



# LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

June 14, 2022

## In This Issue

- [Important Dates for School Systems](#)
- [Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics](#)
- [Career and College Readiness](#)
- [Teaching and Learning](#)
  - [Academic Content](#)
  - [Educator Development](#)
  - [School Improvement](#)
- [Reminders](#)

## Important Dates for School Systems

| Office Hours   |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Office Hours Title   | Zoom Link                            |
| Data Coordinator Office Hours  | <a href="#">June 16 at 1 p.m.</a>    |
| P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours   | <a href="#">June 21 at 10 a.m.</a>   |
| Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours   | <a href="#">June 21 at 3 p.m.</a>    |
| <a href="#">Assessment and Accountability Office Hours</a>   | <a href="#">June 28 at 3:45 p.m.</a> |
| Monthly Calls*   |                                      |
| Monthly Call Title   | Zoom Link                            |
| Student Well-Being Monthly Call  | <a href="#">June 15 at 9:30 a.m.</a> |
| Nonpublic Monthly Call   | <a href="#">June 15 at 3 p.m.</a>    |
| Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Cal  | <a href="#">June 16 at 10 a.m.</a>   |
| Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call  | <a href="#">June 20 at 10 a.m.</a>   |
| Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call   | <a href="#">June 21 at 3:45 p.m.</a> |
| Nutrition Support Monthly Call   | <a href="#">July 5 at 1 p.m.</a>     |
| Charter Authorizers Monthly Call   | <a href="#">July 13 at 11 a.m.</a>   |
| BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call  | <a href="#">July 13 at 3 p.m.</a>    |
| Data Coordinator Monthly Call  | <a href="#">July 14 at 1 p.m.</a>    |
| Career and College Readiness Monthly Call  | <a href="#">July 28 at 3 p.m.</a>    |
| Alternative Education Leaders Monthly Call   | <a href="#">August 3 at 9 a.m.</a>   |
| Education Technology Monthly Call  | <a href="#">August 11 at 9 a.m.</a>  |
| <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> |                                      |
| Upcoming Events  |                                      |
| Diverse Learners: Accelerate Louisiana's Tutoring Strategy Webinar   | <a href="#">June 23 at 2 p.m.</a>    |

## Assessments, Accountability and Analytics

### **DRC Student Corrections Online Cleanup**

**Please share this information with school and district test coordinators.**

The DRC Student Corrections System opened on June 13 and will close on June 20. This process provides schools and systems with the opportunity to correct impending zeros and some demographic data for LEAP 2025 testing and LEAP Connect.

- A webinar was held on June 7. The webinar deck is available in the [Assessment Library](#) under the *Resources and Forms* section with file name “Using DRC Student Corrections Online Cleanup 2022.”
- An FAQ document is available in the same location as described above with file name “2021-2022 DRC Student Correction System FAQ.”
- District test coordinators and school test coordinators can access the system using the same login that is used for testing in the DRC platform.
- A data file has been created for LEAP grades 3-8, which does not include scores but does include confirmation of tests taken. This file is important to the cleanup process. The file is available under *Report Delivery* in DRC INSIGHT.
- No extensions can be granted for this cleanup.

Please contact [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov) or [jennifer.baird@la.gov](mailto:jennifer.baird@la.gov) for questions related to DRC Student Corrections.

### **National Student Clearinghouse (College Enrollment) Data Sharing Agreement**

**Please share this information with system leaders.**

The LDOE has entered into an agreement with the National Student Clearinghouse to obtain college enrollment for high school graduating students. National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) is the only organization that has specific enrollment and degree information from over 3,600 colleges and universities throughout the United States, whose combined enrollment represents over 96 percent of all higher education enrollments nationwide. This is an opportunity for the LDOE to offset the cost for school systems by purchasing the data in a state-level contract funded by the LDOE. The LDOE will make these data available through EdLink to school systems that sign the data sharing agreement addendum, at no cost to schools. Pursuant to La R.S. 17:3912, the LDOE is charged with making college enrollment information available to legislators, all school systems, and the public. This information will inform Louisiana's high school graduates' postsecondary success.

