

# LDOE Weekly Newsletter



June 28, 2016

## Superintendent's Message

Dear Colleagues,

Both the Legislature and BESE last week conducted and concluded sessions important to the future of educational opportunities for Louisiana's youth.

As you likely know, the Legislature wrapped up its special session by passing a series of revenue and spending bills. Each of these bills has been sent to the Governor for his consideration.

A supplemental spending bill for the 2016-2017 year appropriates an additional \$20 million to the MFP, closing the unfortunate reduction to public schools from \$44 million to roughly \$24 million. The bill provides general guidance that the new funds must be spent on "expenses related to the high cost special needs students, costs related to Supplemental Course Allocation, to sustain the certified classroom teacher pay raise provided for by appropriation in Fiscal Year 2013-2014, or other operational or educational expenses related to the education of children." The Department will await the Governor's signature and will consult with the Administration, providing more specifics on how funds are to be spent in the next two weeks.

The most significant reduction was made to TOPS, the appropriation for which was reduced by nearly one third. This means that families will have to identify alternate means for funding tuitions previously covered by the scholarship system. You can find up-to-date guidance on this issue on the [LOSFA web site](#).

At BESE's June meetings, the board approved adjustments to the state's early childhood [rating system](#), approved a [process](#) for reviewing the state's science standards, and directed the Department to work with the Board of Regents on developing sustainable, [full-year residencies](#) for aspiring teachers.

These statewide efforts complement discussions already underway regarding the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Last week Department leaders wrapped up initial meetings with educators, business leaders, and civil rights advocates. Later this week, the Department will announce a series of [statewide forums](#) on the subject, in advance of intensive discussions throughout the fall regarding the state's ESSA plan.

I look forward to seeing you at these meetings and wish you well for the summer.

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

**John**

John White  
Louisiana Department of Education  
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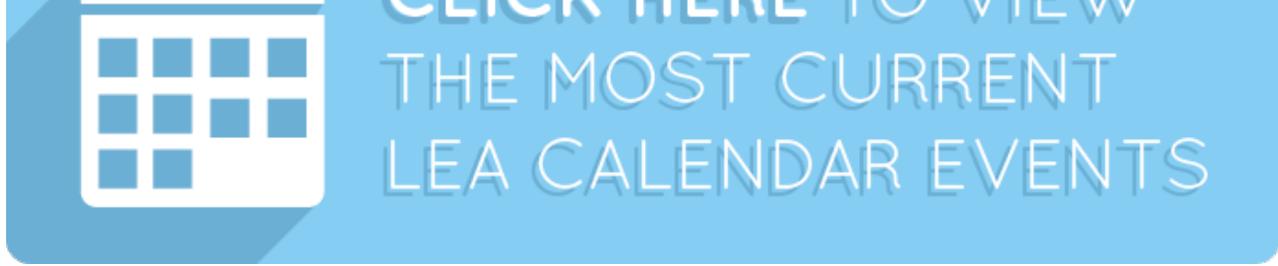
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To view the current District Support Calendar, please click [here](#).

## District Support

### Louisiana Science Standards Review Process

On Wednesday, June 22, 2016, the Louisiana Board of Secondary and Elementary Education (BESE) approved a process by which the K-12 Louisiana science standards will be reviewed and updated during the 2016-2017 school year. For an overview of the committees and the review process, please review this [presentation](#).

**Local school districts and charter schools are invited to nominate qualified individuals to join this professional process.** More information on the nomination process and directions on how to submit nominations can be found in the [Standards Nomination Information form](#) found in the [Standards Review library](#). **Nominations are due by July 8, 2016.**

Contact [louisianastandards@la.gov](mailto:louisianastandards@la.gov) with questions.

### New Louisiana Student Standards Curriculum Crosswalk Released

Multiple tier 1 math curriculum publishers have reviewed their curricula to determine alignment with the new Louisiana Student Standards. The resulting crosswalks clearly show where the materials fully address the standards, partially address the standards, and/or need to be supplemented to fully address the standards.

Available crosswalks include:

- NEW Eureka Math
- Bridges in Mathematics
- College Springboard Math

The crosswalks are available [here](#). Contact [classroomsupport@la.gov](mailto:classroomsupport@la.gov) with questions.

### Updated 2016-2017 District Support Calendar

The Department has released an updated [2016-2017 District Support Calendar](#). All new additions or revisions are highlighted in yellow so districts can easily identify these changes:

- Updated Supervisor, Principal, and Teacher Leader Collaboration dates
- Science standards review meetings and review windows
- Updated dates for superintendent conference calls

Please email [districtsupport@la.gov](mailto:districtsupport@la.gov) with questions related to this calendar.

