



## Paul G. Pastorek

*Louisiana Superintendent of Education*

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### Education

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J.D., Loyola University School of Law, 1979

B.A., Loyola University, 1976

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### Professional Memberships and Associations

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New Orleans Regional Chamber of Commerce Area Council Executive Committee, Chairman

President, LA State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (1996) - by Gubernatorial Appointment

Louisiana's LEARN Commission (1996)

Louisiana's Public School and District Accountability Commission (1997-1999)

Louisiana's Task Force on Community and Vocational Technical Colleges (1997-1998)

World Trade Center, Board of Directors

Chamber of Greater Baton Rouge, Board of Directors

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### Honors and Awards

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NASA Distinguished Service Award

NASA Exceptional Achievement Award

New Orleans Chamber of Commerce 1996 Chairman's Award for Service to the Community of New Orleans

Young Leadership Council's Role Model Award, 1997

Phi Delta Kappa (UNO Chapter) 1997 Service to Education Award

New Orleans Regional Chamber of Commerce 1998 Joseph W. Simon, Jr. Memorial Award

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Paul G. Pastorek became Louisiana's State Superintendent of Education in March 2007, to fill the unexpired term of Cecil J. Picard after his untimely death. Mr. Pastorek had worked closely with Superintendent Picard both as Chair of the Recovery School District Advisory Committee and as President of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Mr. Pastorek served on the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) from 1996-2004, including the last three years as president. Upon his departure from the BESE, Louisiana was noted as having the highest rated statewide Accountability program in the United States. He was responsible for developing the strategic approach for the state's contribution to the local school districts' budgets for the 66 school districts during the eight years he was in office.

For the last 20 years, Mr. Pastorek has been working to improve public education. At first, he was a passionate volunteer in a New Orleans public junior high school. Appalled at some of the things he saw in that inner-city school, he began to read literature and work with the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce to improve the education of children in New Orleans. His work came to the attention of Governor Mike Foster, who appointed him to serve on the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. After stepping down from the BESE in 2004, Mr. Pastorek formed Next Horizon, a non-profit foundation to create a statewide think tank that has worked to support the Department of Education in developing strategies to take Louisiana to the next level of success beyond Accountability.

Mr. Pastorek is an attorney licensed by Louisiana to practice in 1979. He joined the law firm of Adams and Reese, then a New Orleans-based law firm, and has been associated with that firm for over 27 years, first as a litigator and later as a corporate and transactional attorney. He has served the firm in numerous management capacities as well. During his tenure with the firm, it grew to over 300 attorneys, with offices throughout the southeastern United States and Washington, D.C.

In February 2002, Mr. Pastorek left Adams and Reese when appointed by President George W. Bush to serve as General Counsel to NASA. He served as both the chief legal official for the agency as well as a trusted advisor to fellow Louisianan and then-NASA administrator Sean O'Keefe, now Chancellor of LSU. In addition, he served on and led several senior management and leadership committees, including leading the team that developed NASA's "transformational" reorganization plan announced in June 2004. For his service at NASA, he received NASA's Exceptional Achievement Medal and NASA's Distinguished Service Medal. After two-and-a-half years of service, Mr. Pastorek left NASA to return to Adams and Reese.

Mr. Pastorek is a volunteer in his community; he has served on several boards, participated in many business groups, and is the recipient of numerous awards and medals from a variety of organizations and groups.

Mr. Pastorek is married to Kathy Pastorek. They have three grown children, Ryan, Jeffrey and Kaitlin.

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