

LDOE Weekly Newsletter



July 5, 2016

Superintendent's Message

Dear Colleagues,

Starting Monday, July 18, and continuing throughout that week, teachers of [Jump Start](#) career pathways will gather in Lafayette for the annual [Super Summer Institute](#). This year's Institute will involve 500 teachers from across the state completing training for industry-based credentials that allow them to help their students attain valuable [Jump Start credentials](#).

The coming two school years will see the culmination of the Jump Start implementation timeline. Graduates in the class of 2018 will fulfill the [requirements](#) for either the TOPS University diploma or the Jump Start/TOPS Tech Career diploma. Graduates on either path can achieve a Jump Start credential, although TOPS Tech Career diploma graduates are required to achieve such a credential.

In addition, all graduates in 2018 will decide whether or not to apply for [financial aid](#). The findings of a recently concluded, statewide task force on this subject will be presented to BESE in August.

Counselors around the state have been speaking with students and families to plan their pathways for their junior and senior years of high school. But the new diploma frameworks in our state do more than assist students in fulfilling high school requirements. Louisiana's new high school graduation pathways assure families and graduates that completing high school in Louisiana comes with the opportunity to continue one's education after high school and to pursue funding for that education. Whether the next step is a four-year university, a two-year college, or a technical training program, today's economy demands preparation for work and life beyond a high school diploma. And while each of those options has dignity and deserves our respect, we must insist that when each graduate crosses the dais and is handed a diploma, we know there is specific and positive next step for each young adult on the other side of that stage.

This is the promise of [Jump Start](#), and it is embodied in the [Super Summer Institute](#) - an annual validation of the commitment of educators to the lifelong opportunities for Louisiana's youth. I look forward to seeing you and your colleagues there.

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

John

John White
Louisiana Department of Education
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THE MOST CURRENT LEA CALENDAR EVENTS

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

District Support

Louisiana Science Standards Review Process Nominations

Local school districts and charter schools are invited to nominate qualified individuals to join the Louisiana Science Standards Review Process. The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education approved this professional process on June 22, 2016, to review and update the K-12 Louisiana science standards during the 2016-2017 school year. For an overview of the committees and the review process, please review this [presentation](#).

More information on the nomination process and directions on how to submit nominations can be found in the [Standards Nomination Information form](#) found in the [Standards Review library](#). **Nominations are due by July 8, 2016.**

Contact louisianastandards@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Student Standards Curriculum Crosswalks

Multiple tier 1 math curriculum publishers have reviewed their curricula to determine alignment with the new Louisiana Student Standards. The resulting crosswalks clearly show where the materials fully address the standards, partially address the standards, and/or need to be supplemented to fully address the standards.

Available crosswalks include:

- *NEW* Eureka Math
- Bridges in Mathematics
- College Springboard Math

The crosswalks are available [here](#). Contact classroomsupport@la.gov with questions.

Statewide ESSA Meetings

Superintendent White will host a series of statewide meetings this summer to discuss creating educational opportunities for students through the new federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). All district and school leaders and teachers are encouraged to attend these meeting and share their feedback with the Department. For a schedule of meetings around the state, please click [here](#).

Please email districtsupport@la.gov with questions.

Compass Tools and Support Available

The [Compass](#) tool supports teachers and principals in defining expectations for student learning and monitoring progress against those goals throughout the year. The Department supports this process through tools, resources, and trainings throughout the year.

- **New Evaluator Training:** All new evaluators must complete a training to be certified to complete Compass evaluations. This requirement can be met by attending Department-led trainings or those led by local education agencies.
 - Department-led trainings have been scheduled and are available to new evaluators or as an update for current school and district leaders. More information about these trainings, including dates and locations, is available in [Coursewhere](#). To register, please click [here](#).
- **Compass End-of-Year Evaluations:** 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. To access the recording, please click [here](#).

Email compass@la.gov for additional information or support.

Assessment & Accountability

Speaking and Listening Waiver

The U.S. Department of Education has offered all states the opportunity to request a waiver for up to two years with respect to measuring speaking and listening content standards within the state's English language arts state assessment(s). The Louisiana Department of Education plans to request the waiver through the 2018-2019 school year because it is not practicable at this time to administer a large-scale summative assessment that includes speaking and listening standards.

Comments related to the request emailed to Assessment@la.gov before July 8 will be considered prior to submission of the waiver request.

EOC Summer Administration Rescore Request

July 22 is the last day to submit EOC rescore requests for the June 2016 administration. The Request for Rescoring form is available on the [EOC homepage](#) under the Test Coordinator Materials tab. District test coordinators must notify Pacific Metrics of the rescore request by emailing EOCCustomerRep@pacificmetrics.com and mailing the rescore request form along with a money order to Pacific Metrics at the address below.

Louisiana Customer Service Representative
Pacific Metrics Corporation
1 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Building 1, Suite 150
Monterey, CA 93940

Please contact assessment@la.gov with any questions.

Student Records Corrections in eDirect

The Department and DRC are hosting the Student Corrections System, an online cleanup, in [DRC eDirect](#) that opens by Sunday, July 10 and runs through July 14. This process will allow districts the opportunity to clean up student test records from Spring 2016 including grades 3 through 8 LEAP and iLEAP, ELDA, and LAA 1, including student demographic information and impending zeroes prior to the release of July assessment reports.

A user guide and directions for making corrections is posted in eDirect.

Please email assessment@la.gov with questions.

