

Louisiana Believes

School System Updates

April 30, 2020

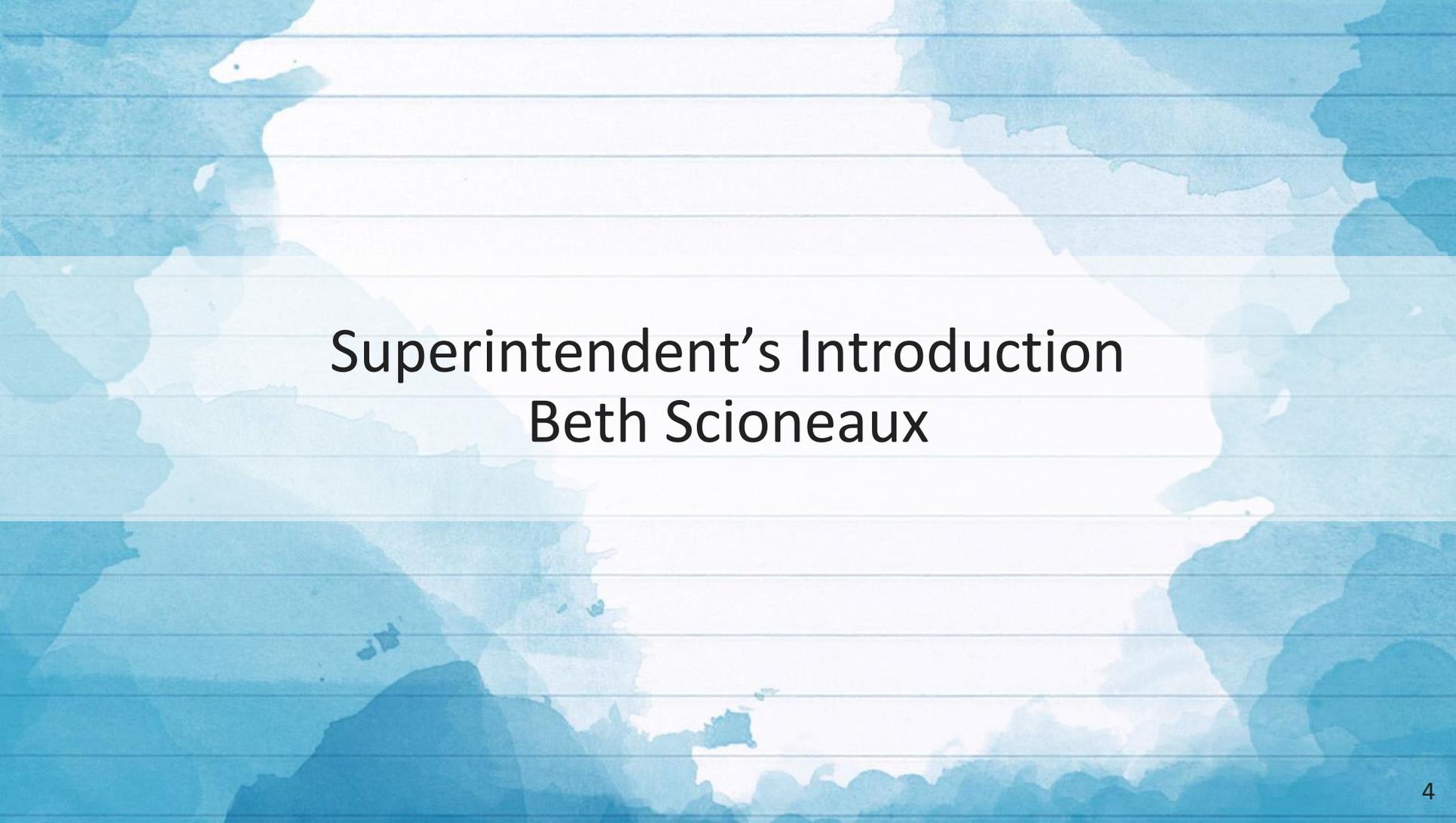
ATTENTION: Instructions for participants

During this meeting, participants may submit questions via the online chat feature throughout the presentation. Submitting questions via the chat allows LDOE the opportunity to not only answer your question while on the call but to also add your question and the answer to our publicly disseminated FAQ document(s).

Questions will be addressed at the end of the call. To signify that you would like to ask a verbal question at that time, please **raise your hand in the online system (preferred) or type *9 on your telephone**. The moderator will then acknowledge and unmute your line when requested by the presenter. **You will not have the ability to unmute/mute yourself individually using *6 or the online system**, so please be patient while the moderator assists the presenter in taking questions.

