



## From the Desk of the Executive Director



Dr. Sujuan Boutté

"My favorite things in life don't cost any money. It's really clear that the most precious resource we all have is time." *Steve Jobs*

It is what we do with the time we have that counts as our legacy. How that legacy affects the lives of those around us makes our potential profound. Time is indeed a precious commodity-here's a few of my favorite expenditures of time at LOSFA this past year...

### My Favorite Things (LOSFA Style)

LOSFA Students to the White House two years straight-how amazing

Pictures and memories and lots of star gazing  
Seeing their counterparts share their challenges and dreams

*These are a few of my favorite things*

White House Convening Counseling Teams across the nation

Having our partners there-oh what elation  
Bring on new staff to help students achieve

*These are a few of my favorite things*

Onboarding near peers and peers how outstanding  
Seeing the ideas they have for expanding

Watching them launch and then seeing them soar  
*These are a few of my favorite things*

Expanding services for eighth through twelfth graders  
GEAR UP Grant now means we start earlier and end later

Sixth grade to college entry and all points between  
*These are a few of my favorite things*



***continued on page 2***

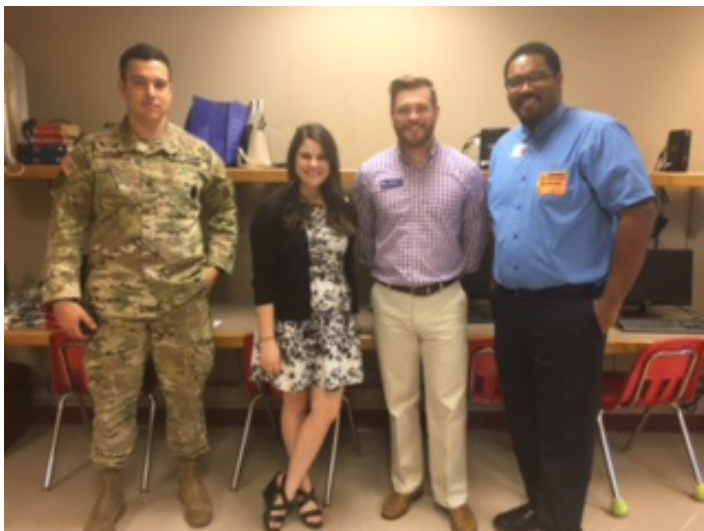
### ***In this edition. . .***

<b><i>From the Executive Director's Desk</i></b>	<b><i>1 - 3</i></b>
<b><i>Louisiana College Application and Access Month (LCAAM)</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>

<b><i>John R Justice Applications</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>
<b><i>November Compete to Complete Winner</i></b>	<b><i>5</i></b>

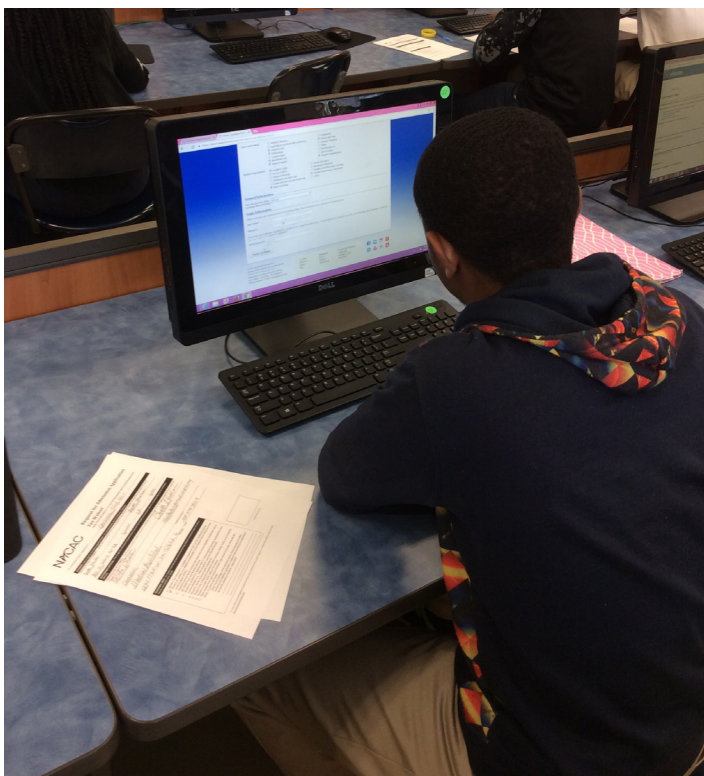
## From the Desk of the Executive Director *(continued)*

Unlock My Future is now up and running  
Helping our students choose the best path forthcoming



