

LDOE Weekly Newsletter



May 17, 2016

Superintendent's Message

Dear Colleagues,

With the adoption of higher standards comes the need for aligned tools to guide teaching and facilitate learning. "Higher expectations" means little if the experience for the student is not richer and more challenging than it otherwise would have been. In short, curriculum matters.

This week the Department is releasing a suite of materials and tools (outlined in entry below) to support educators in adjusting to changes in Louisiana Student Standards in [math](#) and [English](#). The tools include completed revisions to [tier one curricula Bridges and Springboard](#). Also included are standards crosswalks for [ELA](#) and [math](#), and updated [mathematics remediation guides](#) and [companion documents](#). The Department will continue to update these resources as the summer progresses to include ELA vertical progressions and revisions to Eureka Math.

The Department has also released, after a year of piloting and development, the [Louisiana ELA Guidebooks 2.0](#). Guidebooks 2.0 expands on the guidebook companions to suggested text sets and takes Louisiana's open-access, free, standards-aligned curriculum to the daily lesson level, providing teachers with appropriately scaffolded units and lessons that build skills across Louisiana Student Standards.

Finally, building on the CLASS system of academic measurement, the Department has released its first batch of [guidance](#) regarding infant, toddler, and pre-kindergarten curriculum, assessment, and professional development. This represents the most concerted effort to date to support early childhood schools and centers increase the developmental and academic richness of their programs through explicit guidance on academic decisions that can bolster kindergarten readiness.

Each school and district leader in Louisiana has it within his or her power to make decisions as to the quality of students' and teachers' experiences each day. Through making proactive, informed decisions on curriculum we can continue progress in our schools and challenge children to reach new heights.

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

John

John White
Louisiana Department of Education

In This Issue:

[Superintendent's Message](#)

[District Support](#)

[Assessment Preparation](#)

[High School Opportunities](#)

[Data](#)

[Finance](#)

[Grants Management](#)

[Policy](#)

[Other](#)



To view the current District Support Calendar, please click [here](#).

District Support

Superintendent's Conference Call

Superintendents are invited to participate in the Superintendents' Conference Call hosted by State Superintendent John White on **Wednesday, May 18, at 10:30 a.m.** You may begin dialing into the call 15 minutes in advance.

To join the Superintendents' Conference Call on May 18, please see the webinar information below:

Webinar Login Information (*No pre-registration required)

- Click [here](#) to join the meeting or go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/suntscall/>

- Click [here](https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/suptscall/) to join the meeting or go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/suptscall/>
- Dial into the Phone Bridge: **(866) 818-1223**
- When prompted, please give the Meeting ID # **1672113**
- You will need to identify yourself in order to be placed into the meeting

Monthly District Planning Call

This district planning call for May is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 18, from 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.** Click [here](#) to view the presentation.

The following district supervisors should attend:

- Curriculum and Instruction
- Assessment and Accountability
- Data
- Early Childhood
- High School
- Career and Technical Education
- Principal and Teacher Leader
- Finance

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

- Meeting Name: **May District Planning Call**
- Click [here](https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/dpc/) to join the meeting: <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/dpc/>
- Enter the meeting room as a guest and provide your name.
- Call-In Information: (800) 832-0736; meeting room #3423625

Email districtsupport@la.gov with questions.

2016 Teacher Leader Summit Mobile App

The [2016 Teacher Leader Summit](#) has gone mobile! Before attending the event, it is highly encouraged that you download the new app to your mobile phone, tablet or computer, by clicking [here](#). The app allows participants to

- establish a schedule of sessions to attend that can be added to their calendar;
- download all session materials prior to the event; and
- be notified when sessions are full or have been moved to another room during the event.

The functions of the app will be discussed on this week's district planning call. Again, please be sure you have downloaded the app before you arrive on June 1, 2016, to have access to the most current summit information and updates.

Email teacherleaders@la.gov with questions.

New Louisiana Student Standards Resources Released

The Department has and will continue to release multiple tools and resources to support educators in transitioning to the new Louisiana Student Standards for ELA and math.

Resources currently available:

ELA:

- [Enhanced crosswalks](#)

Math:

- Updated Louisiana Student Standards documents for [math](#) and [ELA](#)
- Enhanced crosswalk documents for [ELA](#) and [math](#)
- [Math Tier 1 Curriculum Crosswalks](#) for Bridges in Mathematics and Springboard
- [K-12 math standards by domain](#)
- Grade-level teacher [companion documents for math](#)
- Updated math [remediation guides](#)

Available by the end of May:

- [ELA vertical progressions](#)
- Louisiana Student Standards Guide and Presentation

Available in June:

- [Math Tier 1 Curriculum Crosswalks](#) for Eureka Math

Principal Virtual Town Hall Meeting

Please share with principals and principal supervisors.