Agenda

- Superintendent's Introduction
- Teaching and Learning
- Student Opportunities
- Assessment and Accountability
- Early Childhood
- Strong Start 2020
- Federal Programs and Fiscal Operations
- Q&A

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Superintendent's Introduction Beth Scioneaux

Expanded SNAP Benefits

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 enables temporary emergency standards of eligibility and levels of benefits under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

Children who would receive free or reduced price meals under the National School Lunch Act if school facilities were currently open are eligible for benefits. This includes all students attending a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school.

To receive these benefits, families must complete an application. Without the requested information, the Department of Children and Family Services cannot issue the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card and provide benefits.

The anticipated launch of the application is set for the week of May 18. The Department will publicize the eligibility of these benefits, and in an effort to ensure families receive these benefits during this challenging time, school systems will receive communications to share with eligible families the week of May 11.

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Teaching and Learning

Hannah Dietsch

2020 Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series

The Louisiana Department of Education is shifting the 2020 Teacher Leader Summit from its in-person format to a series of **free** interactive webinars.

The 2020 Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series will take place from May 28 to June 5. It will bring together a host of 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 2020-2021 school year.

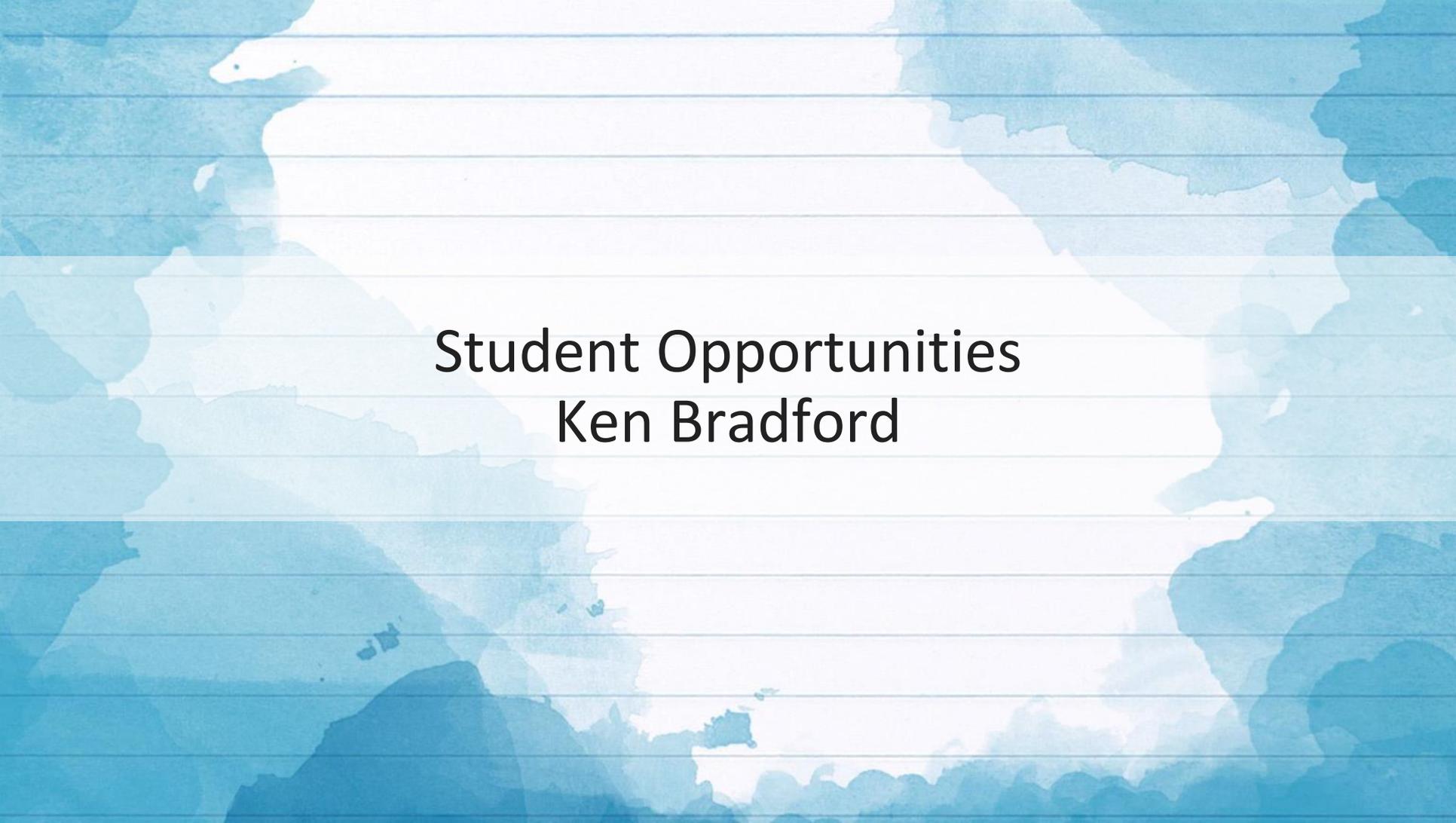
[Registration is now open](#) and will remain open through June 5. Please review the [draft session list](#), which includes a variety of sessions for teachers, school and school system staff, and preparation providers.

