



# Important News for **NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS**



February 17, 2022

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## Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
Science of Reading Implementation Office Hours	<a href="#">February 21 at 4 p.m.</a>
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	<a href="#">February 22 at 10 a.m.</a>
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	<a href="#">February 22 at 3 p.m.</a>
<a href="#">Assessment and Accountability Office Hours</a>	<a href="#">February 22 at 3:45 p.m.</a>
<a href="#">Career and College Readiness Office Hours</a>	<a href="#">March 3 at 3 p.m.</a>
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
System Leaders Roundtable	<a href="#">February 18 at 9 a.m.</a>
Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	<a href="#">February 21 at 10 a.m.</a>
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	<a href="#">February 22 at 3:45 p.m.</a>
<a href="#">Teaching and Learning Monthly Call</a>	<a href="#">February 23 at 1 p.m.</a>
Education Technology Monthly Call	<a href="#">February 24 at 9 a.m.</a>
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	<a href="#">March 3 at 1 p.m.</a>
System Leaders Monthly Call	<a href="#">March 4 at 9 a.m.</a>

Nutrition Support Monthly Call	<a href="#">March 8 at 1 p.m.</a>
Charter Authorizers Monthly Call	<a href="#">March 9 at 11 a.m.</a>
BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call	<a href="#">March 9 at 3 p.m.</a>
<p><i>*Monthly call presentations are available in the <a href="#">School Improvement Library</a>. View the <a href="#">School System Support Calendar</a> to access a complete schedule of events.</i></p> <p><i>**Achieve! Incentive Round 2 and Super App application office hours and Q&amp;A will take place during this call.</i></p>	
<b>Upcoming Deadlines</b>	
<a href="#">New Teacher of the Year Application Due</a>	<a href="#">February 18</a>
<a href="#">Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program Recommendations Due</a>	<a href="#">February 18</a>
Outstanding Black <a href="#">Educators</a> and <a href="#">Counselors</a> of Excellence Award Nominations Due	February 22
American Rescue Plan Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (ARP EANS) Program Application Opens	February 24
<a href="#">Super App returned for revisions to school systems have not met all CIR/UIR-A criteria</a>	February 25
<a href="#">Revised Super App re-submitted to LDOE (as applicable)</a>	March 4
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
American Rescue Plan Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (ARP EANS) Program Informational Webinar	<a href="#">February 21, at 10 a.m.</a>

## Louisiana Scholarship Programs

### **ARP EANS (Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools)**

The American Rescue Plan Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (ARP EANS) Program is a \$55 million allocation to Louisiana through The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act signed into law on March 11, 2021. The Program may be available to provide Non-Public Schools with services or assistance to address educational disruptions resulting from Covid-19.

A school is eligible to participate in the Program if it meets all the following requirements:

- Is an elementary or secondary school as defined by Section 8101(19) and (45) of the ESEA;
- Is a non-profit;
- Is accredited, licensed, or otherwise operates in accordance with State law NPS 19-20 Approval with Brumfield v. Dodd;
- Was in existence prior to March 13, 2020, the date the President declared the national emergency due to COVID-19;
- Did not, and will not, apply for and receive a loan under the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(36)-(37)) that is made on or after December 27, 2020;
- Enrolled a significant percentage of students from low-income families for the 2019-2020 school year, at a minimum, 22%; and,
- Was most impacted by the COVID-19

**The ARP EANS application and program resources will be available on Thursday, February 24 on the [Federal Support and Grantee Relations Library](#). An informational webinar will take place via Zoom on Monday, February 21 at 10 a.m. Schools are encouraged to attend and learn about the application process and requirements.**

#### Webinar Information

- Webinar Date and Time: February 21, 2022, 10:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)
- Webinar Link:  
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93328019209?pwd=eDhkM1JMOUIMaUV6SUt5eVgxb3RwUT09>
- Webinar Phone Number: 312 626 6799
- Meeting ID #: 933 2801 9209
- Meeting Passcode: 664687

Please email [ARPinfo@LDOE-EANS.com](mailto:ARPinfo@LDOE-EANS.com) with questions.

### **2022 Teacher Leader Summit**

The 2022 Teacher Leader Summit is an annual professional development conference which brings together Louisiana birth to grade 12 educators and content experts. Educators participating in the event will share their knowledge, learn new skills, and prepare for the 2022-2023 school year.

