

LDOE Weekly Newsletter



June 14, 2016

Superintendent's Message

Dear Colleagues,

I was pleased to join so many of you for a discussion today of the successes in Louisiana classrooms, the challenges ahead for our students, and the opportunities ESSA presents to solve these challenges. The [presentation](#) that guided our discussion depicts some of the most critical statistics regarding student performance, just as it lays out some of the details entailed in the new federal law. I am looking forward to developing a plan together that addresses our students' greatest challenges. You can find a schedule of future meetings to discuss ESSA in the [presentation](#).

Among the greatest challenges students and families face are access to quality early childhood education, access to challenging STEM course work, and the training and retention of educators. Next week's BESE meeting will largely address our schools' work to resolve these challenges.

Having completed observations of nearly all early childhood classrooms in the state during a learning year - child care, Head Start, and prekindergarten alike - using the [CLASS system](#), BESE will consider [adjustments](#) to the quality rating system for such programs to allow for greater differentiation among programs and clearer information for parents. Among the most critical changes are a shift from a three-point scale for program rating to a four-point scale, providing greater specificity in the rating to parents and educators in need of clear information.

The state is also required to review academic standards regularly to ensure they have kept pace with the expectations of college and the workplace. State science standards were last reviewed in 2005, meaning that their basic substance has fallen behind fast-paced changes in STEM fields. BESE will consider at its meeting next week a [process](#) that commissions educators, scientists, parents, and others to review and update state science standards, ensuring they meet the expectations of today's STEM workplace and college settings.

Finally, BESE and the Board of Regents will conduct a joint discussion of educator preparation that will not contain any changes in policy but instead will commission the staffs of both agencies and the Department to study and develop yearlong residency models for aspiring teachers, along with accountability measures for providers of educator preparation services. This joint agency framework will allow the state to build on [Believe and Prepare](#) successes at an appropriate pace, giving teacher candidates the introduction to the profession they need and deserve.

Our schools' successes have been great. The challenges for many students remain significant. So long as we continue to keep them and their challenges front of mind, we will continue developing solutions that create opportunity for thousands more every year.

As always, thank you for all you do for our children,

John

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Louisiana Department of Education
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CLICK HERE TO VIEW
THE MOST CURRENT
LEA CALENDAR EVENTS

To view the current District Support Calendar, please click [here](#).

District Support

Statewide ESSA Meetings Announced

Superintendent White will host a series of statewide meetings this summer to discuss creating educational opportunities for students through the new federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). All district and school leaders and teachers are encouraged to attend these meetings and share their feedback with the Department.

Date	Location	Time
Tuesday, July 26	Lafayette Middle School 1301 W. University Ave., Lafayette	9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, July 26	Lake Charles Boston Academy of Learning 1509 Enterprise Blvd. Lake Charles	1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Wednesday, July 27	Aiken Virtual Program Building 2121 Mason St., Alexandria	9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, July 27	Wanda Gunn Professional Development Auditorium 1961 Midway, Shreveport	1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Thursday, July 28	City of Monroe School Board 2600 Tower Drive., Monroe *UPDATED	9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Friday, July 29	McKinley Middle Magnet School Auditorium 1550 Eddie Robinson Sr Drv., Baton Rouge	9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Monday, August 1	Terrebonne Parish School Board 201 Stadium Dr., Houma	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 2	Fontainebleau High School 100 Bulldog Dr., Mandeville	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 2	Woodson/KIPP Central City Academy 2514 Third St., New Orleans	1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Assessment & Accountability

District Test Coordinator Reminders

This entry provides DTCs with reminders and updates related to testing.

End-of-Course Tests:

- **June 20-24** is the EOC Summer 2016 administration window. School test coordinators will administer EOC tests to students during this time.
- To ensure successful administration, school test coordinators and technology coordinators should review the [EOC Tests Technology Guidelines](#) for information on preparing computers and internal networks for online testing.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with any questions.

Release of 2014-2015 School and District Subgroup Reports

The Department released the 2014-2015 School and District Subgroup Component reports, available now in the [accountability library](#) on the Department's website.

