

# LDOE Weekly Newsletter



January 3, 2017

## Superintendent's Message

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you had time over the holidays to relax, to reflect, and to be with family. For as special as I found the quiet of the last couple of weeks at my house, I'm invigorated finding myself back at work and in schools. There is a lot to be accomplished in 2017, a lot of work ahead to develop, grow, and sustain. I'm looking forward to it.

In the weeks ahead, we'll again have a chance to discuss what it means to be a good school and how our state accountability system can be [improved](#) to better reflect the things good schools do for their students.

Also in the weeks ahead, the state will make the first round of grants to institutions of higher learning that are moving toward [professional residencies for aspiring teachers](#), under the tutelage of veteran educators.

On January 17, we will gather in Baton Rouge for the third annual [Jump Start Convention](#), to improve local approaches to expanding life opportunity after high school and to ending the decades-long stigma perpetrated against career education.

And later that week, we will meet in New Orleans for a [School Redesign Summit](#) at which we will brainstorm, with Louisiana-based colleagues and with guests from around the country, approaches to improving circumstances in the most challenged schools in our state.

These specific issues and others combine to form an inspiring mission: the radical expansion of educational opportunity for Louisiana's youth. For the next year at least, we each have the privilege of being a part of that mission. I look forward to joining you in the effort.

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

John

John White  
Louisiana Department of Education  
Twitter [@LouisianaSupe](#)

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THE MOST CURRENT  
LEA CALENDAR EVENTS

[Current District Support Calendar](#)

## District Support

### **New: January District Planning Call**

The district planning call for January is scheduled for **January 11, 2017 from 1:00-2:00 p.m.** The following district supervisors should participate:

- Assessment and Accountability
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Technology
- Early Childhood
- High School
- Career and Technical Education
- Principal and Teacher Leader
- Human Resources

Webinar Login Information: (no preregistration required)

- Meeting Name: January District Planning Call
- Click [here](#) to join the meeting or go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/dpc/>
- Audio access via phone bridge: 646-307-1380; meeting room: #951154160

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

### **New: January Superintendents' Call**

You are invited to participate in the Superintendents' Conference Call hosted by State Superintendent John White on **Thursday, January 12, at 10:30 a.m.** Please follow the instructions below to join the call. You may begin dialing in 15 minutes in advance. You will need to identify yourself in order to be placed into the meeting.

January 12 Superintendents' Call Login Information: (no preregistration required)

- Meeting Name: January Superintendents' Call
- Click [here](#) to join the meeting or go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/suptscall/>
- Audio access via phone bridge: 877-475-0109; meeting room: #43673066

### **New: January/February Teacher Leader and Supervisor Collaboration Events**

Please save these dates for the January and February 2017 [Teacher Leader](#) and [Supervisor](#) Collaborations:

- January 31 in Harvey
- February 2 in Baton Rouge
- February 7 in Natchitoches
- February 9 in Lafayette

Additional information about each of these events will be released through the January 11 district planning call and the January 12 Teacher Leader newsletter. Please contact [louisianateacherleaders@la.gov](mailto:louisianateacherleaders@la.gov) with questions related to this event.

### **Reminder: Submit Feedback on Draft Louisiana Student Standards for Science**

Please share this information with principals, Teacher Leaders, science educators, and parents.

Educators and parents are encouraged to submit feedback on the draft Louisiana Student Standards for science by **January 6, 2017** in the [feedback portal](#). All feedback will help ensure the final standards lay the right foundation for quality science instruction for all students in Louisiana and will be shared with the science committee when they make final updates later this month. The standards will be submitted to BESE for approval in March 2017. Email [louisianastandards@la.gov](mailto:louisianastandards@la.gov) with questions.

## **Reminder: Louisiana School Redesign Summit Preparation Guidance**

In preparation for [Louisiana's School Redesign Summit](#), the Department has created the [School Redesign Summit Logistics Memo](#), which contains travel information, a summary agenda, and a preparation guide to help you make the most of your time at the Summit.

We encourage you to review this material and begin preparing for the Summit soon. The Department will be hosting three LEA preparation calls during which we will preview the Summit Preparation Memo while leaving substantial time for questions. Only one member of each district team needs to join the call. (We recommend the designated point of contact submitted with your registration/needs assessment). Please see the table below for the date and time for your network call.

