



News Release

Office of the Louisiana State Fire Marshal
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Fire Sprinkler System Saves High School in St. Landry Parish

Baton Rouge LA, State Fire Marshal H. “Butch” Browning released today that an early morning fire at the Beau Chene High School was quickly controlled and extinguished by the automatic fire sprinkler system that operates in the school per the State Fire Prevention Code.

On November 15, 2010, at 09:30am, a fire occurred in the welding tool room of the school, it was caused by welding being done by a student. Hot embers ignited combustibles in the area and a dangerous fire begun to develop. The schools fire sprinkler system reacted and put the fire out before it could spread from its point of origin. Fire sprinklers operate individually, whereas each head is activated by the heat of the fire so only the needed heads are activated and spray water. The build was evacuated for an hour while fire crews rendered the structure safe. Students returned to their classrooms to compete the day. The Prairie, Arnoldville and Leonville Volunteer Fire Departments responded.

Fire Marshal Browning stated, “Fire Sprinklers saves lives and property, this is a success story the building was not destroyed and the children still have a school open for business”.

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