As part of Title I NCLB law, schools are required to make progress with all students as well as subgroups of students, including students with disabilities, students with limited English proficiency, and students of various ethnicities. In 2011, the USDOE required that schools and subgroups also be evaluated on the adjusted four-year cohort graduation rate.

For complete details about subgroup Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), please refer to Bulletin 111, Chapter 7, or the [Subgroup AYP Fact Sheet](#).

Please email assessment@la.gov with questions about your districts reports.

June Accountability Commission Meeting

Meeting:	When/Where:
Accountability Commission: June 27 Meeting	Monday, June 27 1:00 p.m. Iowa Room Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge

Please contact assessment@la.gov with any questions

High School Opportunities

2016-2017 SY Carl Perkins Local Application Plan (LAP) Training

The LDOE Carl Perkins Program Staff will host an additional webinar on Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. for all CTE supervisors regarding the 2016-2017 Carl Perkins Local Application Plan (LAP). Topics to be covered include:

- E-Grant management system (eGMS) overview
- Completing and submitting a Perkins LAP and amendments
- Perkins funding and Jump Start

If any additional information is required, please contact your point of contact ([POC](#)) for further assistance.

Webinar Login Information: (*No pre-registration required)

- Meeting Name: Carl Perkins Local Application Plan
- Date/Time: Thursday, June 16, 1:00 p.m.
- To join the meeting click [here](#) or go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/r62e09369b3/>
- Enter meeting room as a guest and provide your name
- Audio access: 1-800-832-0736/ room number 6246632

2016-2017 Pupil Progression Plan

The **Pupil Progression Plan (PPP)** is the comprehensive plan developed and adopted by each LEA that establish policies and guidelines local school districts use to determine whether students will be promoted to the next grade, retained in the current grade, or advanced (or skipped) to higher grades. Pupil Progression Plans also outline the criteria for high school graduation.

The [2016-17 Pupil Progression Plan Template](#) is now available. Each district should submit a plan in PDF format to PPP@la.gov by October 14, 2016.

An informational webinar will be held to provide updates and to assist districts in completing and submitting the 2016-17 Pupil Progression Plan. District personnel are encouraged to participate in one of the webinars scheduled for:

- Wednesday, June 29 from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 20 from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Webinar Login Information (*no pre-registration required)

- Meeting Name: 2016-17 Pupil Progression Plan Information Webinar
- To join the meeting go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/pupilprogressionplan/>
- Enter meeting room as a guest and provide your name
- Audio access: (800) 832-0736 / room number: 2834406

For additional information please contact PPP@la.gov.

2016 Jump Start Super Summer Institute - "NEW" Computer Coding Training Course

Registration for a new *Creative Coding Through Games and Apps* training course being offered at 2016 Super Summer Institute (SSI) will remain open through Friday, June 17. The training is 2-days and being provided by Microsoft. Please review the [one-pager](#) detailing the training purpose, objectives and two-day agenda.

The training session is posted on [Coursewhere](#) and open for immediate registration. Only 35 spots are available, so interested instructors should register as soon as possible.

The Department will pay training costs for this session as well as provide lunch for secondary instructors attending SSI. Districts are responsible for all travel expenses and a nominal registration fee (\$150.00/instructor) for which districts may use their Career Development Funds (CDF) or 2015-2016 Carl Perkins Funds. Districts / charters will receive an invoice, via email, in May indicating total SSI registration fees due by June 17, 2016. Each district / charter should submit payment to:

Louisiana Department of Education
Appropriation Control
ATTN: Michelle S. Hill
P. O. Box 94064
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064

Please direct all questions about Super Summer Institute to JumpStart@la.gov.

Data

College Board Data Sharing Agreement

Pursuant to R.S.17:3914, LEAs must have a contract or data sharing agreement in place with private vendors that deliver services in order to share personally identifiable student data. **The Department has executed and posted a data sharing agreement with College Board** on the Department's [website](#).

College Board provides educational assessment and related services to the districts via tools such as Springboard®, AP®, AP Captstone, APi, CLEP®, PSAT/NMSQT®, and Student Search Service®. By opting into this data-sharing agreement, LEAs may provide College Board student information such as name, date of birth, school, grade, student assignments and related scores.