Network	Network Leader	Date	Time
A	Dana Talley	Thursday, January 12, 2017	2:00 p.m.
B	Francis Touchet	Thursday, January 12, 2017	1:00 p.m.
C	Melissa Stilley	Friday, January 13, 2017	12:00 p.m.

To join your network's preparation call, please dial 800-747-5150; access code 3423625#.

Please email Hunter Brown at [hunter.brown@la.gov](mailto:hunter.brown@la.gov) with questions.

## **Reminder: CIS Evaluation Data Deadline**

The Deadline for all 2015-2016 evaluation data to be uploaded into the [Compass Information System \(CIS\)](#) is **January 13, 2017**.

# Assessment and Accountability

## **New: District Test Coordinator Reminders**

### **Assessment Administration Support and Training:**

#### **Test Security**

- Test Security Reports are available in the FTP for any LEA that had at least one test security incident during the 2015-2016 school year. DTCs should use this report when planning for test security for the Spring 2017 assessments.

#### **NAEP**

- Schools taking NAEP on tablets should utilize the [online tutorials](#) to view the tools and features.

### **Monthly Assessment and Accountability Call: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.**

- Meeting Name: Monthly Assessment and Accountability Call
- 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.
- Audio access via phone bridge: 646-307-1380; room number: #951155484.

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

## **New: Technology Updates**

### **Educational Technology Support and Training:**

### **Monthly Educational Technology Call: Tuesday, January 19, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.**

- Meeting Name: Monthly Educational Technology Call
- Click [here](#) to join the meeting or go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/edconnect/>.
- Audio access via phone bridge: 646-307-1380; meeting room #951155484.

### **E-Rate Updates**

- **State Entity and Student validation:** LDOE will be sending out updated E-Rate validation counts in mid-January to E-Rate coordinators and technology directors. Districts, charters, and independent schools should verify these counts and submit any updates back to [edtech@la.gov](mailto:edtech@la.gov) no later than February 15, 2017. LDOE will use these counts to validate and update school and district EPC profiles.
- **EPC Profiles Updates:** USAC will be opening the window for FY2017-18 entity data updates and validation in late January through February. Schools must update all entities and counts during this window as USAC is not planning a second window for updates.
- **E-Rate FY 17-18 Filing Window:** Based on the late data migration and profile update window for EPC, USAC will be delaying the window opening for FY 17-18 filings. USAC hopes to have a February-March window but noted the window could be pushed to March-April depending on the validation process. Districts, charters and independent schools are encouraged to start and/or complete their Form 470 bidding and procurement processes as there may be a shortened filing window due to this delay.

## **New: January Accountability Commission Meeting**

Meeting	When/Where
<b>Accountability Commission: January 9 Meeting</b>	Monday, January 9 12:00 p.m. Thomas Jefferson Room 1-136 Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge

## High School Opportunities

### **Reminder: Register for the Jump Start Convention by January 6**

The [2017 Jump Start Convention](#), **The Year of Action: Preparing for 2018 Jump Start Graduates**, will be held **January 17, 2017**, at the Raising Cane's River Center in Baton Rouge. Please register on [Coursewhere](#) by **January 6, 2017** and refer to the [Jump Start Convention Hotel List](#) for information about hotel room blocks. Email [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov) with questions about the convention.

### **Update: Counselor Collaboratives**

The 2016-17 Counselor Collaboratives scheduled below will focus on developing appropriate high school pathways and guiding students to resources that provide post-secondary training opportunities. Counselors are encouraged to attend a collaborative in their area; however, they may attend a collaborative outside their area if necessary. Participants are asked to register on [Coursewhere](#).

Date	Network	Location	Time
February 6	B	Terrebonne Parish Library, North Branch, Grey, LA	8:30 a.m.
February 7	B	Acadia Parish Educational Center, Crowley, LA	8:30 a.m.
February 13	A	Bossier Instructional Center, 2719 Airline Drive, Bossier, LA	9:00 a.m.
February 14	A	Natchitoches Parish School Board, Title 1 Media Center Building, 310 Royal St, Natchitoches, LA	9:00 a.m.
February 14	C	West Baton Rouge Pupil Appraisal Annex, 670 Rosedale Road, Port Allen, LA	8:30 a.m.
February 15	A	Monroe City School Board Office, 2006 Tower Drive, Monroe, LA	9:00 a.m.
February 16	A	Avoyelles Parish Media Center, 136 S. Fair St., Marksville, LA	9:00 a.m.
February 16	C	Treen Instructional Technology Center, 2024 Livingston Street, Mandeville, LA	8:30 a.m.