High School Opportunities

2016-2017 Pupil Progression Plan Webinar

One webinar remains to provide updates and assist school systems in completing and submitting the 2016-2017 Pupil Progression Plan. School system personnel, who have not participated in a previous training, are encouraged to participate in the webinar scheduled for:

- **Wednesday, July 20:** 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Webinar Login Information (*no pre-registration required)

- **Meeting Name:** 2016-2017 Pupil Progression Plan Information Webinar
- To join the meeting go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/pupilprogressionplan/>
- Enter meeting room as a guest and provide your name
- Audio access: (800) 832-0736 / room number: 2834406

The **Pupil Progression Plan (PPP)** is the comprehensive plan developed and adopted by each LEA that establish policies and guidelines local school districts use to determine whether students will be promoted to the next grade, retained in the current grade, or advanced (or skipped) to higher grades. Pupil Progression Plans also outline the criteria for high school graduation.

The updated [2016-2017 Pupil Progression Plan Template](#) is now available. Each district should submit a plan in PDF format to PPP@la.gov by October 14, 2016.

For additional information please contact PPP@la.gov.

Data

Final 2014 LEA Determinations

Please forward to all special education directors and FTP coordinators.

The final special education LEA determinations for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2014 will be available via the data management FTP on Friday, July 8, 2016 and will be available through August 5, 2016. FTP coordinators, please download and provide the data file with filename **LEAcode_LEAname_FFY 2014 LEA Determinations Final** to your superintendent and special education director.

If your special education director has a question about the contents of the file, please refer them to Kristi-Jo Preston at KristiJo.Preston@la.gov. For FTP issues, please contact SystemSupport@la.gov.

Assessment Resources

The information below includes details about testing materials and resources LEAs may use to support assessment preparation.

ACT Billing Rosters

Districts should have already received invoices and student rosters, per the ACT Memorandum of Understanding, for the following students who participated in ACT testing:

- **ACT:** All grade 12 students with an ACT score and were retested in the spring
- **Explore:** All students participating in testing
- **WorkKeys testing and certificates:**
 - Grade 11 students not on a career diploma pathway
 - All grade 12 students

The Department will place student rosters on the district secure FTP under the filenames described below.

- **ACT:** LEACode_LEAName_2016_ACT_Billing_Student Rosters
- **Explore:** LEACode_LEAName_2016_Explore_Billing_Student Rosters
- **WorkKeys testing and certificates:** LEACode_LEAName_2016_WorkKeys_Billing_Student Rosters

Districts should remit payment to the Department no later than July 15, 2016.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with any questions.

Policy

2016 Regular Legislative Session Summary

Governor Edwards recently signed into law several Acts of the Louisiana Legislature pertaining to public elementary and secondary education. The Legislature also passed several resolutions calling for further study of important education issues. For a brief summary of new laws and resolutions that most directly relate to the work of local public school systems, please click [here](#).

Update on TOPS

Last week Governor Edwards signed the budget bills from the second special legislative session. Pursuant to language inserted into the budget by the Legislature, TOPS will be fully funded for the Fall 2016 semester but will be only partially funded (at approximately 42 percent) for the Spring 2017 semester. Please contact the [Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance \(LOSFA\)](#) for additional information. To read LOSFA's 2016 legislative summary, please click [here](#).

ESSA Update

The U.S. Department of Education's proposed regulations on accountability, consolidated state plans, and data reporting were published in the Federal Register on Tuesday, May 31 and are open for public comment **through August 1, 2016**.

According to the U.S. Department of Education's [news release](#), the proposed regulations focus on four key themes: creating a more comprehensive picture of school success, tailoring support for struggling schools, clarifying data and information for parents and communities, and creating streamlined state plans.

Follow the links to read the [proposed regulations](#) or the U.S. Department of Education's [summary](#).

Finance

Final FY 2015-2016 Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) Allocations (June 2016)

Please forward to business managers.

The final MFP allocations for FY 2015-2016 are available [here](#) on the Department's website.

FY 2016-2017 Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) Allocation

The FY 2016-2017 MFP Formula allocation and payment schedules are now available [here](#) on the Department's website. Reference **Circular 1160** and attachments to view your allocation and payment schedule.

FY 2016-2017 Initial Charter Per Pupil Amounts

Please forward to business managers.

The FY 2016-2017 Initial Charter Per Pupil amounts are now available [here](#) on the Department's website.

- The state cost allocation per-pupil amount is based on Levels 1, 2, and 3 of the most recent legislatively approved MFP formula.
- The FY 2016-2017 state cost allocation per-pupil amount is final with the issuance of Circular 1160, the MFP budget letter, on June 28, 2016.
- The initial local revenue representation per-pupil is preliminary and is calculated based on projected FY 2015-2016 local revenue and February 1, 2016 student counts.
- The final determination of the local revenue representation per-pupil amount will be calculated in March 2017, based on actual FY 2015-2016 local revenue collections as reported in the AFR, and actual October 1, 2016, student counts as reported in SIS.

Grants Management

2016 School Improvement Grant Application

The Louisiana Department of Education is committed to ensuring all students have access to high quality school options. In order to support LEAs, The Department released a draft version of the 2016 School Improvement Grant application on Monday, June 20, 2016. LEAs may apply for 3- to 5-year grants to implement evidence-based changes at eligible Focus and Priority schools, which can be found [here](#).

The application and budget forms, a list of eligible schools, the rubric against which applications will be evaluated, and more information about the program will be published [here](#). Applications are due by **Monday, July 18, 2016 at 3 p.m. CT**.

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