Districts and charters should download the addendum from the site, sign, scan, and email the signed copy to LDEData@la.gov to ensure they will be able to share student information with College Board for testing and reporting purposes.

Please email LDEData@la.gov with questions.

2014 LEA Determinations

Please share with Special Education Directors and FTP coordinators.

The 2014 LEA Determinations are now available on the Data Management FTP. This file is to provide Special Education Directors an opportunity to preview their Determination before final LEA Determinations are issued in July. FTP coordinators, please download and provide the data file with filename LEACode_LEAName_FFY 2014 LEA Determinations to your Special Education Director.

Files will be available on the FTP through **July 1**.

Policy

ESSA Update

The U.S. Department of Education's proposed regulations on accountability, consolidated state plans, and data reporting were published in the Federal Register on Tuesday, May 31 and are open for public comment **through August 1, 2016**.

According to the U.S. Department of Education's [press release](#), the proposed regulations focus on four key themes: creating a more comprehensive picture of school success, tailoring support for struggling schools, clarifying data and information for parents and communities, and creating streamlined state plans.

Follow the links to read the [proposed regulations](#) or the U.S. Department of Education's [summary](#).

Finance

FY 2015-2016 MFP Appropriation

The Department identified a net need of \$7 million in order to fully fund the entire cost of the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Minimum Foundation Program (MFP), including formula allocations and supplemental program allocations outside of the formula. The Legislature was able to identify these funds during the closing days of the 2016 Regular Session. The identification of this funding signifies that one hundred percent of the outstanding funds allocated to school districts and schools in FY 16 will be provided in the June 2016 payment.

Attached [here](#) is a schedule which describes the June 2016 payments to school districts and schools.

Grants Management

2016 School Improvement Grant Application

The Louisiana Department of Education is committed to ensuring all students have access to high quality school options. In order to support LEAs, The Department will release a draft version of the 2016 School Improvement Grant application on Monday, June 20, 2016. LEAs may apply for 3- to 5-year grants to implement evidence-based changes at eligible Focus and Priority schools, which can be found [here](#).

The application and budget forms, a list of eligible schools, the rubric against which applications will be evaluated, and more information about the program will be published [here](#) on Monday, June 20. Applications are due by **Monday, July 18, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. CT**.

LEAs are encouraged to participate in one of two webinars to learn more about School Improvement Grant objectives and application requirements:

- Webinar #1 will be held **Friday, June 17 at 1:00 p.m.** and can be accessed [here](#).
- Webinar #2 will be held **Wednesday, June 22 at 11:00 a.m.** and can be accessed [here](#).

For further information, contact David Shepard at David.Shepard@la.gov.

High Cost Services Competitive Application Release

Please forward this item to federal program directors and business managers.

The Department is able to provide a High Cost Services Grant to LEAs through the eGMS application process. The application process is now open in eGMS and applications are due by **July 15, 2016**.

Grant Claim Submission Deadline

Final claim submission deadlines **for awards ending June 30** each year are listed below. These include claims submitted through eGMS as well as paper claims, purchase orders, and contracts. All requests for funds must include goods and services received by June 30.

Deadlines:

- **8 (g) claims due:** July 7
- **TANF claims due:** July 7
- **Perkins claims due:** July 7
- **Federal claims due:** July 15
- **State claims due:** July 15

All claims for reimbursement with supporting documentation must be emailed to ldoe.federalclaims@la.gov or ldoe.stateclaims@la.gov. (Please do NOT mail or fax claims.)

Other

National Writing Project Summer Institute Opportunity

The National Writing Project summer institutes are designed to support college-ready writing at all grade levels in all subject areas. Institutes are being offered this summer in the New Orleans area.

Teachers are invited to apply to one of the following institutes:

- **The College-Ready Writer's Program: June 20-24**

Learn how to support college, career, and community-readiness in your middle-to-high school writers with the National Writing Project's evidence-based program, proven to improve students' augment writing. Continues in Fall 2016.

- **The Teacher as Writer: July 7-20**

Explore foundational best practices in teaching writing from the inside out. Educators from across the country will join us in the French Quarter for an immersive writing and professional development experience.

For more information or to apply visit <http://gnowp.org/>.

LDOE Contacts

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