School Support Institutes

In addition to the virtual Teacher Leader Summit, parts of the Leadership Learning Series will be delivered virtually May 26 to May 29.

Principals of CIR/UIR-A schools should complete the [School Support Institute Registration](#) by Friday, May 1.

Additional information on attending the virtual sessions will be emailed directly to registered participants.

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Student Opportunities

Ken Bradford

Student Opportunities Office Hours

Student Opportunities Office Hours will occur each Wednesday from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. through May 31.

Join via Zoom: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/411290309>

Meeting ID: 411 290 309

Meeting Password: 031058

If you join by calling in, use any of the following numbers:

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US

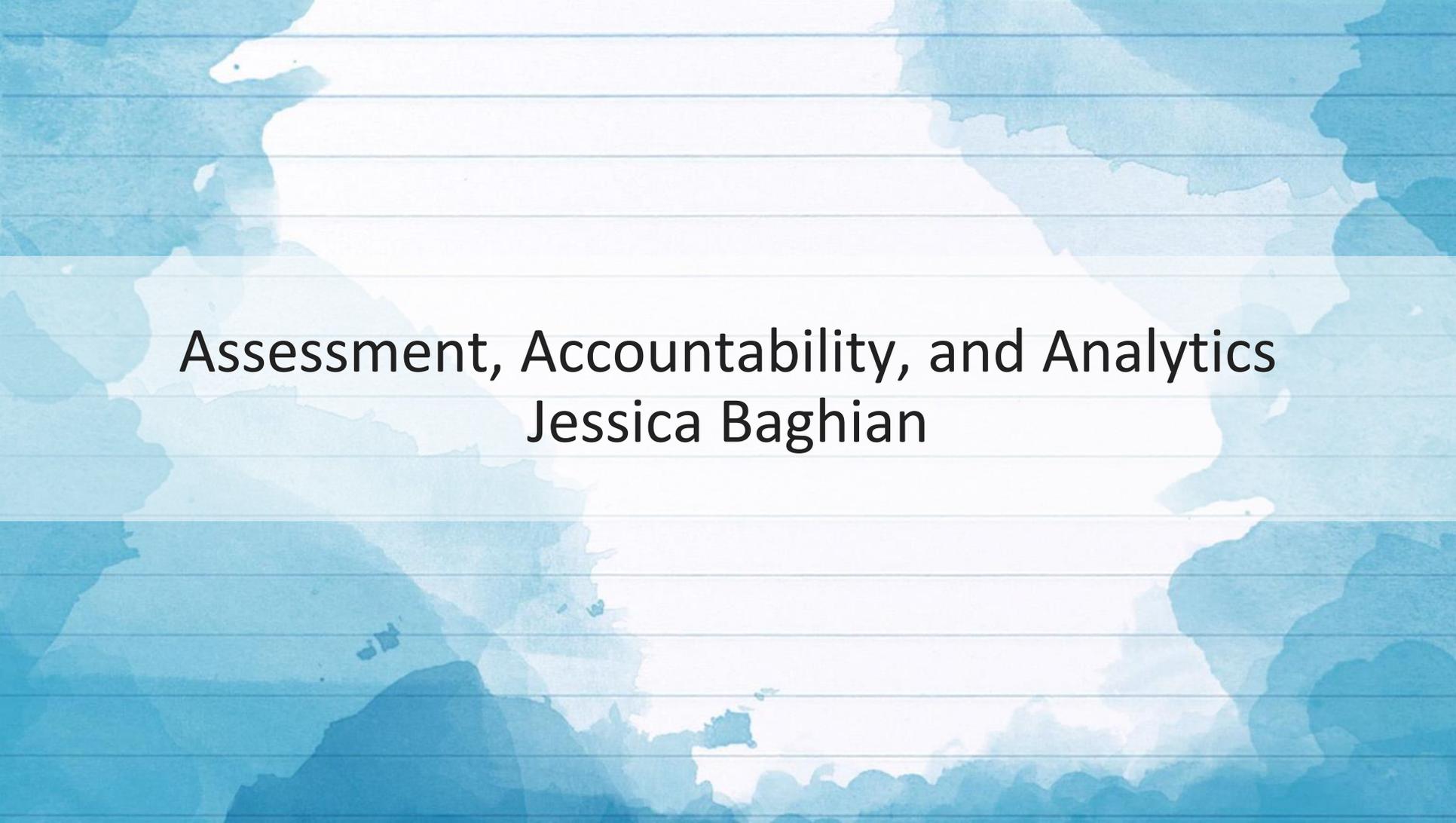
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Diploma Orders

