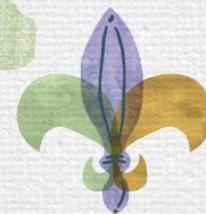


# Important News for **NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS**



**December 15, 2022**

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you're making the most of the final school days before the Christmas break. It's hard to believe we are already at this time of year.

Today we gave our [2022 Fall Reading Report presentation](#). As I shared with you last week, we recently released [statewide data from the reading screeners](#) given to K-3 students during the first 30 days of school. Along with the most recent data, the presentation includes an implementation timeline of our comprehensive literacy strategy and key supports currently in place for Louisiana educators.

Among these resources are FIRE and the LIFT kit. I encourage you to spend some time with each.

- [Foundational Instruction for Reading Excellence \(FIRE\)](#) lessons provide a systematic, explicit reading foundations program for all students in grades 3-5. Short daily lessons are intended to complement, not replace, the work of a high-quality knowledge-building curriculum.
- The [Literacy Interventions and Foundational Tools \(LIFT\) Kit](#) helps teachers pinpoint specific gaps in foundational skills for students in grades 3-12.

I've heard from many of you who have been listening to Sold A Story by Emily Hanford. Last week, I shared with you a [reading list compiled by Hanford](#) for those seeking to learn more beyond her podcast. Louisiana is among a number of states adopting laws that support the science of reading. This [article from one of Hanford's colleagues](#) includes how our state has been "held up as a national model" for how we review reading materials.

There is a clear movement taking place across our nation around how we teach kids to read, and Louisiana is at the forefront.

Have a great week,

Dr. Cade Brumley

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## Important Dates for School Systems

### **Office Hours and Monthly Calls**

- [Assessment and Accountability Office Hours](#): December 20 at 3:45 p.m.
- Diverse Learners Office Hours: [January 24, 2023 at 3 p.m.](#)

### **Upcoming Events and Deadlines**

- Zearn [Contact Form update](#): December 16
- Registration for [New Teacher Experience Affinity Groups](#) closes: December 19
- Teacher and Principal of the Year Candidate Call: [December 29 at 9 a.m.](#)
- High Cost Services Round 1 Application closes: December 30
- [Registration](#) closes for [New Teacher Experience PD Module 2](#): January 5, 2023
- [2023-2024 Louisiana Scholarship Program Application](#) closes: January 27, 2023
- Teacher and Principal of the Year Candidate Call: [January 9, 2023 at 4 p.m.](#)
- K-12 Computer Science Education [listening sessions](#): January 9 – 18, 2023

## School Choice

### **Monthly Call**

- The School Application Webinar (LSP Application for 2023-24) was held December 5th. This webinar provided guidance on the application process for participating schools. Schools can access a copy of the presentation [here](#)
- The Parent Application Webinar (LSP Application for 2023-24) was held on December 6th. This webinar provided guidance on the application process for both new and continuing students. Families can access a copy of the presentation [here](#).

## **Office Hours**

The Office of School Choice-Nonpublic Programs Team currently offers a service called [Office Hours](#). We are offering office hours to provide one-on-one assistance regarding any questions you may have regarding our scholarship programs.

***PLEASE NOTE:*** *Nonpublic schools who need help with EdLink SHOULD email [nonpublicschools@la.gov](mailto:nonpublicschools@la.gov) for assistance.*

Office hours will be offered each week for **school administrators and other school system employees**. Office hours will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

You can book your Office Hours call using this [link: https://www.picktime.com/LDENonpublicschools](https://www.picktime.com/LDENonpublicschools)

In order to make sure that every school gets an opportunity to schedule a call, each call will be limited to 15 minutes. When booking your call, you must include a description of what you'd like to discuss during the call in the "booking notes" section of the form. This will ensure that our staff is prepared ahead of the call and can effectively use the time to address your concerns.

If you miss your scheduled time, you will need to book a new appointment time. If you have any questions about Office Hours, please reach out to us at [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov) for assistance.

***This service is not available to families. Families with questions should submit them to [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov)***

## **Upcoming Dates**

You can access the 2022-23 Nonpublic Annual Reporting Calendar [here](#).

<b>Date</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Participants</b>
December 12th	Statewide SY 2023-24 LSP application opens for all schools	LSP Schools and Families only
January 6th, 2023	Last day to submit Payment Adjustment Forms for Quarter 2	LSP Schools only

January 27th, 2023	Statewide SY 2023-24 LSP application closes for all schools	LSP Schools and Families only
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***\*All dates are tentative, please review future issues of the Nonpublic newsletter for all updates.***

## Louisiana Scholarship Program

### Quarter 2 Enrollment

**Schools have 30 days from the last day of quarterly enrollment reporting period each quarter to report any enrollment issues.**

***This means all Payment Adjustment Forms for Quarter 2 must be submitted by January 6th.***

Any Payment Adjustment Forms for Quarter 2 submitted after January 6th **will be considered on an individual basis and must include an explanation for the late submission.**

***Please note that late Payment Adjustment Form submissions are not guaranteed payment.***

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov) for assistance.

### 2023-24 Louisiana Scholarship Program Application

**The application for 2023-24 Louisiana Scholarship Program will open on, Monday December 12, 2022 and close on January 27, 2023.**

All families (including Orleans) who need to submit applications for the 2023-24 school year must apply using the LDOE website. Parents will be able to access the [application](#) on December 12th on our [website](#).

