



THE LAURA BUSH FOUNDATION  
FOR AMERICA'S LIBRARIES

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## **Laura Bush Foundation Announces \$500,000 In Grants To Gulf Coast School Libraries**

The Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries announced today, in Chalmette, Louisiana and Biloxi, Mississippi, the first grantees for the new Gulf Coast School Library Recovery Initiative fund of The Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries.

Six months ago, the Leadership Council of The Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries visited with Mrs. Bush and realized how impassioned she was about making sure that school libraries affected by the 2005 hurricanes had a chance to quickly be replenished. The Leadership Council immediately established the Gulf Coast School Library Recovery Initiative as a separate fund of the Foundation to help these schools. The grant application was available on March 8, 2006. The Advisory Committee, made up of school library experts from across the country, met on April 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, reviewed the first group of applicants and made the difficult decision on which schools would qualify for the first round of funding.

Grantees announced today are:

Chalmette High School – Chalmette, LA  
St. Mary's Academy – New Orleans, LA  
Andrew Jackson Elementary and Middle School – Chalmette, LA  
St. Tammany Jr. High School – Slidell, LA  
Seventh Ward Elementary – Abbeville, LA  
Our Lady of Lourdes – Slidell, LA  
Our Lady of Prompt Succor Central School – Chalmette, LA  
Gorenflo Elementary - Biloxi, MS  
Second Street Elementary – Bay St. Louis, MS  
North Bay Elementary – Bay St. Louis, MS

The Foundation is continuing to receive grant applications every day and will make another round of grants later in the summer. All schools affected by the 2005 hurricanes in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Alabama and Florida are encouraged to apply. The application can be found at [www.laurabushfoundation.org](http://www.laurabushfoundation.org)