### Statewide ESSA Meetings

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, LA	9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Tuesday, July 26	Lake Charles Boston Academy of Learning 1509 Enterprise Blvd. Lake Charles, LA	2 p.m. - 4 p.m. <b>*UPDATED*</b>
Wednesday, July 27	Aiken Virtual Program Building 2121 Mason St. Alexandria, LA	9 a.m. - 11a.m.
Wednesday, July 27	Wanda Gunn Professional Development Auditorium 1961 Midway Ave. Shreveport, LA	2 p.m. - 4 p.m. <b>*UPDATED*</b>
Thursday, July 28	City of Monroe School Board 2006 Tower Dr. Monroe, LA	9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Friday, July 29	McKinley Middle Magnet School Auditorium 1550 Eddie Robinson Sr. Dr. Baton Rouge, LA	9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Monday, August 1	Terrebonne Parish School Board 201 Stadium Dr. Houma, LA	10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Tuesday, August 2	Fontainebleau High School 100 Bulldog Dr. Mandeville, LA	10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
	Woodson/KIPP Central City Academy	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Please email [districtsupport@la.gov](mailto:districtsupport@la.gov) with questions.

## **New Compass Tools and Support Available**

The **Compass** tool supports teachers and principals in defining expectations for student learning and monitoring progress against those goals throughout the year. The Department supports this process through tools, resources, and trainings throughout the year.

- **New Evaluator Training:** All new evaluators must complete a training to be certified to complete Compass evaluations. This requirement can be met by attending Department-led trainings or those led by local education agencies.
  - Department-led trainings have been scheduled and are available to new evaluators or as an update for current school and district leaders. More information about these trainings, including dates and locations, is available in [Coursewhere](#). To register, please click [here](#).
- **Compass End-of-Year Evaluations:** Results must be entered in **CIS** annually for all school leaders and teachers as defined by [Bulletin 130](#). Submission deadlines have been established for teachers and principals.
  - **Teachers:** August 15, 2016
  - **Principals:** August 15 or fall of 2016
- The **Compass End-of-Year Webinar** provides information about the end-of-year Compass process, including roster verification and finalizing teacher evaluations and end-of-year conversations. To access the recording, please click [here](#).

Email [compass@la.gov](mailto:compass@la.gov) or your [network contact](#) for additional information or support.

## **Assessment & Accountability**

### **Speaking and Listening Waiver**

The U.S. Department of Education has offered all states the opportunity to request a waiver for up to two years with respect to measuring speaking and listening content standards within the state's English language arts state assessment(s). The Louisiana Department of Education plans to request the waiver through the 2018-2019 school year because it is not practicable at this time to administer a large-scale summative assessment that includes speaking and listening standards.

Comments related to the request emailed to [Assessment@la.gov](mailto:Assessment@la.gov) before July 8 will be considered prior to submission of the waiver request.

### **District Test Coordinator Monthly Call and Webinar**

The July Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call and Webinar is scheduled for Tuesday, July 5, 2016, at 9 a.m., and will include updates on statewide testing, accountability, and preparations for the upcoming school year.

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

- **Meeting Name:** District Test Coordinator Monthly Meetings
- Click [here](#) to join the meeting or go to: <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/dtc/>
- Enter the meeting room as a guest and provide your name.
- Access audio via phone bridge: 1-800-832-0736 / room number: 3423602
- Select the "listen only mode" if joining the meeting via computer or smartphone.

Please email [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov) with any questions.

## **High School Opportunities**

### **2015-2016 Jump Start Career Development Fund (CDF) End of Year Report**

Districts, charter schools and special schools received a 6 percent MFP adder (~\$240) for each student enrollment in a CDF-qualifying course and are reminded to complete the 2015-2016 Career Development Fund (CDF) End-Of-Year (EOY) Report and submit it to [JumpStart@la.gov](mailto:JumpStart@la.gov) by July 15, 2016. To access the 2015-2016 CDF EOY Report template, please click [here](#).

This CDF adder is in addition to the current 6 percent MFP adder for any student enrolled in a career and technical education (CTE) course. There was a minimum CDF allocation of \$25,000 per district or \$10,000 per charter/special school.

For more information about CDF, please contact [JumpStart@la.gov](mailto:JumpStart@la.gov).