As of Tuesday, April 28, all diploma orders have been shipped to the addresses provided by school systems and confirmed by LDOE staff. Diploma endorsement seals were mailed in March and should have been received.

Diplomas were shipped via FedEx from the Office of Louisiana State Printing.

If school systems have not received the shipment by May 1, please contact JumpStart@la.gov.

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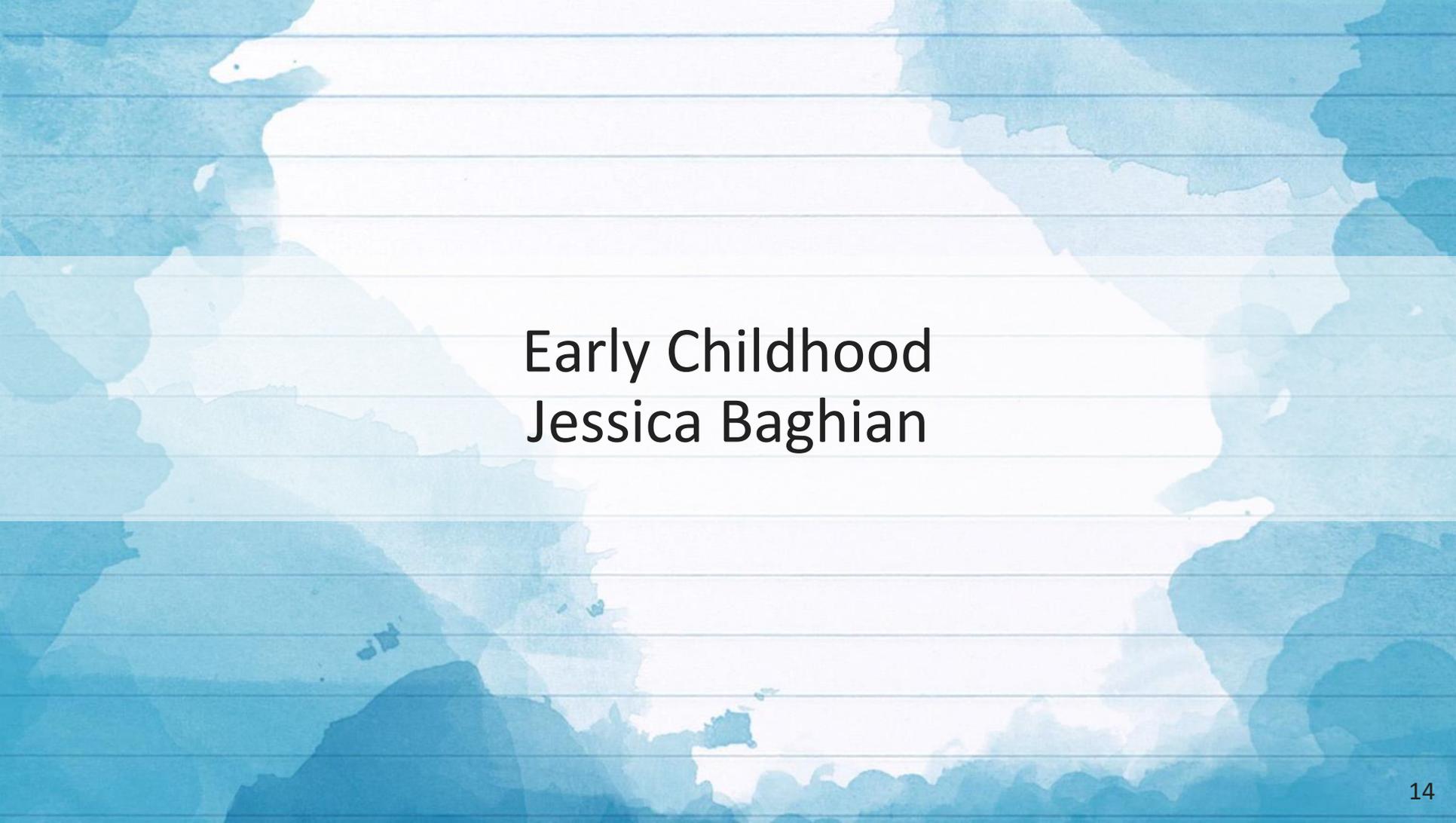
Assessment, Accountability, and Analytics