- The 2022 Teacher Leader Summit will take place May 31- June 2, 2022 at the New Orleans Morial Convention Center in New Orleans.
- Registration for the event will be on a first come, first served basis. As space is limited, we encourage you to register early.
- [Register online.](#)

## **LEADS link**

The LEADS link has changed please use the attached link going forward to access the LEADS portal (it can be used in any browser).

- You can access LEADS using this link: <https://leads5.doe.louisiana.gov/ptl>

## **School Choice Program**

### **Application Process**

The School Choice Program for Students with Certain Exceptionalities application for the 2022-23 school year launched on **January 31<sup>st</sup>** and will close on **March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022**. This year's application will be an electronic application. We hope an electronic application submitted through Jotform will make the process easier for schools.

You can access the application for the 2022-23 school year using this link:  
<https://form.jotform.com/213615278762057>.

If you have any questions about the application, please contact us at [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov) for assistance.

## **Operations**

### **Communications**

#### **41st Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice**

**Please share with Juvenile Justice Professionals, Counselors, Welfare and Attendance Officers, Computer Proctors, Principals, Directors of Truancy and Engagement, Social Workers, Directors of Secondary Education.**

Each year the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Advisory Board hosts a conference that delivers information regarding the current state of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention in Louisiana. National and state experts will once again present powerful and timely messages about the current state of the system and offer innovative solutions to problems facing our juvenile justice professionals.

The 41<sup>st</sup> Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice will be held in New Orleans on March 23-25, 2022. Registration is \$90. Please click on the website below to register and get additional information about the conference.

#### **SAVE THE DATE**

March 23-25, 2022

41st Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice  
New Orleans, Louisiana

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/2a08c89b/baoGWUAAWEKj8-baF9tM1w?u=https://fyca.org/events/41st-annual-governors-conference/>

Please contact [gc\\_dana@earthlink.net](mailto:gc_dana@earthlink.net) with questions.

## Federal Support and Grantee Relations

### **Super App Revisions**

**Please share with Super App Planning Leads and Secondary Super App contacts.**

LDOE is in the process of reviewing all Super App submissions for alignment to CIR/UIR-Academic criteria ([page 25](#)). **By Friday, February 25** any school system with CIR/UIR-A sites who has not met all CIR/UIR-A approval criteria will have their Super App returned for revisions and will also receive an email with a document explaining the instances where criteria have not been met. All Super App revisions must be made in eGMS and re-submitted to LDOE no later than **Friday, March 4**.

Please contact the Grants Management Helpdesk at [LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov) with questions.

## Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

### **ELPT**

**Please share with test coordinators and school leaders.**

Exemptions from the listening and/or speaking domains of the ELPT are finalized and school systems have been notified. Please be reminded that there are no exemptions for all domains, and the exemptions for listening and/or speaking must be approved by the department.

### **LEAP Connect**

**Please share with test coordinators, special education directors, and school leaders..**

Additional materials for testing can be ordered in DRC INSIGHT using the “Materials” tab. Graphic files and suggested CR lists can be accessed by both school and district test coordinators.

### **ACT**

**Please share with test coordinators.**

- The telephone number provided in the Louisiana Questions document was incorrect. The correct direct line for Louisiana is 319.337.1579.
- The [ACT Technical Guide for Online Testing](#) provides information for preparing for the ACT online test including minimal hardware requirements for TestNav.
- Now-February 25: Order non-college reportable materials for use in the ACT test window March 8-11.

## Teaching and Learning

### Academic Content

#### **Social Studies Standards Review Update**

**Please share with social studies supervisors, administrators, and K-12 social studies teachers.**

On December 14, 2021, BESE charged the Department with reviewing public comment in order to submit a refined set of standards to BESE in March. All stakeholders have the opportunity to comment on the refined standards using an [online form](#) in the [Standards Review Committee Library](#) from **February 8 to February 22**. The refined draft and public comment received will be presented to BESE at the Academic Goals and Instructional Improvement Committee on March 8.

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

#### **Summer Learning Partnership with Zearn**

**Please share with math supervisors, administrators, and K-10 math teachers.**

All CIR and UIR-Academics schools must provide summer learning programs per the CIR/UIR-A requirements found on page 25 of the [School System Planning Guide](#). Programs must provide high-dosage ELA and math tutoring using high-quality instructional materials. To support systems in fulfilling this requirement for math, the Department has partnered with Zearn to offer custom professional learning for Louisiana to support implementation of [Zearn Math's Summer Intensive Series](#) for CIR/UIR-A schools. We strongly encourage all schools to provide this same learning opportunity for their students.

