January 28, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Today, I had the privilege of gathering with 1,400 educators and business leaders at the annual Jump Start Convention in Baton Rouge. Louisiana launched Jump Start in 2014 with a simple document called the Jump Start Blueprint. Since then, our state has grown the number of IBCs awarded to more than 100,000 in 2018-2019, up from just 42,000 in 2015-2016. Prior to Jump Start, fewer than two percent of students graduated with a career diploma. Today, more than one in five students graduate with a career diploma and Jump Start industry credentials. This reflects a remarkable shift in the diversity and relevance of our high school curriculum, and it is a testament to the willingness of high schools, colleges, and employers to find paths to prosperity for all high school graduates.

One of my favorite aspects of Jump Start is how it has spawned innovation, taking local ideas and making them possible statewide. Super Summer Institutes, for example, started with a conversation at a community meeting in Lafayette; they now prepare nearly 800 educators at eight sites every summer. Jump Start Summers started after a brainstorm at a superintendent meeting in Livingston. Today, because of that program, more than 1,900 students have paid summer jobs, earning industry credentials and on-the-job training along the way.

In order for Jump Start to remain on the cutting edge of industry, in order for Jump Start to attract students, and in order for Jump Start to truly jump start young careers, we must continue to innovate. We must connect students with careers in the most advanced fields our economy has to offer them, integrating our math and science curricula with applied coursework in engineering and research. STEM pathways, such as LSU pre-engineering, Xavier University pre-pharmacy, and NTEC cybersecurity are now available to any high school or college in Louisiana for use in their Jump Start programs.

We must assure students and families that earning a credential actually means earning a job. This is why educators and employers in Caddo, Calcasieu, and Orleans have created extension academy pilots, fully funded grade 13 programs for students pursuing advanced credentials, workplace-based education, and college credits that set them on an upward career path.

And we must be assured that all constituents – students, parents, teachers, counselors, and employers – understand Jump Start and what it offers. We cannot market something that is too complicated to be comprehended. So this spring, BESE will consider a new package called Jump Start 2.0, which streamlines Jump Start into 11 pathways that are aligned to nationally recognized career clusters and that bring Jump Start into labor market alignment with the Carl Perkins Act and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

Jump Start creates a tremendous opportunity for lifelong impact. But we can never be satisfied with the Jump Start we have today. The workplace is too demanding, the economy too competitive. Our students need us to continue generating ideas that respond to this exciting and complicated world.

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

John
In This Issue

- School System Support
- Assessment & Accountability
- High School Pathways
- Educator Preparation
- Special Education
- Data
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Important Dates for School Systems

Upcoming Events

- Jump Start Summers 2020 Informational Webinar: January 31 at 1:00 p.m.
- Jump Start Summers 2020 Informational Webinar: February 3 at 9:00 a.m.
- Super App Office Hours: February 3 at 11:00 a.m.
- February Collaborations (Ruston): February 4
- BoR Dual Enrollment Policy Update Informational Webinar: February 4 at 10:00 a.m.
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: February 4 at 1:00 p.m.
- BoR Dual Enrollment Policy Update Informational Webinar: February 4 at 4:00 p.m.
- February School System Planning Call: February 5 at 1:00 p.m.
- Monthly Data Coordinator Webinar: February 6 at 1:00 p.m.
- Special Education Leader Monthly Webinar: February 6 at 2:00 p.m.
- February Collaborations (Baton Rouge): February 7
- Quest for Success Training (Lake Charles): February 10-11
- February Superintendents’ Conference Call: February 12 at 10:30 a.m.
- Quest for Success Training (Lake Charles): February 12-13

Important Deadlines

- Compass 2012-2018 Evaluation Upload deadline: January 31
- Accounting Systems Survey deadline: January 31
- Needs Assessment Guide deadline: January 31
- Quest for Success Training (Lake Charles) Registration deadline: February 3
- Super App Submission deadline: February 7
- 2020 Teacher Leader Summit T-Shirt Design Submission deadline: February 7
New: February School System Planning Call

The February School System Planning Call will take place on **February 5 at 1:00 p.m.** The following school system supervisors should participate:

- Curriculum and instruction supervisors
- District test coordinators and accountability contacts
- Early childhood supervisors
- English learner supervisors
- Federal program supervisors
- High school and career and technical supervisors
- Personnel directors
- Talent (Mentors, Content Leaders, Teacher Leaders) supervisors

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 5 at 1:00 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** [https://ldoe.zoom.us](https://ldoe.zoom.us)
- **Meeting ID#:** 398 875 849

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

New: February Superintendents’ Conference Call

Superintendents and charter leaders are invited to participate in the Superintendents’ Conference Call hosted by State Superintendent John White on **February 12 at 10:30 a.m.** Participants may begin dialing into the call 15 minutes in advance. Please follow the instructions below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 12 at 10:30 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** [https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/717584221](https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/717584221)
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 877-475-0109
- **Meeting ID#:** 54 994 62

Participants will need to identify themselves in order to be placed into the meeting. Please enter your full name and school system name when logging in.
New: School System Planning

February 7: Super App submissions are due in eGMS.