The Department will host a **Principal Virtual Town Hall Meeting on Monday, May 23 at 3:00 p.m.** to share with principals newly released tools and resources to support them as they plan for the 2016-2017 school year. Click [here](#) to access the live stream for this meeting.

All questions that are raised during the town hall meeting should be directed to compass@la.gov, and will be answered as time permits.

Please email compass@la.gov with questions.

End-of-Year Compass Deadlines

Please share with principal supervisors, Compass contacts, and data coordinators.

End-of-Year Deadlines

- On Friday, May 20, the [Curriculum Verification and Results \(CVR\) Reporting Portal](#) will close. To ensure the accuracy of 2015-2016 transitional student growth data (TSGD), principals and teachers must take time to review, make necessary corrections, and verify rosters. Click [here](#) for the list of applicable courses.
- **Compass end-of-year evaluation 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 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. Click [here](#) to access the recording.

Please email ldoecvr@la.gov with questions regarding roster verification, and compass@la.gov with questions regarding final evaluations.

Assessment Preparation

Assessment Administration Update

Across the state, educators are completing the administration of the Spring 2016 assessments. This section will provide LEAs with an update on all information related to assessment administration.

TEST ADMINISTRATION FOR DTCs

- **LEAP Assessments**
 - **Now through May 20**, the LEAP social studies field test administration window continues. School test coordinators in districts using the optional social studies field test should administer the assessment to students in grades 3 through 8.
- **EOC**
 - **Now through May 20**, the EOC administration window continues. School test coordinators should administer EOC tests to students.

TECHNOLOGY READINESS

- [LEAP TECH FAQ](#): This document provides guidance and final online test preparation tips to support online testing.

ADDITIONAL TOOLS AND RESOURCES

- **Office Hours:** The Louisiana Department of Education hosts weekly office hours every Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to answer any questions that teachers, supervisors, test coordinators, and test administrators may have regarding statewide assessments.
 - 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.
 - Select the "listen only mode" if joining the meeting via computer or smartphone, or access audio via phone bridge: (800) 832-0736 / room number: 3423602

Please contact assessment@la.gov with any questions.

High School Opportunities

Jobs for America's Graduates-Louisiana Grant Opportunity

The Department has released an RFA regarding the availability of Jobs for America's Graduates-Louisiana (JAG-LA) funds for FY 2016-2017. The grant will provide funding to support students who have major obstacles in their lives that could disrupt school completion and/or hinder successful entry into the workforce or postsecondary educational programs aligned to Jump Start Pathways. The JAG-LA Program also supports the efforts of the Jump Start initiatives by offering career readiness to school model curriculum, mentoring, financial aid planning, and follow-up to seniors. The application can be found [here](#). Projects will be funded contingent upon funds made available for the JAG-LA Program. Applications are due **Wednesday, June 8**

unded contingent upon funds made available for the JAG-LA Program. Applications are due **Wednesday, June 9.**

- **Monday, May 23 from 1:30 p.m. -2:30 p.m.**

Webinar Login Information (*No pre-registration required)

- Meeting Name: Jobs for America's Graduates-Louisiana Grant Opportunity
- To join the meeting go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/r8gwbuxq2a9/>
- Enter meeting room as a guest and provide your name
- Audio access: (800) 832-0736 / room number 6246632

For additional information, please contact Dianna.Keller@la.gov.

Data

Spring 2016 ELDA and LAA1 Assessment Results Released

Please forward to accountability contacts.

Spring 2016 LAA1 and ELDA student reports, school rosters and CSV files are currently available in [eDirect](#). Districts can now download these results and share them with principals, teachers and parents.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with any questions.

Teacher Leader Summit Systems Management Survey

Please forward to all LEA data coordinators.

In order to customize the data system sessions being offered at the Teacher Leader Summit to the needs of school systems, the Department is asking LEA data coordinators to complete this [survey](#) by **Monday, May 23, 2016**.

Email systemsupport@la.gov with questions.

LDOE Data Systems Vendor Webinar

Please forward to all LEA data coordinators and data system vendors.

The Department will host a webinar for LEA data system vendors on **Friday, May 20, 2016, at 2:00 p.m.** to discuss 2016-2017 system enhancements.

No prior registration is required. Please download the technical specifications from the [INSIGHT Coordinators Portal](#) and provide them to your vendor(s) along with the following link to join the webinar: <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/dcw/>.

For assistance, contact SystemSupport@la.gov.

College Board 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. The Department has executed and posted a data sharing agreement **with College Board** on the Department's website [here](#).

LEAs should download the addendum from the site, sign, scan, and email the signed copy to LDEData@la.gov in order to ensure that they will be able to share student information with College Board for testing and reporting purposes.

Please email ldedata@la.gov with questions.

Finance

FY 2015-16 MFP Appropriation

The Department has completed the final calculations with regard to the FY 2015-2016 MFP Mid-Year Student Adjustment. The final net increase in allocations equals \$7 million. Currently, the MFP formula appropriation is short by this amount.