For questions regarding registration, please email [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov).

## Statewide Monitoring

### **Reminder: Early Childhood Related Monitoring Announcements for SY2016-2017**

Please see the [LA 4 Program Announcement Memorandum](#) pertaining to the Department's plan to monitor local education agencies operating a Cecil J. Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Program during the 2016-2017 school year.

Please see the [PDG Announcement Memorandum](#) pertaining to the Department's plan to monitor local agencies operating a federally-funded Preschool Development Grant during the 2016-2017 school year.

Please contact Terry Simoneaux in the Division of Statewide Monitoring at 225-342-9615 or [terry.simoneaux@la.gov](mailto:terry.simoneaux@la.gov) for additional information.

# Federal Programs

## **Reminder: Opening Doors, Expanding Opportunities Grant Competition**

On December 13, 2016, U.S. Secretary of Education John King announced a new [Opening Doors, Expanding Opportunities](#) discretionary grant competition. The U.S. Department of Education will invest \$12 million in up to 20 districts or groups of districts to help catalyze new school diversity efforts and support the progress of existing ones. A key component of this program will be the creation of **Diversity Blueprints** for improving academic outcomes for students in a district's lowest performing schools by substantially increasing socioeconomic diversity in those schools. These blueprints will serve as a critical implementation resource not only for the districts that develop them, but for other communities considering similar approaches as well as for the field overall.

A few important notes and upcoming dates relating to this competition:

- All districts with schools that receive or are eligible to receive School Improvement Grant funds may apply.
- Although the focus of the grant is socioeconomic diversity, grantees may also seek to promote student diversity by considering additional factors such as race and ethnicity in their efforts to diversify schools.
- The grant application deadline is **February 13, 2017**, with an anticipated spring announcement of awardees.

There will be a pre-application webinar on **Thursday, January 5, 2017 from 2:00 until 3:00 p.m. ET**. Please register for the webinar [online](#). After your request has been approved, you'll receive instructions for joining the meeting.

Please email [openingdoors@ed.gov](mailto:openingdoors@ed.gov) for questions related to this grant.

# Funding and Grants Management

## **Update: Education Excellence Fund (EEF)**

On December 15, 2016 the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB) approved a plan in response to the state's \$315 million budget deficit. One component of the plan was a reduction of \$743,638 (about 5%) of the Education Excellence Fund (EEF) annual allocation to eligible EEF recipients, including public, non-public and charter schools. Consequently, LDOE will be required to reduce the current year EEF allocations. The new allocation amounts may be viewed [here](#). Eligible EEF recipients that submitted a 2016-2017 application need to submit an amended EEF application based on the reduced allocation. **The new submission deadline is 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 24, 2017**. No new FY2016-2017 applications will be accepted. When preparing the EEF budget amendment, please:

1. **Review** the FY2017 EEF Allocations page to confirm all funds for budgeting in 2016-2017;
2. **Update** your Budget Detail Page based on the reduced allocation, reducing each budgeted category by 5%, then hit save (note: indirect costs are not allowable in EEF application);
3. **Run** the Consistency Check prior to submitting the application to LDOE.

For further information about EEF, please contact John Hanley at [john.hanley@la.gov](mailto:john.hanley@la.gov).

## **New: Grant Award Notification (GAN) Release**

**Please share this information with business managers/program contacts of LEAs and charters.**

The following Grant Award Notifications (GANs) have been published in eGMS:

- |                        |                |                            |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| - Title I              | - Homeless     | - Neglected and Delinquent |
| - Title II             | - REAP         | - IDEA                     |
| - Title III            | - Carl Perkins | - IDEA Preschool           |
| - Title III, Immigrant | - Migrant      |                            |

Additional GANs are currently being prepared. We will update the list as new GANs are published. GANs can be accessed by following these steps:

1. Open the eGMS application. (You do not have to login.)
2. Click on the "Public Access" link.
3. Click on the "Grant Award Notification" link.
4. Complete the query information for the GAN you wish to view.

For further information, contact Randy Littleton at 225-342-6266 or [randy.littleton@la.gov](mailto:randy.littleton@la.gov).

## LDOE Contacts

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## LDOE Links

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