



THE LAURA BUSH FOUNDATION
FOR AMERICA'S LIBRARIES

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Laura Bush Foundation Announces \$1 Million In Grants To Gulf Coast School Libraries

The Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries announced today one million dollars in Gulf Coast School Library Recovery Initiative grants to twenty schools in Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida and Texas. These grants are in addition to the twenty schools in Louisiana and Mississippi that received grants earlier this year, making the total grants awarded over \$2 million in the first eight months of the initiative.

"New schools are vital to the Gulf Coast's recovery. And at the heart of each of these new schools is its library. School libraries offer children a place to enjoy good books -- entertaining and comforting stories that can help children overcome the trauma of last year's hurricanes, and develop a lifelong love of reading. These grants will help bring books back to the Gulf Coast's school libraries -- and rebuilt schools and libraries will bring families back to the Gulf Coast," said Mrs. Bush.

Many schools in the Gulf Coast region were destroyed or severely damaged by the 2005 hurricanes, and part of the destruction was the loss of the schools' libraries. As a response to Mrs. Bush's concern for the students of these affected schools, the Laura Bush Foundation established a special fund to help re-establish the book collections for the school libraries.

Grantees announced today include:

- Bunche Accelerated Academy for High School Preparation - Metairie, LA
- Eastlawn Elementary School – Pascagoula, MS
- Gautier Elementary School – Gautier, MS
- Glynn H. Brock Elementary School – Slidell, LA
- Gulfview-Charles B. Murphy Elementary School – Kiln, MS
- L.W. Higgins High School – Marrero, LA
- Lusher Charter School – New Orleans, LA
- Lusher Charter School, Fortier Campus – New Orleans, LA
- Martin Behrman Charter School – New Orleans, LA
- Memorial High School – Port Arthur, TX
- Metairie Park Country Day School – Metairie, LA
- The New Orleans Charter Science and Mathematics High School – New Orleans, LA
- Peebles Elementary School – New Iberia, LA
- Pensacola Beach Elementary School – Pensacola Beach, FL
- Phoenix High School – Braithwaite, LA
- St. Rosalie School – Harvey, LA
- South Plaquemines Elementary School – Port Sulphur, LA
- Waveland Elementary School – Waveland, MS
- West Jefferson High School – Harvey, LA
- Xavier University Preparatory School – New Orleans, LA

The Foundation continues to accept applications at www.laurabushfoundation.org. All schools that lost book collections in the 2005 hurricanes in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Texas are encouraged to apply.

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