There are two important action steps:

1. **Register math instructional leaders and/or teachers to participate in training by March 9.**  
The cost of registration is \$200 per participant for [one 3-hour session](#).
2. **Set up your accounts.** Check your school's existing Zearn account and/or set up an account to ensure sites are ready to provide access to the summer content, as well as reporting, rostering support, and more. If you are unsure if your school(s) have a School Account set up, please contact Zearn at [info@zearn.org](mailto:info@zearn.org).

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



## **ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) The Writing Revolution Webinar Registration**

**Please share with ELA supervisors, administrators, instructional leaders, and grades 3-5 ELA teachers.**

The Department has partnered with [The Writing Revolution](#) on the ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) revisions to incorporate an explicit writing progression utilizing The Hochman Method®. The Writing Revolution's sequential progression of strategies is integrated throughout the content in the updated ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) units. [The Writing Revolution](#) is hosting a webinar to support school systems in implementing these writing strategies and integrated activities.

Interested teachers and instructional leaders should [register](#) for the webinar to be hosted on **March 3rd** at **9 a.m.** A Zoom link to join the webinar will be sent after registration.

Please contact [guidebooks@thewritingrevolution.org](mailto:guidebooks@thewritingrevolution.org) with any questions

## **ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) Reference Guides Webinar**

**Please share with ELA supervisors, administrators, and grades 3-5 ELA teachers.**

The Department is hosting webinars to support school systems with incorporating reference guides within the updated ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) lessons to support student learning.

Join the [ELA Guidebooks Reference Guides \(2022\) Webinar](#) to learn about the use of reference guides in ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) and how to incorporate reference guide materials to support student learning.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** March 11 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:**  
<https://doe.zoom.us/j/99029131103?pwd=OGZMS0dBSldtNUI2UjRKRys5SEdWdz09>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-381-2552
- **Meeting ID #:** 990 2913 1103
- **Passcode:** 879825

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

## Assessment Content

### **Assessment Development Educator Review Committees**

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

The Division of Assessment Content will convene assessment committees in June and July to:

- develop scoring parameters for field tested constructed-response items or extended-response tasks,
- review newly developed items and passages for content and bias or sensitivity concerns,
- review leased items for alignment to the Louisiana Student Standards, and
- review data from field-tested items.

Interested educators should access the [Assessment Development Educator Review Committees document](#) for information on exact dates, meeting details, and links to apply to participate on specific committees.

**The deadline to apply is March 18th.**

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

## Diverse Learners Supports

### **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Funding Priorities Survey**

**Please share with administrators, educators, parents and community members.**

Each year, the Department submits a grant application on the use of state-level IDEA funds to the U.S. Department of Education. As part of this year's grant application development process, the Department is seeking feedback from special educators and members of the special education community on how to prioritize funding for allowable special education activities. Any interested stakeholders, including school system representatives, parents, and other members of the public should complete this [survey](#) by March 11.

### **2020-2021 Significant Disproportionality Results Available**

Each year, federal regulations require the Department to analyze the likelihood that students with disabilities from one race or ethnicity will be subject to a certain outcome (over identification, restrictive placement, or exclusionary discipline), relative to students with disabilities from all other races and ethnicities, in each school system across the state.

The [2020-2021 significant disproportionality results](#) are now available for school systems. If a school system is identified as significantly disproportionate, they must set aside 15 percent of their IDEA Part B funding for coordinated early intervening services (CEIS) in Super App for the 2022-2023 school year. Additional information about [CEIS](#) and [allowable costs](#) is available.

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

## **Guidance for Leading Inclusive Special Education Programs**

**Please share with school system leaders.**

This month, the Department released its second issue of Guidance for Leading Inclusive Special Education Programs: [Creating Complaint Systems for Student Success](#). School system leaders are encouraged to review this document alongside their special education supervisor and attend the hour long implementation webinar. The webinar this month will be held on [February 22 at 1 p.m.](#)

Please contact [rachel.brown@la.gov](mailto:rachel.brown@la.gov) with more questions.

## **Educator Development**

### **New Teacher of the Year Award- Application Deadline February 18**

**Please share with school system coordinators.**

For years, the Department has been honoring outstanding educators across the state through the Louisiana Teacher and Principal of the Year programs. The LDOE is excited to announce the addition of a new award program: [New Teacher of the Year](#).

This program will recognize the outstanding contributions of first year classroom teachers. To be eligible for this award, teachers must have less than one year of experience teaching full time at the time the application is due on **February 18**.

