Dear families,

Today, the board at New Beginnings Schools Foundation, which serves Pierre A. Capdau Charter School and John F. Kennedy High School at Lake Area, voted unanimously to surrender our charter for both schools in the School Year 2020-2021.

We will continue to operate our schools and serve students this school year (School Year 2019-2020), but will not operate the schools after the end of the school year. We anticipate the schools will remain open, under new management. On Friday, July 19th, we will host a family meeting at 6:00pm at JFK in partnership with the Orleans Parish School Board. At the meeting, our team and school board representatives will share our plans for the 2019-2020 academic year. We will work with Orleans Parish School Board to manage the transition over the course of the 2019-2020 school year. We will continue to provide updates and opportunities for you engage in this process throughout the year.

Our Foundation and staff have worked tirelessly to turn around the schools in our network. Ultimately, returning the charter is what is best for students to thrive academically and for you to access the best options for your children. This was a difficult decision to make as we are honored to have the opportunity to educate your child.

The practices that were uncovered at our school had real-life consequences for our students and families, especially our graduating class. In an independent investigation into allegations at John F. Kennedy High School, we found significant issues that led to this situation.

We are shocked and disappointed by what was found. We deeply apologize to our families.

In School Year 2019-2020, we will serve students and families at our two schools under the leadership of Kevin George, an exceptional educator with a long history of working with Louisiana students. We also will reach out to each family on their student’s transcript and their individual plan to graduate, which may include changes to your student’s class schedule.

If you have questions, please visit nbsfnola.com or you may contact our CEO via email at ceo@nbsfnola.com or by phone at 504-827-1930.

Sincerely,

The Board at New Beginnings Schools Foundation