



# LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

April 18, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

Louisiana is committed to the safety of students, educators, and families. School safety must be a way of life for today's education professionals and first responders. Last August, we gathered around 800 educators and first responders for the state's first Louisiana School Safety Summit. I'm pleased to announce [registration is open](#) for our second annual summit June 15 in Baton Rouge.

The Louisiana School Safety Summit is a free event that brings together school system leaders, local and state law enforcement, government agencies, and mental health providers. This day-long conference will include a wide array of sessions focused on one goal, keeping our schools safe.

We're partnering with Louisiana State Police, GOHSEP, and the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools to make sure every attendee leaves this event with actionable steps to take back to their schools and communities. I hope to see you in Baton Rouge.

Dr. Cade Brumley

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## Important Dates for School Systems

### Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Well-Being Monthly Call: [April 19 at 9:30 a.m.](#)
- School System Financial Services Monthly Call: [April 19 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Monthly Call: [April 19 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [April 20 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Diverse Learners Monthly Office Hours: [April 25 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: [April 25 at 3:45 p.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [April 26 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [April 27 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [May 2 at 1 p.m.](#)

## **Upcoming Events and Deadlines**

- April Dunn Act Training: Self-Assessment Guide Section One: [April 19](#) at 4:30 p.m.
- Computer Science Education Advisory Commission [Listening Sessions](#) for K-12 Educators: [April 20 at 5:30 p.m.](#)
- [Assessment Development Educator Review Committees](#) interest survey deadline: April 21
- April Dunn Act Training: Self-Assessment Guide Section Two: [April 24](#) and [April 26](#) at 4:30 p.m.
- Deadline to apply to [Literacy Licensure Test Standard-Setting Study Committee](#): April 25
- Computer Science Education Advisory Commission [Listening Sessions](#) for K-12 Educators: [April 25 at 5:30 p.m.](#)
- [Deadline to indicate AP Exam fee reduction](#): April 30 at 10:59 p.m.
- High Cost Services Round 2 Application deadline: May 5
- [2023 Louisiana School Safety Summit](#): June 15

## **Operations**

### **BESE Endorses Resolutions Aimed at Strengthening Security on K-12 Campuses**

In response to an increasing nationwide trend of shootings and other acts of violence in school facilities, the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) endorsed resolutions aimed at strengthening security in K-12 public schools.

At a special called meeting earlier this month, BESE officially requested that public school systems partner with local law enforcement to provide a school resource officer for all schools under their jurisdiction and further requested that the Louisiana Legislature provide adequate funding to school systems to ensure the implementation. The resolutions were adopted unanimously.

Louisiana Revised Statute 17:416.9 provides that any city, parish, local public school system, or nonpublic school may enter into agreements with local law enforcement agencies to provide for school resource officers. BESE's resolution would require officers to be certified by a nationally accredited school resource officer program or a state training program certified by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training. BESE also requested that school systems annually report the total number of school resource officers to the Louisiana Department of Education.

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

## **Assessment, Accountability and Analytics**

### **LEAP 2025 Graduating Senior Retest**

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

All students awaiting the results of LEAP 2025 high school assessments to meet graduation requirements for spring must be identified as grade 12 in DRC INSIGHT in order to receive results in time for graduation. Students who are not eligible for graduation and are not grade 12 cannot participate in this option. Results for all other students will be reported no later than the close of the testing window.

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

## **ACT/WorkKeys**

Please share with test coordinators.

- April 19: ACT Online Reporting Webinar at 12 p.m. [Register](#) here.
- April 21. WorkKeys testing closes. This is the final date that will be considered as in-window for 2023 grade 12 students who will be eligible for inclusion in the ACT index.

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

## **Interests and Opportunities Data Certification**

Please share with accountability contacts and school leaders.

Data certification opened April 17 for public schools in La Data Review.

- All documentation must be submitted no later than June 7.
- Schools with no documentation submitted by June 7 will be assigned a zero for that indicator.
- Requests for changes to indicator selection will not be approved.

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

## **2022-2023 Teacher Roster Verification**

Please share with school system leaders, school leaders and educators.

The [Curriculum Verification and Results \(CVR\) Reporting Portal](#) roster verification ensures that teachers are assigned to the correct courses and classroom rosters of students for the purposes of value-added (VAM) analysis. The data in CVR will be used to calculate a teacher's VAM score even if the teacher and/or the principal do not verify the roster. Teachers of ELA, math, science, social studies (grades 4-8), Algebra I, geometry, English I and English II, and EOC courses are eligible to receive VAM scores and should verify their rosters.

- **March 20 - April 28: CVR Open for View-only.** During this time, users can view and check roster data for accuracy but cannot make changes in the CVR Portal. The CVR Portal will be updated daily to reflect any submitted changes to EdLink 360.
- **May 8 - May 26: CVR Open for Roster Verification.** Teachers and principals can verify and correct records for specific courses and students. Data managers will track verification completion at the school system and school levels.

Refer to the [updated CVR User Guide](#) for more information. Please contact [systemsupport@la.gov](mailto:systemsupport@la.gov) with roster verification questions and [compass@la.gov](mailto:compass@la.gov) with general Compass-related questions.

## **Career and College Readiness**

### **2023 Louisiana School Safety Summit**

Please share with school system leaders, system safety coordinators, emergency preparedness coordinators, school leaders, mental health providers and school counselors.

The Louisiana Department of Education, in coordination with the Louisiana State Police, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, Motorola, and the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools will host the [2023 Louisiana School Safety Summit](#) on **June 15** in Baton Rouge. This free event will offer opportunities to share best practices on school safety and emergency preparedness.