Jessica Baghian

Technology for Continuous Learning

Now more than ever, students should have access to a device and the Internet to support continuous learning and a strong start to 2020. To help facilitate investments in access for all students, the Department [released information and resources](#) on discounted technology and broadband.

Implementation Timeline	
Date	Action Item
Thursdays from 1p.m. -2:30 p.m.	Office Hours - email EdTech@la.gov to reserve time
Through May 15	Individual support calls to school systems with limited Internet access



Early Childhood

Jessica Baghian

ECE Updates

The Department announced it will [provide subsidized child care to essential critical infrastructure personnel for an additional 30 days](#). The extension, which comes a month after the Department opened the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) to these workers regardless of income, applies to families already receiving services, as well as to families who continue to seek services. More information, including an application, can be found on the Department's COVID-19 webpage.

The Department will also continue to pay child care providers who participate in the CCAP based on the number of children enrolled, not the number of children attending each day, through the month of May to help offset the financial impacts of the public health crisis

STRONG 20
START 20

Overview

Since Louisiana's school facilities first closed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, school systems and the LDOE ensured the safety of students and staff was of utmost priority. Additionally, LDOE and school systems have worked together on ensuring all students have access to continuous learning while remaining safely at home.

In anticipation of school facility closure or modified operations in the coming year, **the Department is focused on ensuring school systems are prepared for a strong start to the 2020-2021 academic year.** School systems' plans, submitted through the Super App process, set a coherent academic foundation.

To ensure a strong start in 2020-2021 and the continued implementation of these plans, the Department has released guidance and funding to provide quality and consistency of instruction and access to continuous learning in safe, healthy facilities.

Every day, all **students** are in schools that treat them with dignity and respect and where they have the opportunity to...



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build knowledge
of the world,

read
meaningful texts,

express ideas through
writing and speaking, and

solve
complex problems.

Louisiana School System Planning Process



CREATE A PLAN

School systems review data and identify priorities for the coming year.

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DEVELOP AN ALIGNED BUDGET

School systems budget formula funds and request competitive funds in alignment with priorities.

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IMPLEMENT WITH SUPPORT

School systems implement approved plans with support from Network teams and vendor partners.

Foundation to Strong Start 2020: School System Plans

A strong start to the 2020-2021 academic year builds on the academic [priorities](#) and decisions to which school systems have already committed in their approved school system plans submitted via Super App. This included a coherent academic plan for:

- High-quality curriculum
- High-quality teacher development
- High-quality assessments



Strong Start 2020 ensures the school system's plan is augmented to meet new academic and operational demands so all students have access to continuous learning.

A Strong Start for Every Student

In addition to the continued implementation of school system plans, a strong start to 2020-2021 will ensure:

- **Every student's academic needs are identified** at the beginning of the year using high-quality, standards-aligned diagnostic tools and assessments.
- **There is a plan for every student**, including extra time and support for students with the greatest unfinished learning from the prior year.
 - Curricular tools, enhancements, and supports to address unfinished learning
 - Robust support for early grade reading
 - Emotional, behavioral, mental health screening and services
 - Compensatory education and support for students with disabilities
 - An updated professional development plan with options for versatile delivery of training on curriculum, as well as online mentor training and content modules
- **There are clear next steps for every high school student and recent graduate** who will enter a new economy.
 - Funding for updated individual graduation plans (IGPs)
 - College and career transitional supports for recent graduates through December 2020

Continuous Education Planning

Additionally, all school systems must have strong yet agile **continuous education plans** that provide standards-aligned instruction using high-quality curriculum during school facilities closures or modified operations, including provisions for:

