



Important News for **NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS**



July 20, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

As schools prepare to welcome back students and teachers, we are also preparing to enter the peak of hurricane season. Last week, we released our [Hurricane Preparedness Playbook](#). This resource represents guidance of experts from the private sector, academia, and government.

The playbook was developed by the LDOE's Protect Louisiana Schools Hurricane Preparedness Commission (PLSHPC) and made possible through a partnership with AT&T. I launched the commission after discovering that the LDOE lacked the type of resources and guidance to protect Louisiana schools. It's the first statewide commission centered on creating operational best practices for school systems and leaders during natural disasters.

These are not mandates and this playbook is not meant to replace the comprehensive crisis plans you've developed alongside your local emergency management professionals. It's a collection of recommendations from individuals who have been in the "trenches" when it comes to leading through a hurricane. In my conversations with system leaders in the aftermath of Laura, Delta, and Ida, many of the questions and challenges were similar. This new resource synthesizes the voices and experiences of veteran professionals so that it can benefit school system leaders of today and tomorrow.

Dr. Cade Brumley

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: [July 25 at 3:45 p.m.](#)

Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [August 1 at 1 p.m.](#)

Registered Apprenticeship Funding Webinar: [August 2 at 2 p.m.](#)

Child Welfare and Attendance Monthly Call: [August 10 at 8 a.m.](#)

Alternative Education Monthly Call: [August 10 at 10 a.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Accountability Contact Data Certification Webinar: [July 26 at 2 p.m.](#)

ESEA LA Fiscal Flexibility Waiver Request deadline to [comment](#): July 28

New Teacher Experience [Affinity Group registration](#) closes: August 12

New Teacher Experience [Professional Learning modules registration](#) closes: August 12

Office of School Choice

Upcoming Dates

Date	Item	Participants
August 1	Review roster in LEADS for 2023-24 school year	LSP and SCP Schools
August 1	Transfer Window Reopens	LSP and SCP Schools
August 15	Independent Nonpublic Schools Day: Leadership Resources for Success	Independent Nonpublic Schools
September 1	Quarter 1 Scholarship Enrollment opens in LEADS (LSP/SCP)	LSP and SCP Schools
September 1	Brumfield v Dodd and BESE Approval Applications Opens	All Nonpublic Schools Seeking Approval
September 1	NPS Annual Data Opens in EdLink	All Nonpublic Schools
September 7	Quarter 1 Scholarship Enrollment closes in LEADS (LSP/SCP)	LSP and SCP Schools
October 1	Notice of Intent (NOI) for LSP and SCP Opens	Nonpublic schools actively participating or wishing to participate in LSP and/or SCP
October 15	Brumfield v Dodd and BESE Approval Applications Closes	All Nonpublic Schools Seeking Approval
October 31	Notice of Intent (NOI) for LSP and SCP Closes	Nonpublic schools actively participating or wishing to participate in LSP and/or SCP

****All dates are tentative, please review future issues of the Nonpublic newsletter for all updates***

Independent Nonpublic Schools Day: Leadership Resources for Success

Save this date! Virtual conference August 15, 9:00AM to 3:00 PM. Sessions include Nonpublic Schools Seeking State Approval Process; LSP/SCP Updates, Process Manual, New Forms and Links; Federal Funding; Available State Allocation Funding and more hot topics. Stay tuned to your email and the weekly nonpublic newsletter for registration information.

Scholarship Transfer Request 2023-24

The deadline to submit summer transfer requests for the 2023-24 school year was **July 18**. The transfer window will reopen again on **August 1st**.

- You can access the Louisiana Scholarship Program Summer Transfer Form [here](#).
- You can access the School Choice Program Transfer Form [here](#).

If you have any questions about the transfer process, please email studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance.

Quarterly Scholarship Enrollment

All Quarterly Enrollment Reports must be submitted on time via the LEADS portal during each quarter by the dates listed below in order to receive payments on-time.

Quarter 1 reporting for the Louisiana Scholarship Program (SEE) and School Choice Program (SCP) is September 1st-7th.

- If any information is incorrect or a student is missing from your roster, please contact us immediately at studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance.
- If the enrollment reports are not submitted on time, it affects your student enrollment counts and delays payments.
- Each school is responsible for reviewing the final quarterly enrollment report as entered in the LEADS system.
- If a student drops from your school, please follow the drop procedures so that the student can be dropped from your roster.

****Please note that the payment report generated in LEADS may not accurately reflect final payment amounts.***

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

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.

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 11:30 a.m.

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

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 for assistance.

This service is not available to families. Families with questions should submit them to studentscholarships@la.gov

Monthly Webinar Call

Our Nonpublic monthly call was held yesterday, [July 19 at 2 p.m.](#) A copy of the webinar presentation is currently available in the [School Systems Planning library](#). Thanks to all schools that attended the call.

Operations

Elementary and Secondary Education Act Fiscal Flexibility Waiver Request

Please share with federal program directors, business managers, superintendents, and financial officials.

The LDOE is requesting that the U.S. Department of Education approve its tydings waiver to access additional flexibilities for certain funds received under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). The LDOE is requesting the waiver, pursuant section 8401 of the ESEA of 1965. The ESEA LA Fiscal Flexibility Waiver Request is available to view.

Federal program directors, business managers, financial officials, and relevant personnel of public school systems should review [this waiver](#) request and submit all questions or comments by July 28. Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions and comment submissions.

