

# TEACHER LEADERS

ENGAGE. EMPOWER. INSPIRE.



**March 2019**



Hi! My name is Emmy Tipton, and I am a teacher in Sabine Parish. I always look forward to the Teacher Leader Summit, and this year is no different. I always leave recharged and eager to apply the new things I've learned into my content area. In response to feedback from last year's participants, the Department is making several changes to how Summit sessions are organized and how educators register for them to reduce the likelihood that educators will wait in line and then find out a session is full. One solution is giving us the option to register for "tracks" that build on one another and span for one or more days, rather than only the stand-alone sessions that have been offered previously. Choosing particular tracks will give me the opportunity to take a deep dive into the content that will support my role as a reading teacher.

As an elementary teacher, I am also excited about the tracks that offer curriculum-aligned supports for diverse learners. Reaching every learner is always a challenge in the classroom, and the focus of these tracks will give me the tools and confidence I need to utilize the curriculum to effectively support learners at every level. This approach will also provide opportunities for me to learn alongside my special education and English learner specialist colleagues, leaving with tools to establish a supportive learning environment, which is so important in the teaching profession! I have always found that my students are most successful when my colleagues and I share a deep understanding of not only the curriculum, but the supports and resources too.

Take advantage of [Early Bird Registration](#) for the Teacher Leader Summit now! I can't wait to see you this summer!

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## SUPPORT FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS

### **Supporting Students with Significant Disabilities**

Instructional and assessment guidance, materials, and resources dedicated to the support of students with significant cognitive disabilities can now be accessed from the new [Students With Significant Cognitive Disabilities](#) tab on the Louisiana Believes website.

### **Preview of Teacher Leader Summit**

As noted in the introduction, sessions at this year's Teacher Leader Summit will largely be organized in curriculum- and content-aligned tracks rather than stand-alone sessions. Special education teachers and English Language Development (ELD) teachers are encouraged to register for one- or two-day Summit tracks that align most closely with the grade-bands and curriculum that is most relevant to their role. The curriculum-specific tracks are intended to build content knowledge and familiarity with the resources and materials embedded in the curriculum to support students with diverse learning needs; the "diverse learner" tracks in both ELA and math will provide general educators and support teachers with strategies and tools to engage all students more effectively.

## ELA RESOURCES

### **Instructional Support**

The [ELA Guidebook](#) units in grades 3-5 are being updated to include additional supports for diverse learners and are scheduled for release in April. The updates for grades 3-5 will be accessed on the open LearnZillion site via zip-drive from each unit's "Unit at a Glance" page by clicking on "2018-2019 Revisions." Please contact [classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov](mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov) with questions.

### **Preview of Teacher Leader Summit**

Pre-registered tracks will be available at this year's Teacher Leader Summit. The ELA tracks will all begin with sessions focused on incorporating complex texts, building knowledge and using formative assessment. Then, participants will dive deeper into content based on their Tier 1 curriculum. Sessions within these tracks will focus on topics such as understanding unit design, planning for the school year, and supporting diverse learners. Teachers are encouraged to register for the Summit track that aligns most closely with their grade-band and Tier 1 curriculum.

## MATH RESOURCES

### **Preview of Teacher Leader Summit**

Agile Mind, College Board (Springboard), Great Minds (Eureka Math), Illustrative Mathematics, JUMP Math, Patterson Geometry, Ready Math, and Zearn will be present at Teacher Leader Summit to support high quality curriculum implementation. Pre-registered tracks will focus on initial curriculum implementation, advanced curriculum implementation, and support for diverse learners. Please contact

[classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov](mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov) with any questions.

### **Intensive Algebra 1 Pilot**

The [Intensive Algebra I Pilot presentation](#) on February 14 reviewed the successes of the Intensive Algebra I pilot and discussed why and how every high school should offer the Intensive Algebra I course to 9th graders who persistently struggle in math.