Action Item for School Systems who have not already submitted this NSC addendum.

1. Review the LDOE-NSC executed agreement: [NSC Agreement](#)
2. Obtain school system superintendent signature on this opt-in addendum: [NSC Addendum](#)
3. Submit the signed agreement to [ldedata@la.gov](mailto:ldedata@la.gov) or use this [Submission Link](#)

If you are unsure if your school system has submitted the NSC addendum, please review the [Data Sharing Agreement Tracker](#). This tracker indicates which agreements have been received.

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

## **LEAP 2025**

**Please share this information with school and district test coordinators.**

- Available now: test setup for LEAP 2025 high school summer administration
- Due now: LEAP 2025 high school summer administration schedules to [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov)

Please contact [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov) with questions related to LEAP 2025.

## Career and College Readiness

### **School Medicaid Transportation Reimbursement Webinar**

**Please share with school-based Medicaid coordinators, special education directors and school business managers.**

School systems interested in seeking reimbursement for transportation costs related to medicaid services should participate in this webinar to review program requirements.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** July 20, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
- **Registration Link:** [Transportation Reimbursement Webinar](#)
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1- 470-250 -9358 or +1-470-381-2552
- **Meeting ID:** 952 9288 9775

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

### **School Based Medicaid Learning Collaboratives**

**Please share with school based Medicaid coordinators, special education directors and school business managers.**

The LDOE is now seeking additional school systems to participate in the 2022-2023 Medicaid learning collaboratives. The learning collaborative is a series of six webinars for school Medicaid coordinators, business managers and related service coordinators.

Each collaborative will focus on a different aspect of the Medicaid program including allowable services, documentation, funding, reimbursement, random moment time study, and the audit process. Each session is scheduled to last 30-45 minutes. There will be multiple learning collaboratives over the course of the academic year.

Space is limited to 8 school systems for each learning collaborative. If you would like to participate in an upcoming learning collaborative, please [register your interest](#). The summer learning collaborative will begin on **July 25** and the fall learning collaborative will begin on **September 12**.

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

## Teaching and Learning

### Academic Content

#### **Biology, Chemistry, and Physics Curriculum Pilot Deadline Extended to July 1**

**Please share with principals, curriculum/science supervisors, and high school supervisors.**

Any school systems planning to pilot [OpenSciEd High School](#) Biology, Chemistry, and/or Physics materials during the upcoming school year must be listed with the Department as a participating pilot system in order to obtain access to materials, professional learning, and implementation support. Systems who indicated plans to implement the pilot within Super App received communication regarding specific action steps required to confirm participation. Due to the nature of this pilot, opportunities to secure kit materials and professional learning are limited and time sensitive. Systems planning to participate in the pilot must contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov) no later than July 1.

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

### Educator Development

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

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

[Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) offers a little something extra for Louisiana educators. As educators, we are leaders - leaders of our families, classrooms, schools, teams, and systems. Host Em Cooper shares inspiring stories from leaders in Louisiana and across the country. You'll hear from innovators, change agents, and experts that will empower you to grow in your profession. Educators can subscribe to the [podcast](#) and listen to the latest episode.

#### **Season 2: Episode 1 - Defender of Wonder, Amanda Jones**

Em Cooper interviews Amanda Jones, Teacher-Librarian at Live Oak Middle School in Watson, Louisiana. Find out Amanda's favorites as an award-winning Librarian, her journey to becoming a beloved educator, and why Librarians are essential for schools. East Feliciana is highlighted for the experiences they provide students on learning about various careers in their community.

**Share Your Stories:** Educators can submit [pictures](#) of the great things happening in your school and system for our What's Making Me Smile segment.