As school systems begin to finalize their Super App, planning teams should be preparing for an approved and funded plan by:

- completing Contacts and Assurances in Central Data (eGMS); and
- entering data, including the Professional Development Plan and Early Childhood Coordinated Funding Request uploads, in Super App (eGMS).

Super App Office Hours will be held on February 3 at 11:00 a.m. for planning team members to review actions needed to complete plans and questions from teams. Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time**: February 3 at 11:00 a.m.
- **Webinar Link**: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/405281497
- **Webinar Phone Number**: 646-876-9923
- **Webinar ID#**: 405 281 497

Presentations from past Super App Office Hours can be found in the School Improvement Library.

Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

New: 2020 Teacher Leader Summit Overview Document

The 2020 Teacher Leader Summit will take place May 27-29 at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. The Department has published an overview document to address the most frequently asked questions.

The document also details hotel rooming blocks that are available to Summit participants. Some school systems elect to establish their own agreements with hotels so all educators from that school system are together. School systems are not obligated to use the hotels the Department has contracted with. Room blocks are currently booking at a rapid rate. Reserve a room today!

Please contact the Summit Logistics team at ldoeevents@la.gov with questions.
**Reminder: School System Support Institutes Day 3**

Day 3 of the School Support Institutes will take place in February.

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Participants who attended Days 1 and 2 of the School Support Institutes are already registered for Day 3 and are expected to attend the same pathway to continue the arc of learning. Those who registered should have received a follow-up email from SchoolKit. The Department encourages those who registered, but did not receive a reminder email, to please contact ssi@schoolkitgroup.com.

All resources from Days 1 and 2 of the School Support Institute are posted in the School Improvement Library, including a recap of all pathways and next steps for school systems. Attendees are reminded to bring Application Task artifacts to the February Institute.

Please contact delaina.larocque@la.gov with questions.

**Reminder: National School Counseling Week**

Please share with administrators and counselors.

Today's school counselors are an integral part of a school's education team. They support academic achievement, career development, and social/emotional development, ensuring students become productive, well-adjusted adults. National School Counseling Week (NSCW) is a time for school systems to highlight the tremendous impact school counselors have on students. Sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), NSCW is always celebrated the first full week of February. **NSCW 2020 is February 3–7.**

Please visit the ASCA National School Counseling Week website for ideas and inspiration and download additional resources from the Counselor Support Library.

Please contact leslie.gilliland@la.gov with questions.
Reminder: ELA Guidebooks 9–12 (2020)
Please share with content directors.

An informational session dedicated to the new Louisiana ELA Guidebooks 9–12 (2020) will be offered at the February Collaborations for content directors.

At the 2020 Teacher Leader Summit, the Department will offer professional development specific to the new Louisiana ELA Guidebooks 9–12 (2020).

See the updated Louisiana ELA Guidebooks 9–12 (2020) Overview for the most up-to-date information related to:
- draft text lists for each unit,
- draft Culminating Tasks for each unit,
- Louisiana’s open source platform launch,
- text access and purchasing, and
- professional development opportunities.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: 2020 Teacher Leader Summit T-Shirt Design Contest
Please share with teacher leaders.

The Department is seeking inspiration for the 2020 Teacher Leader Summit t-shirt design! Educators with an artistic flair are encouraged to submit their design for consideration by February 7 to ldoecomunications@la.gov. The winning school will receive $1 per shirt sold. Last year’s school, Montegut Middle, was awarded $968 from The Inkwell Press.

The winning design will be announced in the March edition of the Teacher Leader newsletter. Reference the contest rules for details or contact louisianateacherleaders@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: February Collaborations

School system collaborations in February will target a limited, specific audience including chief academic officers, talent officers, and content directors for ELA, science, and PK-2. Session and registration information is now available. The February 6 collaboration has been canceled due to low registration. Registrants for that day have received an email with instructions to register for a different day.