For more information visit the [awards library](#) or contact [laurie.carlton@la.gov](mailto:laurie.carlton@la.gov).

### **Summer Learning Programs**

**Please share with summer learning program coordinators.**

Summer learning programs require year-round planning. During the months of January through April, school systems can utilize the checklist located in the [Summer Learning Program Guidance](#) to continue planning for their 2022 program.

Last month, the Department hosted a webinar to provide systems with updated guidance on planning and implementing summer learning programs. A copy of the [Summer Learning Program Overview](#) webinar presentation is available in the [School System Support Toolbox](#).

Beginning summer 2022, all CIR and UIR-A schools must provide a summer learning program that includes tutoring for all students.

Please contact [Markecia.Barthelemy@la.gov](mailto:Markecia.Barthelemy@la.gov) with any questions.

## **School Improvement Best Practices**

**Please share with system leaders.**

The [School Improvement Best Practices](#) strategy is designed to support schools in adopting the essential components that drive professional and student growth and will continue during the 2022-2023 school year. LDOE has partnered with the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET) to develop, implement, and support five [School Improvement Best Practices](#). The five best practices are:

- instructional leadership team support;
- teacher collaboration support;
- teaching standards support;
- principal standards support; and
- career pipeline support.

Educators may use this [link](#) to learn more about the [School Improvement Best Practices](#) strategy training sessions, what's new for Summer 2022, and the requirements for CIR and UIR-A schools. School systems may apply for funds through their Achieve! application or use other funding sources for schools without an intervention label.

School systems should complete this [form](#) to indicate the training they anticipate their schools will participate in. Upon receipt of the form, NIET will connect with the school system contact to begin planning. Completing the form does not commit systems to selecting these trainings, but it helps to inform the planning with NIET.

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

## **Real-time Early Access to Literacy**

**Please share with school system REAL coordinators.**

[Real-time Early Access to Literacy](#) (REAL) provides individualized support for students in pre-K through grade 3 to make progress in their literacy development. REAL provides tutoring services to eligible students in pre-K through grade 3 attending a CIR/UIR-A school.

The Department hosted a webinar last month to kick off the spring cycle of the REAL tutoring program. The [Real-time Early Access to Literacy School Systems webinar](#) provided eligible systems with an [overview](#) of the REAL program, student registration information, and guidance on how to access funding in eGMS. All school systems must spend their REAL allocations no later than July 31.

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

## **Accelerate Professional Development**

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

The final session in the [Louisiana Acceleration Series](#) is Strengthening Content-Specific Strategies for Learning Recovery in ELA. During this session, participants will identify skills critical to student mastery of ELA standards and will deconstruct those in order to scaffold and segment accelerated learning.

Participants will develop thinking strategies that support student mastery of these critical skills and define ways to incorporate techniques for increasing student engagement and student ownership of learning. The target audience for this session is ELA teachers and school and district leadership teams.

The Strengthening Content-Specific Strategies for Learning Recovery in ELA session will be held February 16 - March 22. Educators interested in attending the free training sessions may use this [link](#) to register.

Please contact [markecia.barthelemy@la.gov](mailto:markecia.barthelemy@la.gov) with any questions.

## **Staffing and Scheduling Initiative**

**Please share with system leaders.**

School systems may use the [staffing and scheduling best practices](#) guidance in making staffing and scheduling decisions in preparation for the 2022-2023 school year.

The Staffing and Scheduling initiative launched last spring provides system and school leaders robust [guidance](#) and implementation support on developing strong staffing and scheduling models aligned to the best practices below.

1. High-quality core instruction is the foundation.
2. Effective literacy instruction is central to student success.
3. Students with unfinished learning and diverse learners need extra instructional time to catch up.
4. Both core instruction and acceleration must be provided by content strong staff.
5. Meeting the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of students supports academic achievement.
6. Equity should be at the forefront of all these strategies

Additional staffing and scheduling best practices resources can be found in the [School System Support Library](#).

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

## Literacy

### **Middle and High School Professional Development Series**

**Please share with middle and high school teachers, leaders, and support staff.**

The [second session](#) of a new professional development series focused on middle and high school literacy was released today! This session provides an overview of morphology instruction and how it can support reading and comprehension development in the middle and high school grades. Additional sessions will be released weekly on Tuesdays in the [Literacy Library](#). Pre-recorded sessions will include topics designed to build knowledge around implementing literacy strategies and best practices across all content areas in the middle and high school grades. Teachers and leaders can access the [Middle and High School PD Schedule](#) for a listing of session titles, session descriptions, and release dates.