Assessment, Accountability and Analytics

Updating Contacts for 2023-2024

Please share with school system leaders, testing coordinators, and accountability contacts.

It is extremely important that changes to the district test coordinator and/or the accountability contact for each school system be reported to the AAA office.

Please find the [DTC and Accountability Contact Update Form](#) that must be signed by the superintendent and returned to assessment@la.gov. New personnel who are not reported to us will not have access to testing platforms and/or the LA Data Review data certification portal. Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

ACT MOUs for 2023-2024

Please share with testing coordinators and school system leaders.

All schools and systems that plan to test students on ACT and/or WorkKeys that are not covered under state contract must sign an ACT MOU for the new school year. The new MOUs will be posted no later than July 28 on the [DTC Resources website](#). Additional information will be shared during Assessment and Accountability Office Hours. Students who are not tested under state contract are:

- Students in grade 12 who retest to improve an ACT score from a prior administration
- Students in grade 11 on the Jump Start diploma pathway who have a prior WorkKeys score
- Students in any grade other than 11 participating in WorkKeys testing
- Students in grades 9 and 10 not eligible to be tested during the state administration window

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions

Career and College Readiness

Perkins CTE Summer Leadership Retreat

Please share with CTE supervisors and Perkins representatives.

[Registration](#) is required and open for the virtual Perkins CTE Summer Leadership Retreat. Participants will strengthen connections, share expectations, and rethink how we support Perkins CTE programs and students at every level. Session topics include joint planning, implementation of Perkins CTE programs of study, meeting the needs of special populations, and preparing CTE teachers and faculty.

- Webinar Date and Time: July 26, 8:45 a.m. - noon
- Webinar Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83130829466>

Please contact careerandtech@lctcs.edu with questions.

School System Financial Services

FY 2022-2023 Agricultural Science Allocation Payment 2

Please share with business managers and finance officials.

The FY 2022-2023 Agricultural Science allocation payments have been revised to provide additional funding and will be released on or before July 28. The revised allocation and payment amounts will be posted in the [Business Manager Support Library](#).

Please contact schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Social Studies Curriculum Development

Please share with social studies supervisors, administrators, and K-8 social studies teachers.

The first unit in grade 5 of Bayou Bridges: A K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum is now available on the [Bayou Bridges web page](#). Materials for grades 4-5 will continue to post throughout the summer and fall for piloting in 2023-2024; additional units for grades K-8 will be released throughout the 2023-2024 school year. See the [Bayou Bridges Detailed Unit Release Schedule](#) for future release dates.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Instructional Support: Instructional Materials Reviews

Please share with content supervisors, administrators, and literacy coaches.

The Department conducts ongoing reviews of instructional materials to support school systems in adopting curricula in all core subjects. Newly rated Tier 1 materials are listed below. All tiered reviews can be found on the [Annotated Reviews](#) webpage. The status of all instructional materials submissions can be found in the [Weekly Report](#).

- Scholastic Inc. - PreK On My Way, ECE Ages 4-5 (©2021)
- Edmentum Inc.- Louisiana Algebra I (©2021)
- McGraw Hill LLC - Reveal Math, Courses 1-3, Grades 6-8 (©2020)
- Zearn - Zearn Math, Grades 6-8 (©2023)

The Department is reviewing currently posted Tier 1 and 2 ELA curricula which include foundational skills for [Act 517](#) compliance. Upon completion, a cover page is added to the posted review noting the impact of the review for compliance. The materials listed below have been reviewed for compliance and posted to the [Tiered Reviews](#) webpage.

- Tier 1: Amplify Education - Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) 2nd Edition (©2017)
- Tier 1: Open Up Resources - EL Education, ELA Grades K-5 (©2017)
- Tier 1: Imagine Learning - EL Education, ELA Grades K-5 (©2017)
- Tier 1: McGraw Hill LLC - Wonders, ELA Grades 3-5 (©2020)
- Tier 1: Open Up Resources - Bookworms Reading and Writing
- Tier 3: Pearson/Savvas - myView Literacy, Grades K-2 (©2020)
- Tier 3: Success for All Foundation - KinderCorner 2nd Edition Plus, Grade K (©2016)

The [Act 517 Compliance Reviews Status Report](#) lists the status of all Act 517 compliance reviews, including reviews that have been completed, are under review, and are ready for review. For any materials not reviewed for compliance under Act 517, the Department recommends that school systems engage in a [local review process](#) using the [Act 517 Three-Cueing System Ban Guidance](#) located on the [Literacy Instruction, Intervention, and Extension](#) webpage.

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

Raising Expectations, Access, and Outcomes for Students with Disabilities

Please share with school system leaders, special education directors, special educators, and related service providers.

The PROGRESS Center at the American Institutes for Research is hosting a free, three-day virtual event focusing on information, tools, and resources needed to ensure high expectations, access, and positive outcomes for students with disabilities. This [virtual event](#) will be held August 2 through August 4.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov for more information.

Educator Development

New Teacher Experience: Affinity Group Registration Now Open

Please share with school leaders and early career teachers.

The [New Teacher Experience](#) is a comprehensive support program for beginning educators designed to increase teacher effectiveness, enhance skills, and reduce attrition among beginning teachers. The Department is excited to announce [registration](#) is now open for 2023-2024 Affinity Groups.

Affinity Groups provide support for beginning teachers across Louisiana through monthly virtual meetings. There is no cost to join, but seats are limited. [Registration](#) will close **August 12** or until capacity is reached.

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions.