



LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

July 19, 2022

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
Data Coordinator Office Hours	July 21 at 1 p.m.
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	July 26 at 10 a.m.
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	July 26 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	July 26 at 3:45 p.m.
K-2 Learning Year: Phase I Office Hours	July 27 at 12 p.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Student Well-Being Monthly Call	July 20 at 9:30 a.m.
Nonpublic Monthly Call	July 20 at 3 p.m.
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Cal	July 21 at 10 a.m.
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	July 28 at 3 p.m.
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	August 2 at 1 p.m.
Alternative Education Leaders Monthly Call	August 3 at 9 a.m.
Charter Authorizers Monthly Call	August 10 at 11 a.m.
BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call	August 10 at 3 p.m.
Education Technology Monthly Call	August 11 at 9 a.m.
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	August 11 at 1 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	August 16 at 3:45 p.m.
*Monthly call presentations are available in the School Improvement Library . View the School System Support Calendar to access a complete schedule of events.	
Upcoming Events	
School Medicaid - Health Provider Vendor Contracting Webinar	July 26 at 10:30 a.m.
Guidance for Leading Inclusive Special Education Programs: Engaging Key Stakeholders webinar	August 2 at 1 p.m.
Louisiana School Safety Summit	August 4, 2022

Assessments, Accountability and Analytics

LEAP 2025

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

Individual student LEAP score reports for grades 3-8 will be shared with school systems the week of July 25 in DRC insight. District test coordinators will receive notification on an exact date as soon as it can be confirmed.

- Parents should be provided with individual student reports and the parent guide to reports. Parent guides have been translated in several languages and are found here: [Parent Guides to Assessments](#)
- There is no rescore opportunity for tests administered to students in grades 3-8.

Additional information regarding the timeline for school, system, and state summary reports, as well as public release will be provided in next week's newsletter.

LEAP 360

Please share this information with school and district test coordinators.

The diagnostic assessments are available in DRC INSIGHT. The tests can be administered remotely as in prior years. Helpful resources have been updated and are available in the [Assessment Library](#).

- [LEAP 360 Diagnostic Assessment Quick Start Guide](#)
- [Remote Access and Administration of the LEAP 360 Diagnostic and Interim Assessments](#)
- [A School System's Guide to LEAP 360](#)

Career and College Readiness

Louisiana School Safety Summit

Please share with school system leaders, school safety and emergency preparedness personnel, school counselors/mental health providers, and law enforcement partners.

Circumstances over the last year have led to the need for more collaboration between educational institutions, law enforcement agencies and medical entities to ensure the safety of our students, educators, and the school environment. In response to this need, the LDOE, in coordination with the Louisiana State Police, will host the inaugural [Louisiana School Safety Summit](#) on **Thursday, August 4, 2022**, in [Baton Rouge, Louisiana](#) at the **Raising Cane's River Center**. Please note the **location change from Lafayette to Baton Rouge**.

Registration is now open for this free, one-day event that will bring school system leaders, local and state law enforcement officers, governmental agencies, and mental health providers together for an opportunity to share and learn best practices around school safety and emergency preparedness. All school system leaders or a designee should plan to attend.

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

School Medicaid - Health Provider Vendor Contracting Webinar

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

The Louisiana Department of Health issued a bulletin on July 11, 2022 to remind school districts of the process for claiming Medicaid costs for school health provider vendors as a result of the 2020 State Plan Amendment. LDH strongly recommends school districts amend any contracts with their vendors immediately to avoid disallowance of costs. The LDOE will host a webinar to review vendor claiming requirements to maintain Center for Medicaid Service compliance.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** July 26 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92568607655>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-470-250-9358
- **Meeting ID:** 847163

Please contact elizabeth.duncan@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
McGraw Hill LLC	Wonders, Grades 3-5	ELA	Tier 1
K12, Inc.	Math + Blue, Orange Summit LA, Grades K and 2	Math	Tier 1
Children's Literacy Initiative	Blueprint for Early Learning, Ages 4-5	ECE	Tier 1

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

2022 Governor's Office of Disability Affairs Conference

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

In celebration of the 32nd anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs (GODA) will host its annual conference the week of July 25 - 28. A full list of session topics is included in the [GODA Conference Schedule](#). The conference will be held via Zoom and will be recorded, and uploaded to GODA's YouTube channel, and links to the recordings will be added to the [schedule of sessions](#). [Register](#) to receive updates and access the recorded sessions.