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

#### **Workforce Reporting Update**

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

System and site leaders now have real-time access to their workforce reporting data. Last week, the dashboard went live during the Teacher Leader Summit, and training for the dashboard continues this summer. Please be sure to join the sessions below to learn how to access the dashboard and how to use it in your workflow.

### **Workforce Reporting: Dashboard Best Practices (using the dashboard in your workflow)**

- **Meeting Date and Time:** July 12 at 10 a.m.
- **Meeting Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/8322783910?pwd=OGNjTTNXQTg4bUVqVHVVaZHVET1gydz09>
- **Meeting ID#:** 832 278 3910
- **Meeting Passcode:** i3PfJs

### **Combination Training: If you are unable to attend in June or July**

- **Meeting Date and Time:** August 9 at 10 a.m.
- **Meeting Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/8322783910?pwd=OGNjTTNXQTg4bUVqVHVVaZHVET1gydz09>
- **Meeting ID#:** 832 278 3910
- **Meeting Passcode:** i3PfJs

### **CLASS® Train-the-Trainer Funding Opportunity**

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

During the 2022-2023 school year, schools are encouraged to choose CLASS® or NIET Teaching and Learning Standards rubrics as an option to replace Compass for [K-2 Professional Practice](#).

Maintaining trained, certified observers is an important component sustaining the use of CLASS® in K-2. Funding is available for the [CLASS® Observer Train-the-Trainer](#) model for systems with CIR/UIR-A schools. At the school system level, the Train-the-Trainer model will allow school system leaders to build and sustain a cadre of certified observers.

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

### **2022-2023 Mentor Waiver Application**

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

At the April BESE meeting, the Board approved a waiver for the Mentor policy for the 2022-2023 school year. Mentor teacher waivers will be granted on a case-by-case basis through the application process established by the LDOE and at no fee. The waiver will be issued by the LDOE for educators highly recommended by the Mentor's principal and who possess one or more of the following qualifications:

1. Two years of Highly Effective Compass ratings;
2. National Board Certification;
3. Statewide or national distinction for excellence in teaching;
4. Experience as a TAP mentor, master teacher, executive master teacher, or certified TAP evaluator;
5. Content leader experience, as evidenced by participation in Content Leader training or redelivery of professional development; or
6. Master's or doctorate in education and exemplary experience hosting student teachers.

The 2022-2023 Mentor Waiver [Application](#) will open on **July 19, 2022**.

Mentor Waiver Applications must be created by the system leader responsible for resident placement and/or Mentor recruitment and support. We encourage system leaders leading this work to attend one of the two Mentor Waiver Application [webinars](#).

**Webinar Dates/Time:** July 19 from 10-11 a.m. or July 21 from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

**Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/3455048179>

**Passcode:** 3455048179

**Phone:** 1-470-381-2552

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

### **Educator Development End-of-Year Surveys**

**Please share the following survey links with the principals, mentors, and Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway system leads.**

- **2022 Believe and Prepare [Principal Survey](#) closing June 15**  
To be completed by **all principals** that have had teachers complete Mentor or Content Leader training or have Mentors that served on their campus as a mentor to an undergraduate or post baccalaureate resident.
- **2022 Believe and Prepare [Mentor Teacher Survey](#) closing June 15**  
To be completed by **all Mentors** that have completed training or served as a mentor to an undergraduate or post baccalaureate resident.
- **[Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway](#) closing June 23**  
To be completed by the school system Pre-Educator Pathway/Grow Your Own lead.

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

### **Teacher Leader Summit**

**Please share with summit attendees.**

Louisiana's largest professional development event for educators opened May 31 for its tenth anniversary at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. Teacher Leader Summit brought together educators from across the state for an energy-filled, inspiring event that closes out one school year and inspires attendees in their planning for the next.

The theme of the tenth annual Teacher Leader Summit was **Making a Comeback**, a reference to the resiliency educators have demonstrated over the past several years and how Louisiana continues to make significant academic strides in the face of immense adversity.

