a million disadvantaged K-12 students in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), ELA, Social Studies, SAT/ACT, IT, Business and Management. NEF's efforts will truly benefit our nation, our budget-weary school districts, and students. The CyberLearning Academies will help to prepare and motivate students across the nation for college and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century workforce!

Sincerely,

Camella Mouton

Academic Technology Facilitator