Please contact disability.affairs@la.gov with questions.

Guidance for Leading Inclusive Special Education Programs

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

The Department will release the seventh issue of Guidance for Leading Inclusive Special Education Programs: Engaging Key Stakeholders to Support Success for All Students on July 26, 2022. School system leaders are encouraged to review the guidance document with special education supervisors and attend the hour-long webinar to support implementation on August 2 at 1 p.m.

- Webinar Date and Time: August 2 at 1 p.m.
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91715390151>
- Webinar Phone Number: 312-626-6799
- Meeting ID: 917 1539 0151

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.

eSER Update: Launching August 1

Please share with special education leaders and data coordinators.

As we prepare to transition from SER to eSER, the Department will take the following steps:

- **July 24 at 11:59 p.m.:** SER will be made to view only. No further data entry can be made after this date, so please take caution to address any IEP deadlines during this period in advance.
- **July 25-31:** All SER data will be transferred to eSER. The Department will conduct data quality checks for accuracy.
- **August 1:** The enhanced version of SER (eSER) will go live.

Special education leaders should work with their local Security Coordinators to ensure special education staff are set up for eSER. eSER resources are available in the eSER Go LIVE section of the [SER Support page](#).

Please contact systemsupport@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Praxis Core Updates

Please share with human resource directors and system leaders.

On July 14, BESE President Garvey signed a waiver of BESE policy so that teacher preparation providers can enroll and schedule candidates into courses for the fall semester. This eliminates any delay in the impact of Acts [707](#) and [244](#) of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session on enrolling students into teacher preparation programs.

This **does not waive** requirements for initial certification. Additional policy recommendations based on the aforementioned Acts will be brought to BESE for consideration in August.

Last winter, the Teacher Recruitment, Recovery, and Retention Task Force studied the impacts of Praxis Core on the education profession. The Task Force observed that this assessment has been a barrier to entering the workforce for decades, and the current teacher shortage has magnified the need to address this requirement quickly. The task force endorsed a proposal to remove Praxis Core, and legislation was filed to remove this from law.

Acts [707](#) and [244](#) of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session were passed into law, which removes passing an examination that includes English proficiency as a requirement for certification. BESE policy requires ACT or Praxis Core as the measure of English proficiency for both entrance to a teacher preparation program and initial certification. To align with the new law, policy changes will be presented to BESE for approval in August removing Praxis Core from program entrance and certification.

Removing this barrier is a step in the right direction and a part of a comprehensive plan to improve the educator workforce. We appreciate your commitment to this most important work.

Please contact em.cooper@la.gov with questions.

School Improvement Best Practices

Please share with system leaders.

There are [August dates](#) remaining for the 2022 Louisiana School Improvement Best Practices training sessions. [Registration](#) for the virtual training sessions will close two weeks prior to the start date. If schools have not registered to attend the [training sessions](#), it is encouraged to register as soon as possible. The August dates are the last of the 2022 Louisiana School Improvement Best Practices training sessions.

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 can participate in this opportunity to support implementation of these essential practices this summer. Each school can send up to five participants.

Please contact keisha.thomas2@la.gov with questions.

Summer Learning Program Survey

Please share with summer learning program coordinators.

The 2022 Summer Learning Program [survey](#) is available to collect information about school systems' implementation of summer learning programs. Systems who offered a 2022 Summer Learning Program should complete the survey following the conclusion of the Summer Learning Program. The survey must be completed if Achieve or Super App funding was used.