To celebrate the tenth year and Making a Comeback, educators were invited to visit the photo booth throughout the week. Images taken at the photo booth were then compiled into a [mosaic image](#). Can you spot your photo?

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

### **Real-time Early Access to Literacy (REAL) Summer Tutoring Cycle**

**Please share with system leaders.**

The REAL summer tutoring cycle has begun. The summer cycle is May 23 - July 22, 2022.

The PowerPoint presentations from the summer webinar for Tutoring Service Providers and the summer webinar for school systems can be found on the [REAL website](#).

### **Pre/Post Assessment**

All Tutoring Service Providers will administer a pre/post literacy screener to students during the first and last week of each tutoring cycle. The Pre/Post Assessment Summer Guidance document will contain all required assessment materials for each grade level.

If you have a new REAL contact person for your school system, please email that information to [holly.manson@la.gov](mailto:holly.manson@la.gov).

### **Summer Learning Programs**

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

Systems should expect to share information about student outcomes through the completion of a survey following the conclusion of the Summer Learning Program. The survey covers four broad topics: program information, student attendance (required), measures of outcomes (required), and student/parent/staff surveys (strongly encouraged). The measuring effectiveness section of the [Summer Learning Program Guidance](#) can be used as a guide for more detail about the data collection topics.

Please contact [keisha.thomas2@la.gov](mailto:keisha.thomas2@la.gov) with questions.

### **School Improvement Best Practices**

**Please share with system leaders.**

The 2022 Louisiana School Improvement Best Practices training sessions are delivered virtually unless otherwise noted by your school system. If you have not registered to attend the training sessions, it is encouraged to register as soon as possible. The [training sessions](#) will be capped for capacity to allow for facilitators to better engage with individual educators. Each school can send up to five participants. [Registration](#) for the virtual training sessions will close two weeks prior to the start date.

All CIR and UIR-A schools will be required to participate in the Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) Support and Teacher Collaboration Support training sessions, as well as the accompanying online portal and two days of on-site and/or virtual coaching as follow-up support to the training.

- If a CIR or UIR-A school participated in ILT support or Teacher Collaboration support trainings in Summer 2021, then it is required that they complete the next level training in that area in Summer 2022.
- If a CIR or UIR-A school did not participate in ILT support and Teacher Collaboration support trainings in Summer 2021, then it is required that they complete the foundational training in those areas in Summer 2022.

While all CIR and UIR-A schools are required to participate in the Instructional Leadership Team Support and Teacher Collaboration Support training sessions, all schools in Louisiana may participate in this opportunity to support implementation of these essential practices this summer.

Please contact [keisha.thomas2@la.gov](mailto:keisha.thomas2@la.gov) with questions.

## School Improvement

### **School Support Institutes 2022 - 2023**

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

[Registration](#) is now open for School Support Institutes 2022-2023. Registration closes July 8, 2022.

The following types of traditional public and charter schools should register:

- CIR labeled schools
- UIR-A labeled schools
- UIN CLSD grant recipients to attend the Literacy Pathway
- Non-label schools in systems approved for Achieve! funding to attend SSI

The registration process for system leaders and school-based instructional leadership teams should be coordinated by the system's **SSI point-of-contact**. The point-of-contact is the system leader who has been designated to receive all SSI-related information. To assist with the registration process, the point-of-contact is responsible for ensuring that principals of designated schools complete SSI registration and for completing registration for any system leaders attending SSI per the [system seat allocation chart](#). If your system has not yet designated a point-of-contact for SSI, please send that name and email address to [schoolimprovementdivision@la.gov](mailto:schoolimprovementdivision@la.gov).

Updated information about SSI, including the registration directions, learning pathways, training dates/times, and venues can be accessed on the [Division of School Improvement page](#).