- **1:1 device and internet access**, including assistive technology for students with disabilities
- **A strategic communications plan** to connect with every student on a daily basis, provide weekly feedback on students' work, and communicate a family's role in supporting their child's continuous learning.
- **Versatile delivery methods** for instruction, related services, and professional development
- **Adaptive staffing models** that optimize teaching talent and student support
- **Flexible and opportunistic calendars and school schedules** that maximize learning opportunities in a dynamic public health context

Planning Priorities and Supports

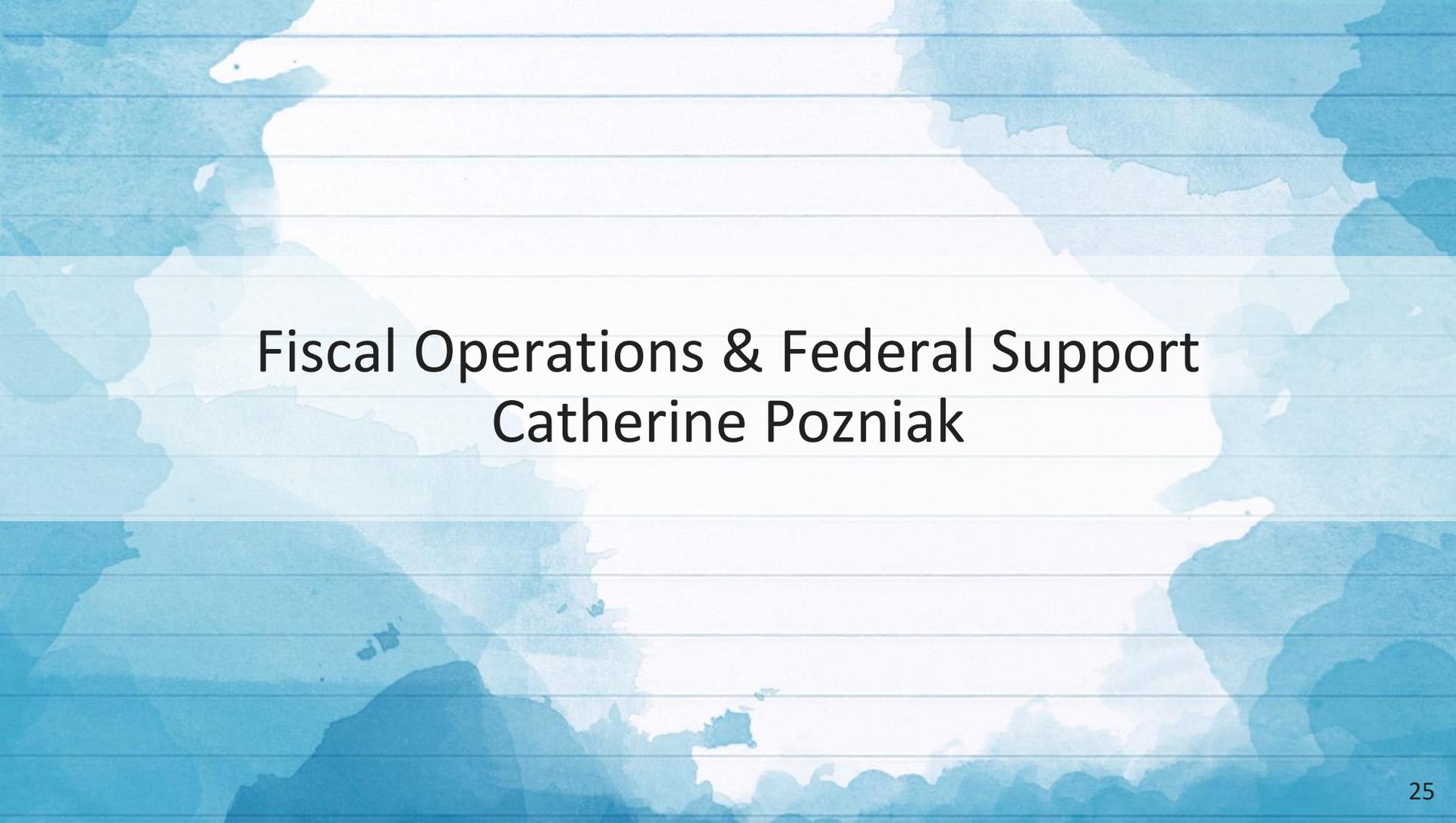
The Department will provide the following supports and resources for Strong Start 2020:

- Updated Tier 1 Curriculum that addresses:
 - How to deliver content virtually
 - Training for teachers on virtual delivery
 - Addressing unfinished learning via the curriculum
- State-negotiated pricing and bulk purchasing for student devices and WIFI access
- Screeners for preK-3; ELA and math diagnostic tools and reports, grades 3-12
- Mental health screener for all students and mental health consultation supports
- Incentive grants to support key Strong Start 2020 Planning Priorities, including funds to support curricular adaptations for continuous learning, high school transitions, professional development plans, special education, and student devices and connectivity.