Dates and Locations:
- February 4 in Ruston
- February 7 in Baton Rouge

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.
Assessment and Accountability

New: Early Release of School Performance Scores

In response to requests from many education leaders, the Department plans to release official public school performance scores earlier in 2020. The timeline will affect the traditional data certification process. On February 4, the Department will share information about these changes immediately after the Office Hours call.

Assessment and Accountability Office Hours:
- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 4 at 1:00 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/202189164
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 202 189 164

Please contact jennifer.baird@la.gov with questions.

For District Testing Coordinators and Accountability Contacts

Important: ELPT Exemptions
- The ELPT testing window is February 3–March 13. All students who are identified as English Learners in SIS must test and be included in accountability calculations in 2020.
- Requests for exemptions from the ELPT listening and/or speaking domains are past due to the Department. Please send completed requests to assessment@la.gov.
- The additional materials window is now open. Reminder: There is no K-1 writing supplement used in ELPT this year.
- Please review the ELPT Accessibility and Accommodations Manual as plans are made for students with accommodations.
- Please contact jennifer.baird@la.gov with questions.

English III EOC School System Administration Materials
- An English III test materials folder is available on the secure FTP, which includes all materials needed to administer and score English III assessments provided three times yearly through a process determined by the school system. Included in the folder are manuals that include specific directions.
- Requests for braille forms of the test are provided as needed by the Department and should be addressed to assessment@la.gov.
- Please contact jennifer.baird@la.gov with questions.

LEAP Connect
- The LEAP Connect testing window is February 3–March 13. All students who are eligible to take alternate assessment should now be identified with documentation in SER.

ACT and WorkKeys
- January 31: Deadline to complete site readiness, including mock administration, ProctorCache installation, and setup for ACT online testing.
- January 31: Deadline to submit students in PANext for barcode labels.
  - Verify enrollment and submit the enroll or unenroll student file if needed.
  - Review students’ identifying information and correct if needed.
- Recordings of the ACT Test Administration Q&As [1] and [2] can be accessed using the links provided.
NAEP

- Thirty-one Louisiana schools are participating in the NAEP 2019-2020 Long-Term Trend Study. Each principal will designate a school coordinator (SC) to support the administration of the NAEP test. The SC will need to complete tasks during the pre-assessment period, collect student information, and enter it online. The deadlines for completing the Provide School Information (PSI) and E-filing are as follows:
  - **Completed:** Schools with age 13 students
  - **Completed:** Schools with age 9 students
  - January 31 (Extended): Schools with age 17 students

Assessment Administration Support and Training Office Hours

The next Assessment and Accountability Office Hours will be on **February 4 at 1:00 p.m.** Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 4 at 1:00 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** [https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/202189164](https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/202189164)
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 202 189 164

High School Pathways

**New: Quest for Success Training in the Southwest Region**

Please share with career and technical education (CTE) supervisors and administrators.

Quest for Success is a high school-level career exploration course designed to prepare all Louisiana graduates for career and life success. Individuals who are seeking to teach the course for the first time should attend one of the upcoming two-day training events in Lake Charles on **February 10-11** or **February 12-13**. The training will occur from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m each day and lunch will be provided. The deadline for registration is **February 3 at 4:00 p.m.**

The training will take place at the Calcasieu Parish School Board, Curriculum and Instruction Building, 600 S. Shattuck St., Lake Charles, LA 70601.

Please contact [bridgette.culpepper@cpsb.org](mailto:bridgette.culpepper@cpsb.org) with questions.
New: Board of Regents Dual Enrollment Policy Update
Please share with supervisors, administrators, and counselors.

The Louisiana Board of Regents recently approved new minimum requirements for dual enrollment coursework. The policy became effective on January 1.

An informational webinar will be held to provide additional information about the policy changes. There are two opportunities to attend. Information needed to join each webinar is listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 4 at 10:00 a.m.
  - **Webinar Link:** [https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/855540480](https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/855540480)
  - **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
  - **Meeting ID#:** 855 540 480

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 4 at 4:00 p.m.
  - **Webinar Link:** [https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/950936271](https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/950936271)
  - **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
  - **Meeting ID#:** 950 936 271

Please contact meredith.mcgovern@la.gov with questions.

New: Jump Start Summers 2020
Please share with CTE supervisors.

Jump Start Summers programs are available to launch summer training sessions for students to:

- earn Carnegie credit,
- earn statewide basic or advanced credentials,
- participate in work-based learning, and
- earn a stipend for participation.