- New applicants, students who wish to transfer to another participating scholarship school for the upcoming year, and those in a terminal grade will need to submit an application for the 2023-24 school year.
- The link to the application can be found [here](#) and will open on December 12<sup>th</sup>.
- You can access the 2023-24 LSP income limits [here](#).
- If you would like to provide your families with a receipt after they have submitted all the required documentation to your school, use the form found [here](#).
- For more information on the application process, eligibility for the program, and frequently asked questions, the Louisiana Scholarship Program Application Guide can found [here](#).

For the latest information on the application process, please visit our website at <https://www.louisianabelieves.com/schools/louisiana-scholarship-program> for more information or contact our office at [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov).

## Career and College Readiness

### **House Bill 548 - Digital Devices Guidelines**

**Please share with school system leaders, school administrators, and school staff.**

The prevalence and use of digital devices (e.g. computers, laptops, tablets, chromebooks, smart devices, project screens, smartboards, and smartphones) by students and educators is an everyday component of the school day and our individual lives. As such, [guidelines](#) were developed in collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Health and other stakeholders as a result of [House Bill 548](#) of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session.

These [guidelines](#) have been developed to provide school systems with health and safety resources relative to best practices for the effective integration of digital devices in public schools. The resources are not exhaustive but are intended to provide school systems with the age-appropriate time and usage guidelines regarding various digital devices.

Please contact [stephen.guccione@la.gov](mailto:stephen.guccione@la.gov) with questions.

### **2022-2023 Graduate Diploma and Seal Orders**

**Please share with principals, school counselors, and data coordinators.**

Please use the [Diploma and Seal Order Form](#) to submit an order for the 2022-2023 graduates. All diploma requests must be submitted through the electronic form by February 3. Only one form should be completed for each school system. The Department will cover the costs for the initial order and distribution.

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

## Assessment, Accountability and Analytics

### **LEAP 2025**

**Please share with test coordinators.**

- December 16: Test voids due from LEAP fall high school Window A
- December 21: Coordinators can set up test sessions and print test tickets for LEAP fall high school Window B
- January 5: LEAP fall high school Window B opens

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

## School System Relations

### **Energy Grant Opportunity through the U.S. Department of Energy**

**Please share with school system leaders.**

The U.S. Department of Energy recently announced first-of-its-kind investments to make clean energy improvements at K-12 public schools.

- Schools can now apply for the first round of the Renew America's Schools grant, up to \$80 million of the \$500 million program, to make energy improvements especially in the highest-need districts across the country.
- The Energy Champions Leading the Advancement of Sustainable Schools Prize (Energy CLASS Prize) program is also accepting applications for up to 25 local education agencies to receive \$100,000 to staff and train select administration and facilities personnel as energy managers.

For more information about these opportunities, please visit the [Grants for Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities](#) website; contact [The.Secretary@hq.doe.gov](mailto:The.Secretary@hq.doe.gov) with questions.

## Teaching and Learning

### Diverse Learners

#### **Tactile Communication Workshop**

**Please share with assistive technology supervisors, special education administrators and educators.**

Louisiana Accessible Education Materials (AEM) will be hosting a workshop on the use of tactile symbols to support communication with students who are nonverbal. The session will cover designing and implementing tactile symbols in everyday curriculum and in all educational settings.

- Date and Time: January 20, 2023, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Workshop Location: AEM Center, 2888 Brightside Dr., Baton Rouge

Please [register online](#); contact [nabiha.mujahid@la.gov](mailto:nabiha.mujahid@la.gov) with questions.

#### **2022-2023 Annual Dyslexia Reporting**

**Please share with special education leaders and 504 coordinators.**

Per Act 419 (2021), school systems are required to annually report the number of students with dyslexia currently enrolled in their system or the number of students newly identified with dyslexia in the prior school year (2021-2022).

Act 622 (2022) updated the annual reporting deadline [requirements](#) from October 31 to December 15. All school systems should submit the [dyslexia reporting form](#) by December 15.

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

### Educator Development

#### **Teacher Leader Lagniappe: New Episode Released**

**Please share with teachers, school leaders, and system leaders.**

[Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) Season 2, Episode 10: Louisiana Is on the Rise with Superintendent Brumley

By popular demand, Dr. Brumley is back to chat about Louisiana's State priorities, assessments, and the 2022 NAEP results. Em Cooper is also super excited to smile about Northshore Charter School, Hurst Middle School, George Washington Carver High, DeSoto, Point Coupee, and West Feliciana Parishes for their speedy implementation of literacy resources.

Educators can [submit pictures and stories](#) to be highlighted on the podcast. Subscribe through [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Play](#), and [Spotify](#). Please email [em.cooper@la.gov](mailto:em.cooper@la.gov) with questions.

## Literacy

### **Summer Literacy Support Policy Guidance**

**Please share with school and system leaders.**

The [Guidance for Revisions to Bulletin 1566 Regarding Literacy Support Standard for Grades 3 and 4](#) is available on the [Literacy webpage](#) under Hot Topics. System and school leaders are encouraged to review the guidance, as well as the revisions to Bulletin 1566, to determine implementation next steps.

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