



Contact: Amber Harper  
[amber@lefoundation.org](mailto:amber@lefoundation.org)  
337.234.3229

# *Press Release*

## **For Immediate Release**

### Results are In: More Students at Charles Burke Elementary and J. Wallace James Elementary are Reading on Level

Lafayette Education Foundation assisted educators in helping over fifty struggling readers by providing funding for tutoring specifically designed to increase the number of students reading on or above grade level. By way of a United Way PACT grant, LEF funded summer and in-school tutoring at two Lafayette parish public elementary schools. Students received tutoring five days a week during the summer of 2009, and four days a week throughout the 2009-2010 school year.

Spring 2010 testing shows a 33% growth among the tutored students reading on or above grade level. At the start of the program 29% of students were reading on or above their grade levels; by the spring of 2010, this percentage increased to 63%. In addition to the students scoring at or above grade level, 92% of all students tutored showed growth and improvement in their reading levels.

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“This grant allowed me to reach more students, I saw growth among all students tutored,” Amy Zerangue, Reading Facilitator at Charles Burke Elementary.

“Our objective in funding the summer program was to really reach those struggling students who were at-risk of failure due to inadequate reading skills. Going into the summer session 46% of students were at risk of failure; by the end of the summer that percentage dropped to 1.9%. We are extremely pleased with the year-end results and would like to thank both schools for their hard work and commitment,” Amber Harper, LEF Associate Director.

For more information about how you can help students succeed or about Lafayette Education Foundation, please visit [www.lefoundation.org](http://www.lefoundation.org).

*Lafayette Education Foundation is a non-profit with the mission to promote and support excellence in education. LEF has accomplished its mission through the LEF Grants Program, LEF Teacher Awards and Lifelong Learning Initiatives. LEF has funded over \$1 million in classroom grants since 1989, enhancing the learning experience for thousands of students. Through the annual Teacher Awards LEF has recognized 3,155 educators, awarding \$242,000 to outstanding educators. LEF also provides funding for a variety of lifelong learning initiatives, connecting education to the real world.*

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