The [survey](#) should be completed by one system-level leader; systems should submit only one survey. Surveys are due **August 26**. The [survey document](#) allows all survey questions to be viewed before submitting.

Please contact keisha.thomas2@la.gov with questions.

Continuous Learning Toolkit

Please share with system leaders.

The Department has released the [Continuous Learning Toolkit](#) to support systems in developing a continuous learning plan for when school closures may occur that require modified operations on a short-, medium-, or long-term basis. To be prepared for the upcoming school year, the toolkit includes a framework for systems in developing a continuous learning plan. Continuous learning should be provided to limit unfinished learning while maintaining access to instructional programming during modified operations.

Please contact keisha.thomas2@la.gov with questions.

CLASS® Train-the-Trainer Funding Opportunity

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

Funding is still 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. Available virtual training session dates include August 2-4 and August 8-10. Interested systems will receive a link to register following completion of [assurances](#).

Congratulations to the following May and June participants for completing the CLASS® Train-the-Trainer course.

Heather Martin	Kristy Bennet	Ashley Benton	Christie Lovell
Kimberly Hebert	Brian Rogers	Ethelyn Hamilton-Frezel	Jane Biggs
Veronica Wood	Jennifer Tyler	Rushetta Felder	Maura Guillory
Brandy Sanders	Noelle Reznik	Michelle Thrower	Megan Picou
Lessonna Clark	Amy Treme	Kenyotta Williams	Amy Brister
Danielle Copeland	Rhonda Lee		

Please contact lori.pennison@la.gov with questions.

Recruitment, Recovery, and Retention Listening Sessions

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

There is still time to participate in a listening session about recruitment, recovery, and retention. LDOE wants to be sure that all stakeholder groups are represented in these sessions; please send the information below to relevant stakeholder groups so that they may register and participate in the appropriate sessions.

The listening sessions provide the opportunity for stakeholders to describe his/her experiences and perceptions as well as offer suggestions on issues related to teacher recruitment, recovery, and retention. To join a session, stakeholders will follow the steps below.

1. Choose the session below that best fits his/her schedule.
2. Click the link for the session and complete the registration form.
3. Once he/she has completed the registration he/she will receive a zoom link for the session.

Stakeholder	Session Links
Superintendent	July 25 at 10 a.m. July 28 at 2 p.m.
Chief talent officer, directors, or equivalent	July 25 at 3 p.m. July 26 at 11 a.m.
Teacher	July 26 at 9 a.m. July 28 at 2 p.m. July 29 at 12 p.m.
Support staff	July 28 at 12 p.m.
Parent or guardian/community member	July 25 at 9:30 p.m.

LDOE has partnered with the Region 14 Comprehensive Center, an outside organization, to conduct these sessions. Participant names will not be shared with LDOE or associated with specific comments.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.

Recruitment, Recovery, and Retention Teacher Survey

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

Over 5,800 teachers have shared their experiences, perceptions, and suggestions by completing the [Teacher Recruitment, Retention, and Recovery Survey](#). The deadline has been extended to **August** to allow more teachers to submit feedback. Please share the survey link with all teachers.

LDOE has partnered with the Region 14 Comprehensive Center, an outside organization, to conduct these sessions. Participant names will not be shared with LDOE or associated with specific comments.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.

Reminders

- [Operations](#)
- [School System Financial Services](#)
- [Teaching and Learning](#)
 - [Diverse Learners](#)
 - [Educator Development](#)

Operations

Ready to Achieve 2022-2023 COVID Update Webinar

Please share with school system leaders.

Updated Ready to Achieve guidelines for the 2022-2023 school year will be released the week of July 18, 2022. This updated guidance was developed by the Louisiana Department of Health to ensure school systems continue to offer a safe and healthy environment for the 2022-2023 school year. The Louisiana Department of Education will be hosting a webinar with the Louisiana Department of Health to review the updated guidelines and answer questions about the upcoming school year. Webinar information is found below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** Jul 20 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/8754743940>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** +13126266799,,8754743940# US
- **Meeting ID:** 875 474 3940

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

2022–23 Louisiana Comeback 2.0: Academic Recovery and Acceleration Plan

Please share with school system leaders, federal program directors and business managers.

