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Ted Ardoin

Ardoin's plan to expand and enl
Lafayette Regional reflect his commitment
to a philosophy of education that blends
traditional academics with vocational and
technical training. He is concerned that, for
those who do not go on to college, a high
school education is simply inadequate to
secure a good, stable job. "We need a high-
level of education beyond high school,
but not liberal arts. We need advanced,
technically skilled people," he says.

For now, Ardoin will continue to try to
implement his philosophy at the local level.
But he is nothing shy about expressing the
frustration he's experienced working with
the Legislature, nor about his intention to
be a legislator himself one day. "Ever since
I was in high school, I've dreamed about
being a state senator." Asked if he had in
mind a stepping-stone to that office,
Ardoin confirmed his intention to run for
the new state of Louisiana seat in 1995. "If
things stay as they are, I will definitely
run."

Ardoin would have to be considered a
strong candidate, given he has run. He sat on
the commission that drafted the charter
which will consolidate city and parish gov-
ernments. He also was a member of former
Gov. Buddy Roemer's transition team for
education and later served in the same
capacity under Gov. Edwin Edwards. And
says Ardoin, "I've always been a public
servant, as a teacher and an administra-
tor."

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