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

## Reminders

- [Operations](#)
- [Career and College Readiness](#)
- [School System Relations](#)
- [Teaching and Learning](#)
  - [Academic Content](#)
  - [Diverse Learners](#)
  - [Educator Development](#)

## **Operations**

### **Consolidated Monitoring Schedule for 2021-2022 SY (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter)**

Please share with Federal Programs and IDEA Directors.

The Department conducts annual monitoring of school systems to ensure compliance with federal and state requirements. To assist school systems in thoughtful planning and preparation for a scheduled monitoring event, the Department is releasing the [consolidated monitoring schedule for the 2021-2022 school year](#)\*. This schedule is tentative and the agency reserves the right to make adjustments as necessary.

The assigned Statewide Monitoring Team Leader will send a more detailed monitoring notification reminder, along with any necessary planning documents or instructions, directly to Superintendents and Federal Program Directors of each school system appearing on the monitoring schedule. The [fourth quarter monitoring schedule](#) is now available.

Please contact [doe-program.monitoring@la.gov](mailto:doe-program.monitoring@la.gov) if you have any questions about the monitoring schedule or program monitoring related to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) or Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

*\*School systems that have been severely impacted by a disaster and are currently listed on the schedule are encouraged to contact [doe-program.monitoring@la.gov](mailto:doe-program.monitoring@la.gov).*

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

### **Classroom Security Resources**

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

In 2018, the Office of State Fire Marshal issued Memorandums 2018-02 and 2018-03 regarding classroom security for existing educational (grades K-12) and daycare facilities. Chief Dan Wallis, Louisiana State Fire Marshal, has shared additional resources around these memorandums. They can be accessed in the [School Policy library](#).

Most importantly, in these memos are directives on the type of locking devices and mechanisms that are allowable (i.e. deadbolts, door stops, etc.), so please review these carefully and fully.

Copies of the memorandum may be accessed in the School Policy library. If there are additional questions, please contact the Office of State Fire Marshal's Plan Review Staff at 1-800-256-5452, or via message at [www.lasfm.org](http://www.lasfm.org), using the contact us feature.

### **Medicaid Funding for Personal Care Services Information Webinar**

**Please share with school based Medicaid coordinators, special education directors and school business managers.**

Medicaid will now reimburse school districts for personal care services provided to students. Personal aides assisting students with positioning, behavior cueing, grooming, eating and mobility may be eligible for reimbursement.

The LDOE along with Jason Coker from Postlethwaite and Netterville is presenting a webinar to review reimbursement procedures, program requirements, training and documentation requirements. Interested participants are encouraged to register for the upcoming webinar.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** June 21 from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
- **Webinar Registration:** [PCS Webinar Registration](#)

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

### **2022 High School EMS Program Update Webinar**

**Please share with CTE supervisors, school counselors, and administrators.**

The [High School EMS Education Program Manual](#) has been updated, and serves to bring the guidance in line with recent changes to state statutes and policies. The revised manual will serve as the official guidance for the 2022-2023 school year and moving forward. EMS Education will host a webinar to present the revised manual and other updates.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** July 22 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85439683772>
- **Meeting ID:** 854 3968 3772
- **Passcode:** 7WgNa1

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

## ***School System Relations***

### **Department celebrates excellent educators**

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

During the opening session of the Teacher Leader Summit, the Department was proud to announce live the [2023 Teacher and Principal of the Year Finalists](#). These educators are making exceptional gains with students. Their commitment to student success exemplifies Louisiana's teaching profession.

In addition to naming the finalists for Teacher and Principal of the Year, the Department announced the [2022 Public Interest Fellowship](#) recipient, Brian Gough from St. Charles Parish. The fellowship allows recipients to spend the upcoming school year advocating for a key education initiative aligned to the Department's priorities. Winners are chosen from the previous year's list of Teacher of the Year semifinalists and finalists. Gough's fellowship initiative is focused on researching best practices for industry recruitment for internship programs.