The LDOE will launch Louisiana Comeback 2.0, our statewide campaign to continue planning for the improvements our students need and deserve, on July 21, 2022, during the [Federal Support and Grantee Relations \(FSGR\) monthly call](#). Please join the FSGR call for information on making the necessary investments in key areas:

1. Attendance and Well-Being
2. Recovery and Acceleration
3. Professional Development and Learning

The website www.louisianacomeback.com is populated with the approved 2021-2022 Academic Recovery and Acceleration Plans, system level data (mastery and unsatisfactory), and a financial dashboard. Along with the tremendous efforts underway to start the 2022- 20223 school year, please make room for data disaggregation and thoughtful planning in response.

We can make a Louisiana Comeback.

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

School System Financial Services

2022-2023 July Final and 2021-2022 June MFP Budget Letter Postings

Please share with business managers.

The final FY 2022-23 July Budget Letter and the FY 2021-22 June 2022 Budget Letter will be posted in the [MFP Library](#) under the sections entitled 2022-2023 MFP Budget Letter and 2021-2022 MFP Budget Letter no later than July 22.

Please contact ldoemfhelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Diverse Learners

Free Training for Supporting Students with Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI)

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

The [Louisiana Accessible Educational Materials \(AEM\) Center](#) is offering two in-person trainings located at the AEM Center, 2888 Brightside Drive, in Baton Rouge. On August 3 from 12 until 3 p.m., Cindy Champagne's presentation, What Do You See?, will provide a brief overview of CVI and the functional vision interventions appropriate for the CVI range. On August 4 from 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., Diane Sheline's session, Strategies to See, will discuss the learning media assessment for students with CVI. [Registration](#) is currently open.

Please contact administrator@ssdla-aem.org 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 2: Teacher Recruitment, Retention, and Culture with Barry Erwin features a discussion with Barry Erwin about his role with Council for a Better Louisiana. Find out about the challenges our education workforce faces as well as how we can work to improve our recruitment, retention, and teacher culture in Louisiana. We will also highlight Tangipahoa Parish on how they are engaging their community and coming together towards a common educational goal.

Share Your Stories: 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 with questions.

Teacher Leader Summit Materials Available

Please share with summit attendees.

The tenth annual Teacher Leader Summit brought together educators from across the state for an energy-filled, inspiring event that closed out one school year and inspires attendees in their planning for the next.

Check out all of the great [materials](#) from the 2022 Teacher Leader Summit that are now available in the new [2022 Teacher Leader Summit Materials library](#). Look for your photo on the LDOE [Facebook page](#).

Please contact ldoeevents@la.gov with questions.

Workforce Reporting Update

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

The Workforce Dashboard for System and Site Leaders is up and running. If system leaders missed the June and July webinars, please join the make-up session in August:

- **Meeting Date and Time:** August 9 at 10 a.m.
- **Meeting Link:**
<https://doe.zoom.us/j/93853145583?pwd=UFE4SkNMR1hZTFdXZVduZkxERjITdz09>
- **Meeting ID#:** 938 5314 5583
- **Meeting Passcode:** 539272

Please contact emily.smiley@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 remains open for 2021-2022 score entry. Systems are encouraged to continue uploading teacher and staff evaluations. The technology team is working to repair an issue that is preventing VAM teacher observation and SLT scores from being submitted, however all teacher scores can be entered. 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 with questions.

2022-2023 Mentor Waiver Application Opens July 19

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 to the applicant, school system, or teacher preparation provider. 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](#) opened 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 Date and Time: July 21 at 1:30 p.m.

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

Webinar Phone Number: 1-470-381-2552

Webinar Passcode: 3455048179

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.