

At the invitation of **Senator Mary Landrieu, head of the French Caucus of the US Senate, Senator Jean-Pierre Raffarin**, Former Prime Minister of France and President Nicolas Sarkozy's special envoy for international francophone matters, paid a visit to Louisiana on September 13 and 14, with six other French Senators. The delegation wished to express France's solidarity with the city of New Orleans and its people by being present at Katrina + 5, as well as to show support in the wake of the Deepwater Horizon tragedy. The visit underlines the multiple ties between Louisiana and France, particularly in the fields of education and language, in the framework of Louisiana's interest in its French-speaking heritage. During the visit, Senator Mary Landrieu and the French Senators went to Audubon Charter School, the only public elementary school in Louisiana accredited by the French Government to teach the French curriculum.

Attached are photos from their visit to Audubon: From left to the right

Left Picture: The delegation in the Library (l-r) Senator Alfonsi, Senator Guerry, Senator Dupont, Orleans Parish School Board Member Tommy Robicheaux, Senator Raffarin, Senator Lefèvre, Senator Landrieu, Senator Marc, Mr. Regnard, Audubon Charter School Principal Janice Dupuy.

Right Picture: The French Caucus visits an Audubon Charter School classroom: (l-r) Mary Claude Kellerman, Senator Raffarin, Senator Dupont, Senator Mary Landrieu, Consul General of France in New Orleans Brochenin, Audubon teacher Ms. Mareschal



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