Students amazed by the choices this brings  
*These are a few of my favorite things*

Students with questions on college submissions  
Completing the process required for admission

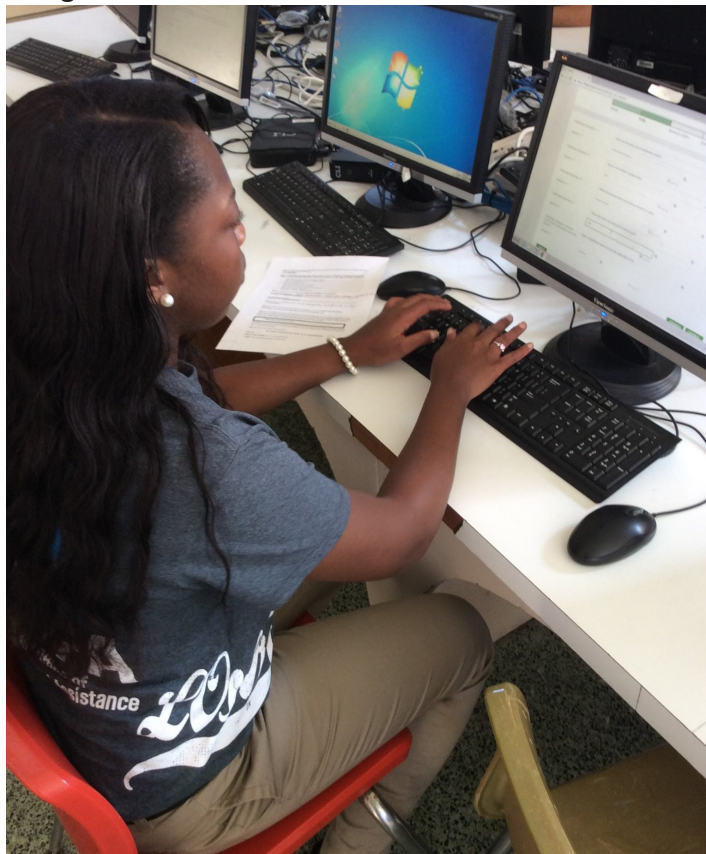


Applications accepted; how that makes us sing



*These are a few of my favorite things*

Filing the FAFSA now starts in October



FSA ID secured- glad that it's over  
Finding money for college is the true brass ring  
*These are a few of my favorite things*

***continued on page 3***

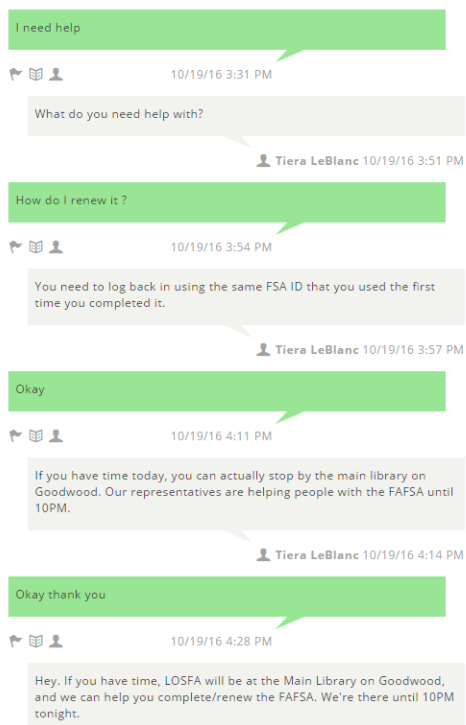


## From the Desk of the Executive Director *(continued)*

So many questions and so many choices  
The LOSFA TEAM being there with comforting voices



Text questions to LOSFA; HEY my phone just went ding



*These are a few of my favorite things*

Acceptance letters! My heart starts to quiver  
Reading that offer letter-starting to shiver  
Filing that FAFSA sure reduced the sting  
*Free Money for College is my new favorite thing*

Changes this year-we've all shared in the challenge  
Folks came together to achieve the best possible balance



People working together to bolster each other's dreams  
*This I can say is my most favorite thing*

Best,  
S.

