

Existing law (R.S. 17:236(A)) defines the term "school" for purposes of general school law, R.S. 17:1-408.2.

New law (R.S. 17:236(C)) adds definitions for purposes of reporting data as follows:

- (1) Defines "elementary school" to mean a school composed of any span of grades pre-kindergarten through eight that excludes grades nine through 12.
- (2) Defines "middle school" or "junior high school" to mean a school composed of any span of grades five through nine that includes grades seven and eight and that excludes grades pre-kindergarten through four and 10 through 12.
- (3) Defines "high school" to mean a school composed of any span of grades nine through 12.

New law also specifies that middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools shall be considered secondary schools.

New law provides that it does not preclude local school boards from configuring, classifying, or defining schools in other ways and does not affect certification of personnel or the grade levels they may teach.

Effective upon signature of governor (May 31, 2012).

(Adds R.S. 17:236(C), (D), and (E))