Strong Start 2020 Next Steps

April 30	Strong Start 2020 Planning Priorities released
May 8	Start Strong 2020 resources and tools available*
May	Statewide workgroups launch
Throughout May	Networks support planning and implementation

*** Note: Given evolving circumstances and the interconnectedness of guidance from multiple agencies, all resources are subject to updates. School systems should ensure that they are using the latest available version.**



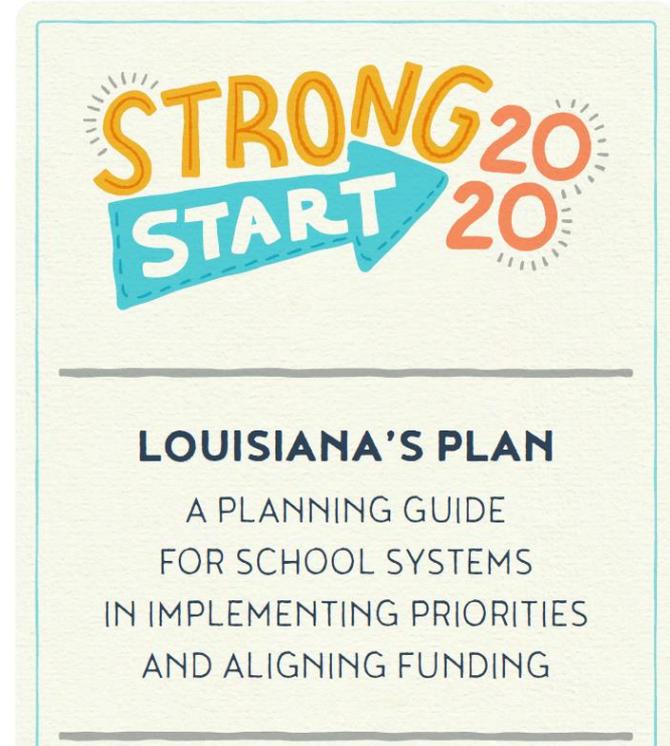
Fiscal Operations & Federal Support

Catherine Pozniak

Strong Start 2020 Planning Guide

In support of the work school systems will do to incorporate these new priorities into their plans for the school year, the Department has released the [Strong Start 2020 Planning Guide](#).

The Strong Start 2020 Planning Guide describes the Planning Priorities and is the basis for guidance on elementary and secondary education funding provided by the CARES Act.



CARES Act Education Funding

***Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSERF)**

ESSER Formula Funds

- LEAs will receive 90 percent of the state ESSERF allocation.
- Each LEA will receive a proportional share based on its proportional share of the 2019-2020 Title I, Part A allocation (note: ESSER is ***NOT*** a Title I program)

ESSER Incentive Funds

- Incentive funds will be available to support some of the Strong Start 2020 Planning Priorities.
- School systems that agree to implement each priority will be eligible to receive incentive funds.
- As in Super App, school systems will have opportunities to make funding requests in the Strong Start 2020 application.

***Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEERF)**

Strong Start 2020 Application

The Strong Start 2020 Application will be available in eGMS on Friday, May 1.

The application will allow school systems to:

- Budget ESSERF Formula allocations, which will be uploaded on May 1
- Calculate and plan for nonpublic equitable services
- Apply for ESSERF Incentive grants: the deadline is Friday, May 29



Upcoming Webinars

The Department will host an informational [webinar](#) for school systems today, April 30, at 1 p.m. to provide an overview of allowability and guidance. We recommend program staff and business managers attend.

