

Dr. Cade Brumley developed a 100 day entry plan that will allow him to lead and learn during his critical first months as head of the Department. [100 Days for a Strong Start](#) is outlined by seven key priorities. The Department has shared [weekly updates](#) on Dr. Brumley's progress. This report captures some of the key action steps taken during his first 50 days.

Dr. Brumley started his tenure as State Superintendent of Education June 8. In less than two months, he has held virtual and in-person listening sessions for over 1,000 educators and system leaders, met with dozens of stakeholders and advocated the legislature for resources to help move our students forward. The most important work Dr. Brumley has done during this time, though, is centered around ensuring a Strong Start to the 2020-2021 school year.

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## LEAD

### Priority 1: Ensure a Strong Start to the 2020-2021 school year

The Department worked closely with medical experts, system and school leaders, and key stakeholders to develop reopening guidelines and health standards. During July's emergency Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) meeting, medical experts from the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), Children's Hospital New Orleans and Ochsner Medical Center spoke in favor of the standards and collaborative development process. One medical expert said the guidelines stand among the nation's best.

The Department released [Implementing Strong Start 2020: A Toolkit for Teaching and Learning for Schools](#). This toolkit provides systems and schools with resources, examples and support as they implement their reopening plan. The LDOE partnered with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) to provide one million face coverings and additional PPE for students and educators. The Department was also able to obtain waivers through the U.S. Department of Agriculture for important flexibilities to provide school meals for every student in 2020-2021.

### Priority 2: Advocate during the legislative special session

The Department engaged with legislators to support student-centered policies, promote adequate funding for education and support policies that protect public health. Dr. Brumley met with Governor Edwards, advocating for \$35 million in Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funding to support student connectivity and mental health. BESE successfully adopted LDOE-recommended guidance as minimum health and safety standards for schools in response to Act 9. Other legislative victories include the successful passage of \$2 million for an early literacy pilot project and the restoration of funding for network support teams.

### Priority 3: Cultivate a strong and diverse team

It takes a team of dedicated professionals to achieve what's possible for education in Louisiana. Dr. Brumley has cultivated leaders within the Department's existing staff and hired strong leaders who represent the diversity of Louisiana. So far, he has hired and retained a balanced, diverse executive team. Dr. Brumley has also led multiple conference calls and virtual meetings with LDOE staff.

### Priority 4: Provide clear, strong and regular communications

Dr. Brumley spends time every day sharing his vision for the Department and keeping stakeholders informed of the latest developments. The school reopening webinars he's led with the LDH for system leaders regularly attract around 800 participants. He's spoken at numerous system leader meetings and conducted interviews with over 50 media members from markets across Louisiana.

## **LEARN**

### **Priority 5: Listen to stakeholders**

During his first 50 days, Dr. Brumley has met with nearly that many organizations. These listening sessions provide the Department with a better understanding of what's working, what challenges exist and what's possible for education in Louisiana. Below are some of the organizations Dr. Brumley has engaged with since joining the Department.

- Acadiana municipal and parish leaders
- Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana (A+PEL)
- Baton Rouge Area Chamber (BRAC)
- Baton Rouge Area Foundation (BRAAF)
- Center for Development and Learning (CDL)
- Childcare Association of Louisiana (CCAL)
- Children's Hospital New Orleans
- Council for A Better Louisiana (CABL)
- Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)
- Democrats for Education Reform (DFER)
- Dual Enrollment Task Force
- Early Literacy Commission
- Families Helping Families (FHF)
- Governor's Office of Disability Affairs
- Homeschool Louisiana
- Jefferson Parish Chamber of Commerce
- Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI)
- Louisiana Association of Educators (LAE)
- Louisiana Association of Principals (LAP)
- Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools (LAPCS)
- Louisiana Association of School Superintendents (LASS)
- Louisiana Department of Health (LDH)
- Louisiana Federation of Teachers (LFT)
- Louisiana Future Farmers of America (FFA)
- Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA)
- Louisiana Policy Institute for Children
- Louisiana Public Broadcasting (LPB)
- Louisiana School Boards Association (LSBA)
- Louisiana Superintendent's Academy (LSA)
- Louisiana Workforce Investment Council (LWIC)
- Louisiana's Community and Technical College System (LCTCS)
- National Governors Association (NGA)
- New Schools for Baton Rouge (NSBR)
- New Schools for New Orleans (NSNO)
- Northern Exposure (North Louisiana)
- Ochsner Medical Group
- Pelican Institute
- Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)
- Teacher Leader Advisors
- US Department of Education

### **Priority 6: Review data and recommendations**

The Department is working with various stakeholders to analyze all aspects of performance data. An internal review is also underway that will allow the Department to more closely align with critical goals. The executive team has conducted transition meetings with previous administration leaders to understand key work initiatives.

### **Priority 7: Develop a deeper knowledge of the Department**

Dr. Brumley is working to develop a deeper understanding of the Department's academics, finances, operations, talent management, policy and communications. An employee survey was conducted to gather input on strengths, challenges and what's possible. 2020-2021 budget requests have also been submitted. In an effort to be more effective and efficient, Department functions are being aligned around key priorities.