The current state budget situation will require that \$7 million of the \$16 million in Supplementary Budget Recommendations pay supplement funds appropriated outside of the MFP formula be moved into the formula to fulfill the total cost of the MFP for the current fiscal year. Specifically, these funds were appropriated for a "certificated classroom teacher pay raise, related employer retirement contributions and other expenditures in order to sustain the certificated classroom teacher pay raise provided for by appropriation in Fiscal Year 2013-14."

The movement of these funds from outside the formula to inside the formula leaves a shortfall of \$7 million in the funding outside of the formula for the pay supplement. This shortfall will require a decrease in the funds previously provided earlier this year for the pay supplement outside of the formula. Thus, a decrease in MFP funds will occur in the June 2016 MFP payments.

[Here](#) is a schedule which describes the impact of the movement of these funds.

FY2015-16 Projected Local Revenue Data

Please forward to business managers.

In order to complete the FY2016-2017 MFP calculations for charter schools, projected FY2015-2016 local revenue data (and expenditures related to the collection of the revenue) must be submitted to the Department by each city/parish school district. The FY2015-16 local revenue data is being collected through the LEADS portal using the same process as was used last year. Step by step instructions for submitting your data through LEADS are provided [here](#). A list of the required keypunch codes is provided [here](#). Submit this data no later than **Friday, May 20, 2015**. The LEADS portal is currently open and will remain open through Friday, May 20.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Melanie Ruiz at melanie.ruiz@la.gov.

Grants Management

2016-2017 NCLB and IDEA Preliminary Allocations

Please share this item with federal program directors and business managers.

The following NCLB and IDEA allocations have been released:

- Title I
- Title II
- IDEA 611
- IDEA 619

Additional allocations will populate in eGMS this week. The ability to submit will not be available until all allocations within an

Additional allocations will populate in eGMS this week. The ability to submit will not be available until all allocations within an application are loaded.

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

For further information, contact Randy.Littleton@la.gov.

Public Notice of Waiver Requests

Please share this item with federal program directors and business managers.

LDOE is requesting waivers from USDOE for the purpose of making three- to five-year 1003(g) School Improvement Grant (SIG) awards to eligible LEAs. LDOE is required to notify LEAs of this request as part of the waiver submission process.

FY15 Funds Waiver. In order to extend the period of availability beyond September 30, 2017, LDOE is requesting a waiver of section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. § 1225(b)) to extend the period of availability of FY 2015 school improvement funds for the SEA and all of its LEAs to September 30, 2021.

FY16 Funds Waiver. In order to extend the period of availability beyond September 30, 2018, LDOE is requesting a waiver of section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. § 1225(b)) to extend the period of availability of FY 2015 school improvement funds for the SEA and all of its LEAs to September 30, 2021.

Relevant personnel may review these waiver requests and submit questions or comments to John.Hanley@la.gov by **Friday, May 20, 2016**.

Final Date for 2015-2016 Grant Budget Amendment Submissions

Please share this item with federal program directors and business managers.

The final date to submit amendments for 2015-2016 grant budget amendments is **Wednesday, June 1**.

For further information, contact Randy.Littleton@la.gov.

Policy

New Policy Guidance from USDOE

Last Friday, the U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice civil rights offices issued "[significant guidance](#)" to state and local education agencies relative to students' gender identity and transgender status and compliance with Title IX. This guidance does not add requirements to present law, but provides information to inform recipients about how the federal Departments intend to evaluate whether covered entities are complying with their legal obligations. The Louisiana Department of Education is reviewing the guidance and, in consultation with the Louisiana School Boards Association, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, and Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, will provide assistance to local school systems in addressing the needs of their students.

Other

Louisiana Child Sexual Abuse and Sexual Assault Education Survey

The Louisiana State Legislature enacted Senate Concurrent Resolution 69 (SCR 69) in 2014 to create the **Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children** within the Department of Children and Family Services. The task force is charged with making recommendations to the Louisiana Legislature on how to reduce child abuse in Louisiana.

Act 525 of 2014 requires each LEA to have policies and procedures that address child abuse and assault awareness and prevention and to provide age and grade appropriate instructions relative to child assault awareness and prevention. The law does not require school systems to address child sexual abuse.

The SCR 69 task force is conducting the Louisiana Child Sexual Abuse Education Survey in an effort to determine whether Louisiana schools have policies and procedures that address child sexual abuse and sexual assault and provide awareness and prevention education for students.

Please identify one point person to collaborate with professionals in your school to complete this [survey](#). Please submit only one survey per school.

LDOE Contacts

[John White](#)

State Superintendent of Education

(toll-free) 877.453.2721

Twitter @LouisianaSupe

LDOE Links

[LDOE Website](#)

[Contact Us](#)

STAY CONNECTED

Like us on Facebook 

Follow us on  **twitter**

View our videos on  **You Tube**