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**Louisiana’s top academic online charter and “Best of Bayou” Thibodaux-based eLearning Academy join forces to increase access to quality, charter education in South Louisiana; plan to expand partnership throughout the state**

Officials from Thibodaux-based eLearning Academy and University View Academy, a completely online public charter school serving K-12 grades for students in any parish of Louisiana, announced a joint program for families who seek an on-site learning center to support the virtual instruction University View Academy offers.

University View Academy is Louisiana’s top academic performing virtual school; eLearning has on-site instructional centers in Lafourche, East Baton Rouge, Lafayette, St. Mary and Terrebonne Parishes, including Houma.

“This partnership embraces the eLearning model South Louisiana families are used to but expands our educational offerings,” said Mrs. Nancy Toups, eLearning Academy Administrator. ELearning Academies was recently named Best of the Bayou winner for Learning/Tutoring Centers by the [houmatoday.com](http://houmatoday.com).

At an eLearning Center, online instruction is supported with off-line guidance by eLearning staff at hours the family registers for. Normally, the parent would serve as the only “learning coach”, assisting the online teacher with the student in the home.

Parents enrolled through the eLearning Academy program gain personal on-site instruction, extra teacher services, and/or enrichment classes, tutoring, and other services at a physical location directed by education professionals, even though the University View Academy teachers provide instruction completely online. Services at the eLearning Center are offered on a sliding scale, from minimal to private school level cost, depending on the level of offline support.

Parents and children already enrolled in the eLearning Academy program in the Thibodaux-Houma area should find minimal difference in the University View Academy partnership model. Students will have access to eLearning Academy’s and UVA’s curriculum on-site and virtually with certified UVA teachers instructing the students virtually.

Dr. Lonnie Luce and University View Academy Elementary Principal Dr. Michelle Clayton said the expanded curriculum options provided by the partnership gives families in Louisiana increased curriculum choices through University View’s state standards-aligned learning tools, as well as access to the school’s Early College Program which allows high schoolers to graduate with a diploma and two years towards a Louisiana college or Associate degree.

“These learning partnerships are simply about assuring any K-12 student the best educational experience available,” said Dr. Luce. The



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eLearning Academy on-site partnership gives many families a greater comfort level with completely online instruction, especially in early grades, he said.

University View Academy enrolls about 2300 K-12 students from all of Louisiana's parishes; about 25 percent of these students are in grades K-5. University View even offers a home-schooling option to parents who seek this model.

"Our goal is focusing on each child's individual needs," said Dr. Clayton. "Our learning programs are easy to navigate and tailored to each child's abilities."

University View and eLearning are authorized and approved by the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Both schools are accredited. Dr. Luce said eventually eLearning hopes to expand its on-site partnership with University View Academy to areas north of Interstate-10 in Louisiana.

For more information, visit [www.UniversityView.Academy](http://www.UniversityView.Academy) or call the school at 225-421-2900. A wait list is now open for joining the school in January of the 2017-2018 school year; Enrollment is open now for 2018-2019.

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**ABOUT UNIVERSITY VIEW ACADEMY** University View Academy is the state's leading provider of high-quality, free public online charter schooling for grades K through 12. University View allows students to learn and excel at their own pace, with individualized instruction by Louisiana certified teachers, while offering families the support and flexibility they seek to fit their lifestyles. At University View Academy, students embrace technology, flourish through innovation, and seek empowerment to become their best self. As an online charter school, students access their lessons anytime, anywhere with a computer offered by the school. The school provides each student with their own laptop, internet access and school materials.

About eLearning Academy : eLearning began as a dream in the mind of Nancy Toups, a traditional school teacher who yearned for a way to reach all of her students in class. eLearning was founded in 2006 to accommodate the best of traditional teaching with some homeschooling principles, eLearning aspires to enhance the quality of education and family life in Louisiana through personalized, guided, online education, and strives to provide a peaceful and positive learning environment that focuses on important values such as respect, excellence, health, and family.