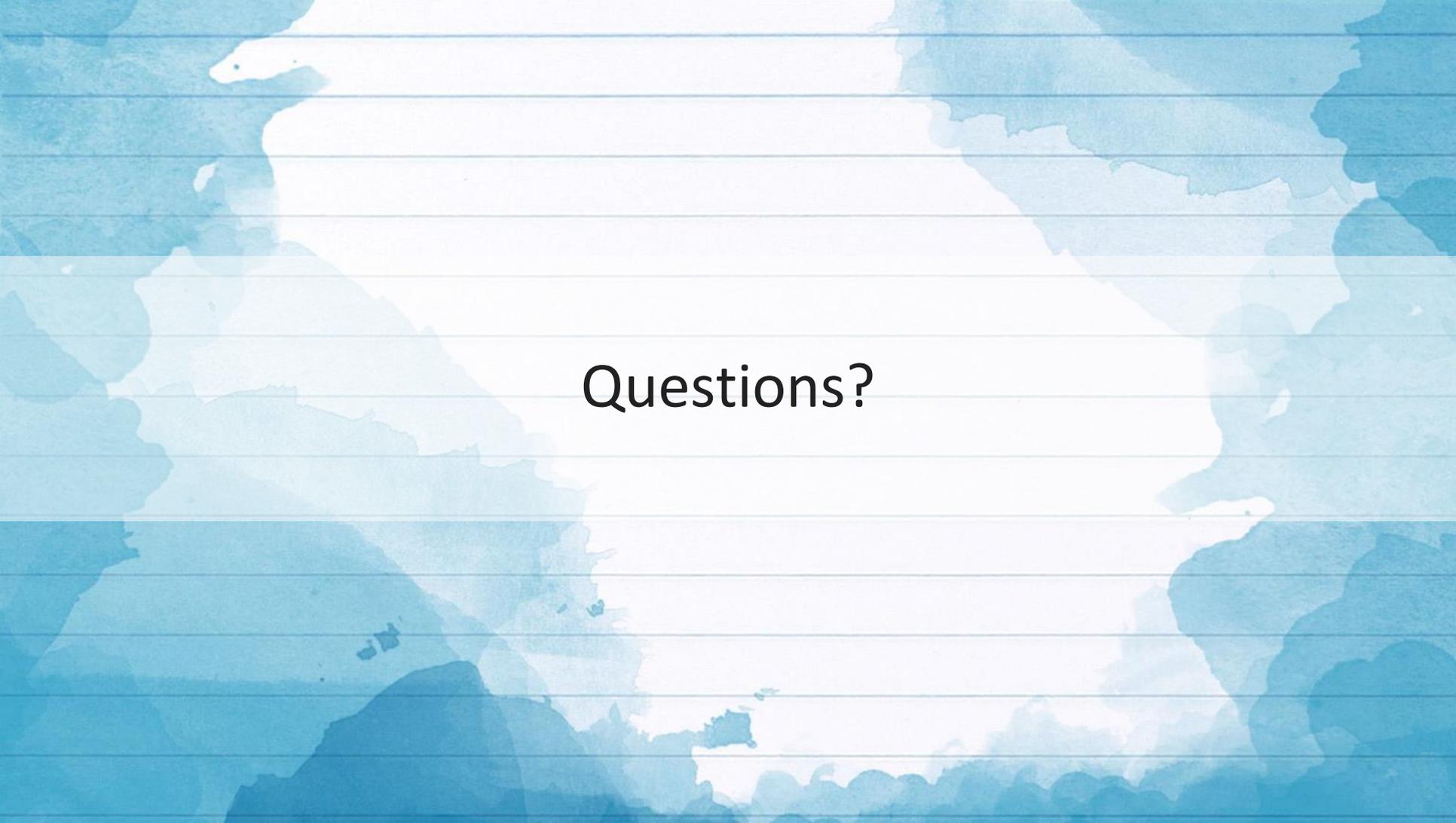
The Department will host a informational [webinar](#) specific to nonpublic equitable services on Thursday, May 7, at 11 a.m. to provide guidance to both school systems and nonpublic schools about the calculation of equitable share and consultation.

Questions should be directed to your network or email: LDOE.GrantsHelpDesk@la.gov and include **“Strong Start 2020”** in the subject line.

Timeline

Action	Date
Strong Start 2020 Planning Guide released	April 30
LDOE hosts Strong Start 2020 webinar	April 30 at 1:00 PM
ESSERF Formula allocation uploaded to the Strong Start 2020 Application	May 1
LDOE hosts webinar on CARES Act equitable services	May 7
Strong Start 2020 resources are available*	May 8
School systems must submit the Strong Start 2020 Application within eGMS to be eligible for Incentive funds	May 29
BESE approves ESSERF Incentive allocations	June 17
ESSERF Incentive allocations uploaded to eGMS	June 19

*** Note: School systems should ensure that they are using the latest available version as there will be updates.**

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Questions?