### **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 updated [2016-2017 Pupil Progression Plan Template](#) is now available. Each district should submit a plan in PDF format to [PPP@la.gov](mailto: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:** 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.
- **Wednesday, July 20:** 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

**Webinar Login Information (\*no pre-registration required)**

- **Meeting Name:** 2016-2017 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](mailto:PPP@la.gov).

## Data

### **New Teaching Strategies GOLD 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. Many LEAs and charters have already submitted addenda to become party to our existing data sharing agreements during the 2015-2016 school year. During the month of July, the Department will provide guidance and next steps regarding previously established MOUs and addenda.

The Department has executed and posted a **new** data sharing agreement with **Teaching Strategies GOLD** on the Department's [website](#). Districts and charters should download the addendum from the site, sign, scan, and email the signed copy to [LDEData@la.gov](mailto:LDEData@la.gov) to ensure they will be able to share student information with Teaching Strategies for reporting purposes.

Please email [LDEData@la.gov](mailto:LDEData@la.gov) with questions.

### **Assessment Resources**

The information below includes details about testing materials and resources that LEAs may use to support assessment preparation.

#### **ACT BILLING ROSTERS**

Districts will receive invoices and student rosters this week, per the ACT Memorandum of Understanding, for the following students who participated in ACT testing:

- **ACT:** All grade 12 students with an ACT score and were retested in the spring
- **Explore:** All students participating in testing
- **WorkKeys testing and certificates:**
  - Grade 11 students not on a career diploma pathway
  - All grade 12 students

The Department will place student rosters on the district secure FTP under the filenames described below.

- **ACT:** LEACode\_LEAName\_2016\_ACT\_Billing\_Student Rosters
- **Explore:** LEACode\_LEAName\_2016\_Explore\_Billing\_Student Rosters
- **WorkKeys testing and certificates:** LEACode\_LEAName\_2016\_WorkKeys\_Billing\_Student Rosters

**Districts should remit payment to the LDOE no later than July 15, 2016.**

Please contact [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov) with any questions.

## 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 [news 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](#).

### **March BESE Meeting Summary**

The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) met June 22 and approved a number of bulletin revisions and recommendations. To access a summary of the approvals directly impacting the activities of local school systems, please click [here](#).

## Finance

### **Final FY 2015-2016 Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) Allocations (June 2016)**

**Please forward to business managers.**

The final MFP allocations for FY 2015-2016 are available [here](#) on the Department's website.

### **FY 2016-2017 Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) Allocation**

The FY 2016-2017 MFP Formula allocation and payment schedules are now available [here](#) on the Department's website. Reference **Circular 1160** and attachments to view your allocation and payment schedule.

## **FY 2016-2017 Initial Charter Per Pupil Amounts**

**Please forward to business managers.**

The FY 2016-2017 Initial Charter Per Pupil amounts are now available [here](#) on the Department's website.

- The state cost allocation per-pupil amount is based on Levels 1, 2, and 3 of the most recent legislatively approved MFP formula.
- The FY 2016-2017 state cost allocation per-pupil amount is final with the issuance of Circular 1160, the MFP budget letter, on June 28, 2016.
- The initial local revenue representation per-pupil is preliminary and is calculated based on projected FY 2015-2016 local revenue and February 1, 2016 student counts.
- The final determination of the local revenue representation per-pupil amount will be calculated in March 2017, based on actual FY 2015-2016 local revenue collections as reported in the AFR, and actual October 1, 2016, student counts as reported in SIS.

## **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 released 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](#). Applications are due by **Monday, July 18, 2016 at 3 p.m. CT.**

For further information, please contact David Shepard at [David.Shepard@la.gov](mailto:David.Shepard@la.gov).

### **2016-2017 NCLB and IDEA Consolidated Applications**

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

The submit function for NCLB and IDEA Consolidated applications has been activated in eGMS. Districts should begin submitting their applications in eGMS. Applications must be submitted by **Thursday, June 30, 2016**, in order to be considered substantially approved. **Note:** currently there are no allocations for Extended School Year Services grant applications in eGMS.

Applications and budgets need to be submitted by **June 30, 2016**, to be considered substantially approved.

For further information, please contact Randy Littleton at [Randy.Littleton@la.gov](mailto:Randy.Littleton@la.gov).

### **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](mailto:ldoe.federalclaims@la.gov) or [ldoe.stateclaims@la.gov](mailto:ldoe.stateclaims@la.gov). (Please do NOT mail or fax claims.)

### **LDOE Contacts**

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