#### **Session Links:**

[Recording](#)

[Slide deck](#)

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

## Reminders

- **Operations**
  - *Federal Support and Grantee Relations*
- **Career and College Readiness**
- **School System Relations**
- **Teaching and Learning**
  - *Academic Content*
  - *Diverse Learners Supports*
  - *Educator Development*
  - *Literacy*

## *Operations*

### Federal Support and Grantee Relations

#### **FSGR February Monthly Call**

**Please share with Federal Program Directors, IDEA Supervisors, and Business Managers.**

The Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call that is currently scheduled for February 17, 2022, is being moved to **February 24, 2022 at 10 a.m.** The change in date is being done to accommodate a majority of LEA participants that will be attending the 2022 National ESEA Conference in New Orleans on February 16-19, 2022.

Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call: [February 24 at 10 a.m.](#)

Please contact the Grants Management Helpdesk at [LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov) with questions.



## ***Career and College Readiness***

### **Jump Start Construction Scholarship Application**

**Please share with high school counselors.**

The application window is now open for the [Jump Start Construction Connect Scholars Program](#). This is a joint initiative of the Louisiana Construction Education Foundation (LCEF), Louisiana's Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) and the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE).

Up to forty one-time scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each will be awarded to students enrolling at an LCTCS program or an Associated Builders and Contractors training program. This scholarship will assist graduates in gaining the necessary training to earn industry employment in construction crafts fields aligned to four and five star jobs that may lead to management positions. Applications are due April 12.

Please contact [megan.thompson2@la.gov](mailto:megan.thompson2@la.gov) with questions.

### **Jump Start Summers Application**

**Please share with Career and Technical Education Supervisors and Secondary Supervisors.**

The [Jump Start Summers](#) program will be available to launch summer training sessions for students to earn Carnegie credit aligned to [Fast Forward pathways](#), Jump start 2.0 coursework, statewide basic or advanced credentials, participate in work-based learning and earn a student stipend for participation.

The [application to submit](#) as a prospective or returning Jump Start Summers provider is now open. The application will close on March 3 at 5 p.m. The encumbered Supplemental Course Allocation (SCA dollars) can be used for this opportunity.

We will hold an informational webinar about this opportunity.

- Webinar Date and Time: February 18 at 10 a.m.
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93517111246>
- Meeting ID: 935 1711 1246
- Webinar Phone Number: 1-470-381-2552
- Passcode: 147653

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

## ***School System Relations***

### **Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program**

**Please share with school system leaders.**

The Louisiana Department of Education is seeking recommendations for the [Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program](#). This program was created to acknowledge, honor, and spotlight exceptional teachers, teacher specialists, and school leaders who exemplify Louisiana's education profession. School systems may recommend up to three educators. Candidates should have at least 5 years of experience serving in teacher, specialist, principal and/or assistant principal roles. This is a confidential process. Candidates should not be aware of this recommendation. To recommend candidates for the 2022 Exemplary Educator Recognition Program, complete an online application and submit through the [Nomination Portal](#) by February 18.

For applications and information, visit the [resources library](#). For questions, email [ExemplaryEducator@la.gov](mailto:ExemplaryEducator@la.gov).

## Teaching and Learning

### Academic Content

#### **ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) Core and Optional Activities Webinar**

**Please share with ELA supervisors, administrators, and 3-5 ELA teachers.**

The Department is hosting webinars to support school systems with understanding the role of core and optional activities within ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) lessons. The Department will host one call for leaders and another call for teachers.

Join the [ELA Guidebooks Core and Optional Activities \(2022\) Webinar for Leaders](#) to learn about the instructional plan updates in ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) and how to best support teachers in implementation.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 18 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:**  
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93370943514?pwd=eVZSRG85dXlZRDN4ZEM2VEg1SS8yZz09>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-250-9358
- **Meeting ID #:** 933 7094 3514
- **Passcode:** 001518

Join the [ELA Guidebooks Core and Optional Activities \(2022\) Webinar for Teachers](#) to learn about the instructional plan updates in ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) and how to best make instructional decisions using core and optional activities.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 18 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:**  
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95575299437?pwd=RDZGbGVzbVFINnFTTDU2VmM3VERadz09>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-381-2552
- **Meeting ID #:** 955 7529 9437
- **Passcode:** 829416

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

#### **ELA Guidebooks 6-8 (2018) Future Development**

**Please share with ELA supervisors, administrators, and 6-8 ELA teachers.**

The Department is excited to announce that we are planning to update [ELA Guidebooks for grades 6-8 \(2018\)](#). The first phase of development will occur during the 2022-2023 school year, and the units will be available for piloting in 2023-2024. Instructional leaders should encourage educators in grades 6-8 to submit feedback on the current units prior to March 4, 2022 through the [Louisiana ELA Guidebooks 6-8 Feedback Form](#). More details about these updates and future release dates will be announced in future department communications.