- Both Springboard and Agile Mind will be providing two-day implementation trainings at the 2019 Teacher Leader Summit to support the implementation of the Intensive Algebra I course.
- Contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov) for more information on offering the Intensive Algebra I course.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES RESOURCES**

### **Preview of Teacher Leader Summit**

Three full-day, pre-registered sessions focusing on social studies content will be presented at this year's Summit.

- **Social Studies 101:** This day of sessions is targeted at grades 3-8 and US History, and is focused around using the [Companion Documents and Scope and Sequences](#) to plan instruction, assessment resources, and the LEAP 2025 rubrics. Participants that attended similar sessions at the 2018 Summit or Collaborations, as well as other grades/courses, should advance to Social Studies 201.
- **Social Studies 201:** This day of sessions explores how to establish and manage an inquiry-based classroom in social studies. For grades 3-8 or US History, participants should attend Social Studies 101 (or have past experience with similar professional development) prior to attending Social Studies 201; there is no prerequisite for other grades/courses.
- **Social Studies 301:** This day of sessions engages participants in a guided inquiry process to answer the compelling question: How do we improve social studies instruction in Louisiana? Participants must have completed Social Studies 201 on a previous day of Summit to attend Social Studies 301.

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

### **Updated Resource: US History Practice Test Answer Key with Annotated Student Responses**

The updated [US History Practice Test Answer Key](#) is available in the [Practice Test Library](#). The key now includes annotated student responses to help teachers and students better understand the scoring of constructed-response and extended-response items.

Practice test answer keys for social studies grades 3-8 with annotated student responses are also available in the [Practice Test Library](#).

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

## SCIENCE RESOURCES

### Preview of Teacher Leader Summit

Several full-day, pre-registered sessions focusing on science content will be presented at this year's Summit.

- **Teaching and Learning to Meet the Science Standards in Grades K-2:** This full day session will engage participants in exploring key features of 3-dimensional science and specific strategies for bringing Louisiana Student Standards for Science (LSSS) to life at the elementary grades through resources Teacher Leader presenters have co-created and adapted to align with LSSS. Participants will engage in several hands-on learning experiences from a student perspective.
- **Great Minds PhD Science Launch Trainings for Grades 3, 4, and 5:** In these 2-day sessions, participants will experience a PhD Science Module from a student perspective and develop knowledge of the curriculum's intentional design. This session will also offer an opportunity for participants to practice key components of successful lesson delivery.
- **OpenSciEd Initial Trainings for Grades 6, 7, and 8:** These 3-day sessions are designed to prepare teachers to implement high quality, three-dimensional science instruction through a deep dive into one of the open-sourced OpenSciEd Units. Participants will deepen understanding of specific classroom routines and instructional approaches to support student sensemaking and discovery, and will learn strategies to promote productive and equitable science discourse.
- **Inquiry Hub in Biology Initial Training:** This 2-day session is designed to prepare Biology teachers to implement high quality, three-dimensional science instruction utilizing the open-sourced Inquiry Hub (iHub) materials. Participants will engage in key learning experiences from a student perspective and will also offer critical debriefing and discussion from a teacher perspective through a deep dive into an Inquiry Hub Unit. Participants can expect to deepen their understanding of the central role of phenomena and Science and Engineering Practices in building a coherent storyline.

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

### Science Curriculum Updates

As school systems consider science curriculum for the 2019-2020 school year, the following high-quality options are closely aligned to the standards.

Grades	Options
K-2	Option 1: Use the <a href="#">scope and sequence documents</a> Option 2: Carolina Building Blocks of Science 3D ( <a href="#">Tier 2</a> )
3-5	Option 1: Great Minds PhD Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Grade 4 earned a <a href="#">Tier 1 rating</a></li><li>● Grades 3 and 5 will be finished in late spring 2019 and will be submitted for <a href="#">Instructional Materials Review</a> at that time.</li></ul> Option 2: Carolina Building Blocks of Science 3D ( <a href="#">Tier 2</a> )