[Registration](#) is currently open and will close May 26 or when capacity is reached. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition to general attendee registration, **seats are reserved for system leaders or designees**. Please email [healthyschools@la.gov](mailto:healthyschools@la.gov) for more information on accessing tickets.

[Hotel blocks](#) are reserved throughout downtown Baton Rouge. Please contact [healthyschools@la.gov](mailto:healthyschools@la.gov) with questions.

## Teaching and Learning

### Diverse Learners

#### **The Bridge from High School to Postsecondary Services**

**Please share with special educators, paraprofessionals, and related service providers.**

Families Helping Families is hosting [The Bridge from High School to Postsecondary Services](#), a webinar that will review the IEP process pertaining to services and resources available to students entering postsecondary education or employment. The webinar will be held this Wednesday, April 19, from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. Please contact [diverselearnersupport@la.gov](mailto:diverselearnersupport@la.gov) for more information.

#### **The Importance of Inclusion**

**Please share with special educators, paraprofessionals, and related service providers.**

Families Helping Families is hosting [The Importance of Inclusion](#), a free webinar that will discuss the importance of inclusion in the classrooms, schools, and community for children with disabilities. The webinar will be held April 24, from 12 - 1 p.m. Please contact [diverselearnersupport@la.gov](mailto:diverselearnersupport@la.gov) for more information.

#### **Mentor Coaching for Cohort 4 of Special Education Fellows**

The Department is recruiting [mentor-coaches](#) for the SPED Fellow Academy, a year-long, comprehensive development program for novice special education directors and supervisors across Louisiana. The program provides in-person training, coaching, and a community of practice that instills the knowledge and skills the next generation of leaders need to lead and sustain change in improving outcomes for students with disabilities.

Mentor-coaches should have extensive special education experience as special education leaders (administrators) and be able to demonstrate strong interpersonal relationship-building skills, track records of effective leadership, an understanding of Louisiana's academic strategy, and a strong willingness to support the Fellowship.

[Applications](#) are now open and will close on May 31. Please see the [Mentor-Coach Overview](#) for more information; contact [diverselearnersupport@la.gov](mailto:diverselearnersupport@la.gov) with questions.

### Educator Development

#### **Principal's Webinar Series**

**Please share with principals and principal supervisors.**

The LDOE hosts a monthly webinar series for current school leaders and principal supervisors on best practices in school leadership aligned to the state's priorities. April's webinar will feature information about Louisiana's Pre-Educator Pathway Program and The New Teacher Experience.

**Principal’s Webinar Date and Time:** April 24, 1 - 2 p.m.

**Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98516144298?pwd=VHoxSlhaNWhFZUNrQWICS05MRHlzZz09>

**Meeting ID:** 985 1614 4298

**Passcode:** 125571

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

### **CIS Evaluation Closeout for Teachers, Counselors, and Librarians**

**Please share with system leaders, school leaders, human resource directors, and data managers.**

Systems may begin finalizing teacher, counselor, and librarian evaluations in May. Systems are encouraged to complete and sign off on all observation and Student Learning Target (SLT) data prior to staff leaving for summer break. **Once the Compass Information System (CIS) rolls to SY 2023-2024 in the fall, no teacher, counselor, or librarian evaluation data for the 2022-2023 school year can be added or amended.** It is recommended that educators complete the following assigned tasks.

CIS Administrators	Evaluators	Teachers, Counselors, Librarians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Update</a> rosters in <a href="#">CIS</a>.</li><li>• <a href="#">Assign</a> evaluators to all educators.</li><li>• <a href="#">Monitor</a> evaluation completion in <a href="#">CIS</a>.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure that all teachers, counselors, and librarians are in <a href="#">CIS</a>.</li><li>• <a href="#">Enter</a> professional practice/observation scores in <a href="#">CIS</a>; for 2022-2023 only, if the educator scored Effective: Proficient or Highly Effective, enter the single score twice.</li><li>• <a href="#">Accept</a> SLTs in <a href="#">CIS</a>; <a href="#">Rate</a> SLTs in <a href="#">CIS</a></li><li>• Print observations and SLTs; meet with teachers, counselors, and librarians prior to leaving for summer, obtain signatures acknowledging scores.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Enter</a> all SLTs in <a href="#">CIS</a></li><li>• Assess students and <a href="#">report SLT</a> results in <a href="#">CIS</a></li><li>• Meet with evaluators to view and acknowledge observation and SLT scores</li></ul>

Note: Systems utilizing the spreadsheet to upload data to CIS should also finalize teacher, counselor, and librarian observations and SLTs in local system databases/trackers.

Resources for [finalizing and uploading](#) evaluations are located in the [Compass Library](#). Please contact [compass@la.gov](mailto:compass@la.gov) with questions.

### **Literacy Licensure Test Standard-Setting Study Committee**

**Please share with literacy experts, including new teachers and mentor teachers.**

In 2022, the state legislature passed ACT 214, which requires K - 3 teachers seeking initial licensure to pass a scientifically researched and evidence-based examination on the teaching of reading. This assessment will replace the existing Reading Language Arts exam, which is part of the Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects Praxis® exam.

The Louisiana Department of Education is seeking up to 18 committee members from K - 12 and educator preparation programs to serve on a two-day standard-setting study committee facilitated by Educational Testing Services. The [panel overview document](#) provides information on the standard-setting process and how to apply to the committee. The deadline to apply is **April 25**. Please contact [rebecca.stephenson@la.gov](mailto:rebecca.stephenson@la.gov) with questions.