Also during the opening session at the summit, other state-level honorees were recognized and celebrated. These honorees included the [New Teacher of the Year Finalists](#), [Early Childhood Teacher and Leader Finalists](#), [Milken Educator Award recipients](#), and Louisiana's [Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching](#) recipients. Information about these award programs can be found on the Department's [Awards page](#).

All of these excellent educators will be honored at the *16<sup>th</sup> Annual Excellent Educators Awards Gala* that will be held at the World War II Museum on the evening of July 30, 2022. This exciting event is co-sponsored by [Dream Teachers](#).

Congratulations to these outstanding educators!

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

## Teaching and Learning

### Academic Content

#### **Instructional Support: Instructional Material Reviews**

**Please share with content supervisors and administrators.**

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](#).

| Publisher                      | Title and Grade Levels                                   | Core Subject | Tiered Rating |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------|---------------|
| Achievement First              | Achievement First Math, Grades K-4                       | Math         | Tier 1        |
| Amplify Education, Inc.        | Amplify Science Louisiana, Grade 7                       | Science      | Tier 1        |
| Children's Literacy Initiative | Blueprint for Early Learning, Ages 4-5                   | ECE          | Tier 1        |
| Open Up Resources              | EL Education Language Arts, Grades 6-8                   | ELA          | Tier 1        |
| Teaching Strategies, LLC       | The Creative Curriculum® for Family Child Care, Ages 0-5 | ECE          | Tier 1        |

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

#### **Zearn Data Sharing Agreement**

**Please share with math curriculum leads, superintendents and data managers.**

The Department has executed a statewide [data sharing agreement with Zearn](#) on behalf of school systems using the high-quality curriculum Zearn Math for core instruction during the school year or as part of a [Summer Learning Program](#), and/or as part of a [high-dosage tutoring program](#). This agreement, by way of [addenda](#), allows individual school systems to opt in, so that they may also receive the services provided and protect the privacy of students. To opt in, system superintendents will sign and submit the [Zearn Addendum](#) to the Department by either uploading to this [JotForm](#) or emailing the signed agreement to [ldedata@la.gov](mailto:ldedata@la.gov). Please note, this data sharing agreement does not take the place of a school system's individual contracted services directly established with Zearn. This agreement allows school systems to share data with Zearn and for Zearn to share non-student personally identifiable information with the LDOE.

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

## Diverse Learners

### **Foundational Literacy Modules for Grades 4-8 Educators Registration Open**

**Please share with system leaders, special education leaders, special educators, interventionists, EL educators.**

The Department has partnered with Public Consulting Group (PCG) to offer five free asynchronous science of reading modules for grades 4 - 8 educators. The Professional Development Modules are focused on content that is teacher-friendly and provides the knowledge and skills necessary for intermediate and middle school classrooms instruction by applying age-appropriate science of reading strategies. The five topics include understanding the science of reading, exploring phonics and advanced word study, creating fluent readers, developing vocabulary and increasing reading comprehension. Modules will open monthly beginning at the end of May and remain available throughout the 2022 - 2023 school year. [Registration](#) is open and will remain open throughout the release.

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

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

**Please share with school system leaders and special education directors/supervisors.**

The Department released the fifth issue of Guidance for Leading Inclusive Special Education Programs: [Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports](#). School system leaders and special education supervisors are encouraged to collaboratively review the guidance document and utilize the [Positive Behavior Strategies: A Leader's Inventory for Action](#) to plan for potential next steps.

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

### **Accelerate Louisiana's Tutoring Strategy: Diverse Learners**

**Please share with school system leaders and special education directors/supervisors.**

The Department remains committed to our belief that in order to address unfinished learning, we must provide equal-access, effective tutoring. The pandemic, as well as, weather related events has continued to cause an unprecedented disruption in the education of students throughout Louisiana. In response, systems must continue planning to address students' unfinished learning.