6-8	OpenSciEd (open sourced) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 6 of 18 (33 percent) units released in 2018-2019</li> <li>● 12 of 18 (66 percent) units released in 2019-2020</li> <li>● 18 of 18 (100 percent) units released in 2020-2021</li> <li>● Spring 2019: scope and sequence documents will be updated with sample implementation calendars</li> <li>● Will submit for <a href="#">Instructional Materials Review</a> in 2021</li> </ul>
HS	Biology: Inquiry Hub (IHub) (open sourced) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Linked in scope and sequence documents</li> <li>● Submitted for <a href="#">Instructional Materials Review</a> in January 2019</li> </ul>

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

## EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

### Teacher Leader Advisor Applications: Coming Soon

The Louisiana Department of Education is searching for **highly-motivated educators** to support the mission and vision of the Department’s Office of Academic Content. You **do not** need to be a school-site Teacher Leader in order to apply.

Becoming a Teacher Leader Advisor (TLA) not only allows educators to expand their positive impact by influencing over 750,000 students and over 50,000 Louisiana educators, but it also provides an opportunity to deepen and refine their leadership skills, learn about key priorities and projects at the Louisiana Department of Education, and develop their understanding of curricula and teacher training.

Here’s what current TLAs have to say about their experience:

“It’s just about the best thing I’ve ever done as an educator. The opportunities to collaborate with state leaders and high-quality classroom teachers have changed my classroom instruction in ways that almost no other method could have done.”

“Being a Teacher Leader Advisor is extremely rewarding. Working with other teachers from across the state to provide resources is an enriching professional development experience. This program has allowed me to understand my standards deeper as well as better understand the relationship between state and district agencies and the importance of the work we do as a TLA.”

Learn more about [Teacher Leader Advisors](#)! Application links will be available in [the TLA Flyer](#) on April 11. Look for more information in the April newsletter!

### 2019 Teacher Leader Summit: Last Chance for Early Bird Registration

This is the **last month to take advantage of the reduced-price early bird registration for the 2019 Teacher Leader Summit**, June 26–28, at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. This annual event will bring

together roughly 6,500 educators and content experts who are focused on creating meaningful growth for every student, every day. Educators will share their knowledge, learn new skills, and prepare for the 2019-2020 school year.

Review the [Summit overview](#) for more details, including the link to register. Contact [ldoeevents@la.gov](mailto:ldoeevents@la.gov) with questions.

### **2019 Teacher Leader Summit: Apply to Lead a Session**

[Applications](#) to lead a session at the 2019 Teacher Leader Summit are due **April 1**. Share your knowledge and best practices with others around the state by designing and facilitating sessions at the 2019 Teacher Leader Summit. This is a great way to expand your impact and showcase the great work you are doing in your classrooms, schools, and school systems.

All types of Louisiana educators—classroom teachers, school/childcare center administrators, school system/lead agency administrators—are welcome to apply to lead sessions at the Summit. Applications are due online on or before **April 1**. Review the [application](#) for more details.

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

### **Assessment Development Educator Review Committees**

The Department is now recruiting for a variety of Assessment Development Educator Review Committees scheduled to convene May through August. Committee members may review newly developed test items, provide guidance on scoring student responses to constructed-response and extended-response test items, or help determine cut scores for the new science tests.

Now recruiting for the following [Assessment Development Educator Review Committees](#):

- Rangefinding for LEAP 2025 math, science, and social studies
- Item Content and Bias Review - LEAP 2025 math and LEAP Connect
- Alignment Review - LEAP 2025 math and ELA (includes Passage Review)
- Standard Setting - LEAP 2025 science

Educator input is essential to the assessment development process because it ensures that tests are fair, valid, and reliable metrics of student growth and achievement. Participants can see the built-in mechanisms which ensure the development of high-quality assessments and ensure that tests are aligned to the standards, appropriate for the grade or course, and appropriate for Louisiana students. Additionally, the educators that do this work learn how to better use assessments in their classrooms or school systems.

The Department is looking for educators from across the state who represent the diverse demographics and needs of **all students**, including the needs of small populations such as English learners and the visually impaired. [Stipends and travel reimbursements are available](#).