## 2016 Louisiana College Application and Access Month (LCAAM)

The 2016 Louisiana College Application and Access Month (LCAAM) activities were conducted in 86 high schools across the state (up from 48 participating high schools in 2015) during October and early November. As of December 20, 2016, 56 schools had reported their results. Thus, with information from 31 additional schools still outstanding the numbers for 2016 are as follows:

Students Participating = 4,072 (up from 3,050 in 2015)

College Applications Completed = 6,015

FSA IDs Obtained = 1,358

FAFSAs Initiated/Completed = 466

Match & Fit Surveys Completed = 443

Career Applications Completed = 15

Military Applications Completed = 13



## John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program Application Period is Jan. 1- April 30, 2017

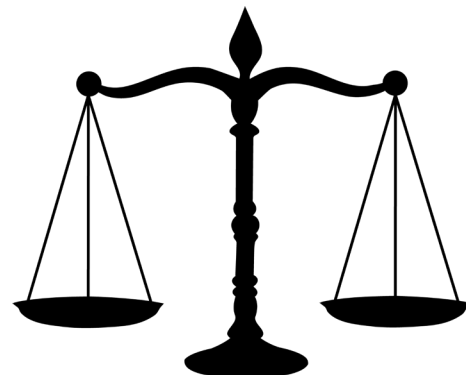
The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) will be accepting applications for the John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program January 1- April 30, 2017, for eligible prosecutors and public defenders across the state.

The John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program in Louisiana provides for the repayment of eligible educational loans (both Federal Family Education Loan Program [FFELP] and William D. Ford Federal Direct Loans) for state and federal public defenders and state prosecutors employed in Louisiana who agree to remain employed as public defenders and prosecutors for at least three years.

In order to apply, applicants must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens who have been employed full time (working at least 30 hours per week) as public defenders or assistant district attorneys for at least one year as of December 31, 2016. Applicants must also have at least \$20,000 in remaining eligible student loan debt and cannot be in default on any federal student loans.

Under the program, 10 eligible prosecutors will be awarded \$1,850.00 each, and five eligible public defenders will be awarded \$3,700.00 each. Two prosecutors and one public defender will be selected from each of the Louisiana Circuit Courts of Appeal.

Eligible applicants who are interested in applying for the award or who would like more information are encouraged to visit the LOSFA website, <http://www.osfa.la.gov>. The application can be accessed under the Louisiana Award System tab beginning January 1, 2017.



# Northeast High School Wins the Compete to Complete Campaign for the Month of November

The seniors at Northeast High School sure know how to compete. For the month of November, the Vikings won the title of Champion for the Compete to Complete FAFSA Campaign. With a growth rate of 143%, the seniors greatly surpassed their FAFSA completions from the month of October, moving their total completions to 28.81% of the small senior class. For this victory, the senior class will be awarded with a celebratory pizza party.

The competition and victories, however, do not end there. In addition to competing against the other ten schools in the campaign, the teachers at Northeast High School got creative in their approach to getting FAFSAs completed. In fact, they held a competition at the school in which all senior homerooms competed for the winning title and a Christmas party. To win, the homeroom needed to have the highest completion rate of the FAFSA. The competition was tight, and ultimately, Mrs. Florida's homeroom claimed the winning title.

At their Christmas party, the students gathered at lunch to be treated to Pizza Hut pizza, Raising Cane's chicken fingers, gourmet popcorn, and sweet Bundtins.

In addition to the meal, each of the students were entered into a raffle to win a \$50 graduation supply voucher from Jostens. The winner of that voucher was Tyrielle Dyson, who excitedly lifted her ticket into the air after the number was read. In addition to her voucher, two of her classmates won vouchers in the monthly raffles, including her fellow classmate Leon Thomas.

For these seniors, completing the FAFSA seemed to be an achievement that ended in graduation supply vouchers, pizza, and chicken fingers. On the contrary, it doesn't end there. Their competitive spirits and drive will not only inspire other fellow classmates, but will also inspire younger Northeast High School students and students across the city to complete the FAFSA. That way, more students may experience victories of their own as they may become able to afford to attend college.



# LOSFA's Social Media Sites



<http://www.facebook.com/LOSFA>



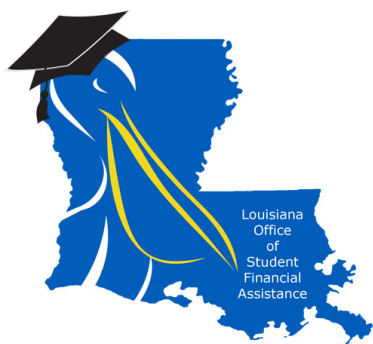
<http://www.twitter.com/LOSFA>



<http://www.youtube.com/LOSFA1000>



<http://instagram.com/LOSFA001>



For more information, contact the  
Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance  
A program under The Board of Regents

By Phone: 800-259-5626

By E-mail: [custserv@la.gov](mailto:custserv@la.gov)

By Mail: P.O. Box 91202,  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9202

Web Address: [www.osfa.la.gov](http://www.osfa.la.gov)



For submissions, opinions, or comments for the LOSFA LOOP, please  
contact Gus Wales at [Gus.Wales@la.gov](mailto:Gus.Wales@la.gov).