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

### Diverse Learners Supports

## **Guidance for Leading Inclusive Special Education Programs**

**Please share with school system leaders.**

This week, the department released its second issue of Guidance for Leading Inclusive Special Education Programs: [Creating Compliant Systems for Student Success](#). School system leaders are encouraged to review the guidance document along with special education supervisors and attend the hour-long webinar to support implementation on [February 22 at 1 p.m.](#)

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

## **Educator Development**

### **Strategies for Staffing Needs**

**Please share with system level leaders.**

LDOE released a document on [strategies for staffing needs](#) that provides system leaders with short- and long-term strategies at no cost and that can be funded with ESSER funds. These strategies include those that the US Department of Education is urging school systems across the country to take. Some of those strategies include:

- Hiring and retention stipends
- Increasing pay for critical shortage areas and struggling schools
- Reassuring teachers that they should be using lesson plans from their high quality curriculum and not be creating lesson plans from scratch
- Removing burdensome paperwork
- Removing unnecessary faculty meetings or share information through email
- Completing less or only required observations
- Having substitutes or volunteers do duty or other tasks to give teachers more time to plan or take breaks
- Removing focus of site-specific look fors like agendas on boards, rotating student work displays, etc.

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

### **February Principal Webinar Series: Accelerated Learning**

**Please share with principal supervisors and school leaders.**

This month's webinar for practicing principals is on February 24 at 2 p.m. Student Achievement Partners will present on accelerated learning. The webinar information is below.

**Date and Time:** February 24 from 2 - 4 p.m.

**Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94171949379?pwd=b3d3SVRHc25zL3RWdzlyNy9Pb3BYQT09>

**Phone:** 312-626-6799

**Meeting ID:** 941 7194 9379

**Passcode:** 216254

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

## **Literacy**

### **Middle and High School Professional Development Series**

**Please share with middle and high school teachers, leaders, and support staff.**

The [first session](#) of a new professional development series focused on middle and high school literacy was released today! This session provides an overview and introduction to the science of reading and how it connects to middle and high school instruction. Additional sessions will be released weekly on Tuesdays in the [Literacy Library](#). Pre-recorded sessions will include topics designed to build knowledge around implementing literacy strategies and best practices across all content areas in the middle and high school grades. Teachers and leaders can access the [Middle and High School PD Schedule](#) for a listing of session titles, session descriptions, and release dates.

**Session 1 Links:**

[Recording](#)

[Slide deck](#)

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

**New Phonological Awareness Activities Released**

**Please share with teachers and support staff.**

The [Literacy Library](#) now has three sets of phonological awareness activity cards in the Instruction, Intervention, and Extension section. These activity card sets increase in challenge level and provide a bank of activities that can be done anywhere in five minutes or less. They include engaging, multi-sensory activities to build phonological awareness skills in students. Sets 1 and 2 include mostly single syllable words with some blends and vowel teams while Set 3 adds in additional blends and multi-syllable words. These activities are suitable for students at any grade level that may be learning new skills or need additional support.

[Phonological Awareness Activity Card Set 1](#)

[Phonological Awareness Activity Card Set 2](#)

[Phonological Awareness Activity Card Set 3](#)

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

## **Celebrate Louisiana Literacy Week**

**Please share with teachers, school leaders, and support staff.**

Governor John Bel Edwards proclaimed February 13-19, 2022 as Louisiana Literacy Week. His proclamation states that, "Literacy Week is an opportunity to promote and recognize the importance of literacy in Louisiana and participate in programs, ceremonies and activities targeted at giving our children and young adults the gift, joy, and promise of reading." Check out the [Literacy Library](#), especially the Instruction, Intervention, and Extension and Family Literacy Engagement sections for some ready-made literacy activities. Something as simple as inviting a community member to read a story or discuss how literacy impacts their life can also promote literacy during this special week.

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