Access [Assessment Development Educator Review Committees](#) in the [Assessment Guidance Library](#) to learn specific information about the committees, as well as corresponding dates and locations. To apply for participation, complete [an interest survey](#). Contact [michelle.mcadams@la.gov](mailto:michelle.mcadams@la.gov) for more information.

### **BESE Tuition Program for Teachers - Applications for Summer and Fall 2019 Coming Soon**

[The BESE Tuition Program for Teachers](#) provides tuition funding for selected classroom teachers to enroll in courses at regionally accredited colleges or universities in Louisiana. Online applications for coursework funding for the summer and fall 2019 semesters open **March 19**. The deadline to submit completed applications is **April 1** at 11:59 p.m. Program details, as well as a link to the application once it becomes available, can be found on the [Continuing Opportunities for Educators](#) page. For questions about the BESE Tuition Program for Teachers, visit the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page, or contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov).

### **2019-2020 Mentor Teacher and Content Leader Nominations**

The Department has launched the nomination process for Mentor Teacher and Content Leader trainings. Similar to last year's process, the [nomination template](#) is available to schools and school systems in both the [Mentor Teacher](#) and [Content Leader](#) libraries. The deadline to submit the nomination template is **April 18**.

All nominations must be submitted by school systems or charter schools, so interested teachers are encouraged to contact their school principal and/or school system contact to let them know about their interest in this training.

### **Super Summer Institute**

Super Summer Institute (SSI) will be offered regionally across the state to secondary and post-secondary educators. SSI provides educators the opportunity to attend training sessions and earn statewide industry-based certifications aligned to Jump Start pathways. **Registration** opened on March 12 and closes on **April 26**.

The Department will pay training costs and provide lunch for educators attending SSI. School Systems are responsible for all travel expenses, textbooks, and a nominal registration fee (\$250/session). School systems may use their Career Development Funds (CDF) or 2018-2019 Carl Perkins Funds to pay the fee. Registration costs must be paid through Eventbrite at the time of registration.

#### **Register below based on location and date:**

- [Lafourche](#): June 10-15
- [Calcasieu](#): June 10-15
- [Bossier](#): TBA
- [Livingston](#): July 22-26
- [New Orleans](#): July 22-26
- [Operation Spark](#): July 15-26
- [NEMSA](#): May 6-July 19

For more information, please e-mail [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov).

## EDUCATOR RECOGNITION

### **Teacher Leader Summit T-Shirt Design Winner Announced**

Congratulations to Michelle Johnson, teacher at Montegut Middle School in Terrebonne Parish, for submitting the winning design inspiration for this year's Teacher Leader Summit t-shirt. One dollar of every shirt sold will go to Michelle's school! Shirts will go on sale in April and will be sold at the Summit.

## CONTACT US

- For questions about instructional support and resources including LEAP 360 and EAGLE, contact [classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov](mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov).
- For questions related to the Teacher Leaders, Content Leaders, Mentor Teachers, and Teacher Leader Advisors, contact [louisianateacherleaders@la.gov](mailto:louisianateacherleaders@la.gov).
- For questions about registration for the Teacher Leader Summit, contact [ldoeevents@la.gov](mailto:ldoeevents@la.gov).
- For questions about assessments and related supports, contact [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov).
- For questions about the Educational Leader licensure policy update, contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov).
- For questions about the Collaborations, contact [districtsupport@la.gov](mailto:districtsupport@la.gov).
- For questions about the PD Vendor Guide, contact [louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov](mailto:louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov).
- For questions about the Behavior Intervention Summit, contact [behaviorintervention@la.gov](mailto:behaviorintervention@la.gov).
- For questions about Jump Start, contact [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov).
- For questions about Compass, contact [compass@la.gov](mailto:compass@la.gov).
- For questions about AP courses and exams contact [collegereadiness@la.gov](mailto:collegereadiness@la.gov).