

To Whom It May Concern:

We, the undersigned science educators in Ouachita Parish have seen a positive impact on our students as a result of the Ouachita Parish School Board's Science Curriculum Policy adopted November 29, 2006. Our students have a variety of cultural backgrounds and as a result have many questions when it comes to subjects such as cloning, human-caused global warming, and biological evolution. Our science policy gives us the opportunity to discuss those views, held by our students, in light of scientific fact and to bring up scientific questions that challenge current scientific "theories". When the curriculum addresses one of these topics the students invariably get more involved in the lesson which leads to better discussion and in turn to a higher level of achievement as students are relating the material to themselves personally. Our students become more intrinsically motivated, which is the goal of popular differentiated instruction. If science teachers are not allowed to answer the students' questions then we will stifle their curiosity and negate the very nature of inquiry science, which is to question a problem and then set out to find the answers. We are able to scientifically answer questions and show how widely held "theories" have discrepancies in them. We are able to do this without any tension or fear thanks to our parish science policy.

Respectfully, *W. Robert Debbier, Supt.*
 Ouachita Parish Science Educators

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|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Larry Perry</i> | DANNY PENNINGTON | ASST PRINCIPAL | GOOD HOPE MIDDLE SCHOOL |
| <i>Brenda Grover</i> | Brenda Grover | Teacher | Richwood High School |
| <i>Beverly Wipke</i> | Beverly Wipke | Science Teacher | RHS |
| <i>Debbie Lee</i> | Debbie Lee | Biology I, II teacher | OPHS |
| <i>A. Ryan Jordan</i> | A. Ryan Jordan | Biology I teacher | OPHS |
| <i>E. Attaway</i> | E. Attaway | Biology II | " |
| <i>K. Womble</i> | K. Womble | Biology I + II teacher | OPHS |
| <i>M. Hopkins</i> | M. Hopkins | Science Teacher | at OPHS |
| <i>D. Lindow</i> | D. Lindow | Science Teacher | OJHS |
| <i>A. Green</i> | A. Green | Science Teacher | CSHS |
| <i>J. White</i> | J. White | Science Teacher | ASHS |
| <i>Danna Temple</i> | Danna Temple | Science Teacher | 6HMS |
| <i>Michelle Gill</i> | Michelle Gill | Science Teacher | 6HMS |
| <i>Sarah Jill Maxwell</i> | Sarah Jill Maxwell | 6, 7, 8 Grade Science | } GOOD HOPE MIDDLE SCHOOL |
| <i>Billy Biggs</i> | Billy Biggs | 8th Sam Riv | |

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QUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD'S SCIENCE CURRICULUM POLICY

Todd A. Holt	Todd A. Coble	Teacher	Quachita Parish High School
Randy Cottrell	Randy Cottrell	science Dept. Head	Quachita Parish High School
Tammy Hodges	Tammy Hodges	Teacher	Riser Middle
Dry Cole	Greg Cole	science Dept.	Riser Middle
D. Davis	DJ DAVIS	Science Dept	<u>Riser Middle</u>
		Science	
		Science	