The 2020 Jump Start Summers application is now available. The priority deadline to apply is **February 28**. An informational webinar will be held to provide additional information and answer questions. There are two opportunities to attend. Information needed to join each webinar is listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** January 31 at 1:00 p.m.
  - **Webinar Link:** [https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/564751166](https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/564751166)
  - **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
  - **Meeting ID#:** 564 751 166

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 3 at 9:00 a.m.
  - **Webinar Link:** [https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/462174797](https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/462174797)
  - **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
  - **Meeting ID#:** 462 174 797

Previous years’ programs were approved for a 3-year cycle. The Jump Start Summers team will be in contact with an alternate application.

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions.
**New: Jump Start Construction Scholars Program**
*Please share with counselors.*

The Jump Start Construction Connect Scholars Program is now accepting applications for a $1,000 scholarship. The scholarship is geared toward students who have earned the Jump Start Diploma, earned a National Center for Construction Education and Research credential, and enrolled in an LCTCS campus on a construction pathway or in an Associated Builders and Contractors training program.

This is the state's first and only scholarship dedicated exclusively to Jump Start graduates. This effort is a collaboration of the Louisiana Construction Education Foundation, Louisiana Community and Technical College System, and the Department.

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions.

**Educator Preparation**

**Reminder: Nominations for 2020-2021 Principal Fellowship Cohort (NISL Cohort 6)**

Nominations are now being accepted for 2020-2021 Principal Fellowship Cohort (NISL Cohort 6) through April 1. Please submit nominations through the Principal Fellowship Nomination Form. Additional information about the Louisiana Principal Fellowship can be found on the Louisiana Principal Fellowship webpage.

Please contact jennie.moctezuma@la.gov with questions.

**Special Education**

**New: Special Education Leader Monthly Webinar**

The Department will hold its monthly webinar for school system directors, supervisors, and coordinators of special education on **February 6 at 2:00 p.m.** Topics will include upcoming deadlines, updates, guidance, and training opportunities. Pre-registration is not required.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 6 at 2:00 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/836904974
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923 (for dial-in only)
- **Meeting ID**: 836 904 974

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.
Data

New: Spring Data Collections and Reporting Deadlines

Several spring data collections are open with reporting deadlines in mid-February.

- The Feb 1 MFP collection is open for reporting student enrollment, free/reduced lunch status, homeless data, attendance, and discipline in the Student Information System (SIS) and special education data in the Special Education and Reporting System (SER). This data is important for MFP funding and economically disadvantaged calculations/funding. The SIS reporting deadline is **February 14**. The SER reporting deadline is **February 28**.
- The Teacher Student Data Link System (TSDL) spring collection is open for reporting class schedules for first time spring LEAP 2025 testers to the TSDL. This data is important for ensuring test sessions are correct in eDirect. The reporting deadline is **February 14**.
- The Student Transcript System (STS) is open for the collection of mid-year transcripts for all students in grades T9–12 for the February BOR extract. Public schools should certify senior mid-year graduates. This data is important for determining admission to post-secondary schools and for accountability. The reporting deadline is **February 14**.

Please refer to the [2019-2020 Benchmark Calendar](#) for other important information regarding data submissions.

Please contact systemsupport@la.gov with questions.

New: Monthly Data Coordinator Webinar

**Please share with data managers.**

The Department will hold its monthly webinar for data coordinators and data managers on **February 6 at 1:00 p.m.** Topics will include a review of open collections, submission deadlines, and EdLink Data Warehouse updates. Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 6 at 1:00 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** [https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/976397929](https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/976397929)
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 408-638-0968
- **Meeting ID#:** 976 397 929

Please contact systemsupport@la.gov with questions.
Finance

**Reminder: Business Manager Accounting Survey**
Please share with business managers.

The Department is in the planning phase of creating a new Annual Financial Report (AFR) system to be implemented in the future and would like to begin gathering information from business and financial officials on the current accounting systems and processes in place at the school system level. The purpose of this survey is to focus on gathering information on the technical capabilities of school system accounting systems. Please complete the Accounting Systems Survey by **this Friday, January 31**.

Please contact reynaldo.valldejuli@la.gov with questions.

**Reminder: January 2020 MFP Payments**
Please share with school system business managers.

The January 2020 MFP Payments have been adjusted to include the reconciliation of the FY2019-2020 Pay Raises based on the Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) data as of October 1, 2019.

The adjusted January 2020 MFP Payments can be found in the MFP Library on the Department’s website.

Please contact ldoemphelpdesk@la.gov with questions.