On [June 23 at 2 p.m.](#) the Division of Diverse Learners will host a webinar to take a deep dive into the existing guidance to support school systems in embedding Louisiana's Pre-K to High School Tutoring Strategy into their operation structure.

Webinar Date and Time: June 23 at 2 p.m.  
Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92095514424>  
Webinar Phone Number: 312-626-6799  
Meeting ID#: 920 9551 4424

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

## Educator Development

### **New Teacher Experience: Summer Kick Off Registration**

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

The Department will host the [New Teacher Experience: Summer Kick Off](#) on **July 25** in Baton Rouge. This will be a full day of professional development and fun to welcome our new Louisiana teachers.

[Registration](#) for this event will be first come, first served. The [registration link](#) is now open. School systems must have the name and email address of new teachers in order to register for this event. New teachers must already be hired by a school system in order to be registered.

Registration will close on **July 8** or once capacity is reached, whichever comes first. New teachers registered for this event will receive logistical details via email prior to the event, and will be asked to confirm their attendance.

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

### **New Teacher Experience: Pilot Opportunity**

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

The New Teacher Experience (NTE) [Pilot](#) will provide school systems strategies to foster a community of practices and create conditions for effective teaching and learning. In addition, the pilot will support the direct work of principals, mentors, and colleagues with new teachers. Participating school systems will be asked to implement best practices throughout the year and work with the LDOE in fine tuning the New Teacher Experience.

School systems may be interested in participating in this pilot if they do not have a support program in place for new teachers, or if they have one that they want to modify to include additional best practices. All pilot participants will need to have teachers participate in at least two of the following supports for new teachers:

- Affinity groups
- Professional Development Modules
- Mentoring

Funding will be provided to support the NTE pilot. Funding may be used for:

- Stipends for Mentors supporting new teachers.
- Funding for Mentor training and credentialing.
- Travel costs for attending in person trainings.
- Completion stipends for participating new teachers.

The [application](#) for this pilot opportunity is open now. If interested, please submit an application by **June 24**.

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

## **Mentor Teacher Stipends**

**Please share with finance teams and system leaders.**

Mentors supporting **year-long undergraduate residents** in the 2021-2022 school year should receive a \$1,800 stipend, instead of the usual \$1,000 stipend. These funds have been added to school system allocations in eGMS. This additional funding is for **one year only**, based on availability of funds.

All Mentor funds should be paid out by the end of the school year. Mentor funds are 8g and must be spent by **June 15**.

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

## **CIS Teacher and Staff Evaluations**

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

The [Compass Information System \(CIS\)](#) teacher evaluation upload window is open. Systems are encouraged to begin uploading teacher and staff evaluations. The tech team is working to repair an issue that is preventing VAM teacher observation and SLT scores from being submitted. CIS Administrator contacts will be notified as soon there is a resolution. Please continue to:

- Enter and rate both SLTs for teachers and staff.
- Enter professional practice scores (for 2021-2022 only, if the evaluated person scored “Effective: Proficient” or “Highly Effective” (2.5 and above), enter the single score twice).
- Finalize evaluations for non-VAM teachers.

Resources for [evaluation uploads](#) are located in the [Compass Library](#).

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

## **Continuous Learning**

**Please share with system leaders.**

The Department will host two webinars focused on planning for continuous learning. Guidance for system leaders will be provided on how to develop a continuous learning plan for modified operations. The first webinar will be held on **June 15 at 2:30 p.m.** If you cannot attend the June webinar, the second webinar will be held on **July 14 at 9 a.m.** System leaders should plan to attend one of the webinars.

**Webinar Date and Time:** June 15 at 2:30 p.m.

**Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98516651581?pwd=RGRGTHZHQ1YwSnBKT0RRU2toSFRsdz09>

**Meeting ID:** 985 1665 1581

**Passcode:** 565717

**Phone:** 1-346-248-7799

Please contact [keisha.thomas2@la.gov](mailto:keisha.thomas2@la.gov) with questions.